

The Dalhousie Gazette

Canada's Oldest College Newspaper

MEMBER OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

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ON THE REFERENDUM

The results of last Thursday's Student Referendum on the NFCUS question came as a fitting climax to the extensive campaign by the Dal NFCUS committee. Although less than a third of the student body voted, a fact which is deplorable in itself, the recorded vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the National Federation. The vote in itself is a good indication that Dalhousie students both, actively and passively, are in agreement with the National Federation's program for continued understanding among Canadian university students.

Almost all the credit for the revival of NFCUS interest on the Dalhousie campi, must be given to the hard-working committee headed by an even harder-working chairman, Dennis Madden. This year has seen the first positive signs of NFCUS at work at Dal in many years, and as the days progress toward the end of the academic term, Dal students will undoubtedly see and hear much more from this energetic group.

At present, the national organization is conducting a vigorous campaign for federal government scholarships. As you must know by this time, such a campaign is being conducted not only at Dalhousie, but also at every campus across Canada. The results of this campaign will directly affect every student in University, assisting those now attending University, and assisting those who plan to enter University in the future.

To those who take the attitude that this scholarship plan will not affect them, it must be pointed out that as future parents and leaders of Canadian society, the proposed plan will have an even more direct effect.

In December, the National Conference of Canadian University Press expressed "distress at the unimaginative similarity between the results of the annual NFCUS Conference in the last seven years." The Canadian University Press should take a better look at its own conferences instead of finding a scapegoat in NFCUS. The National Federation is once again on the march. Last week's vote indicated this at Dalhousie, and as the home stretch begins, we should as a united group march with the National Federation.

If anything constructive is to be accomplished among Canadian universities on a national level, it must come from a national organization. The National Federation of Canadian University Students is such a national body, and Dalhousie has once again realized its worth.

ON "ARSENIC AND OLD LACE"

The Glee and Dramatic Society must certainly be congratulated for choosing and presenting such a delightful comedy as "Arsenic and Old Lace." As was apparent by the enthusiastic and appreciative audience which witnessed the student night production, this year's play was an outstanding success. Coupled with the smash hit "TV or NOT TV", which was widely acclaimed in the Fall, it is obvious that the Dalhousie Glee and Dramatic Society is enjoying one of its most successful years. With the "Yoemen of the Guard" scheduled for the week in February, the student body eagerly awaits this Gilbert and Sullivan production. In the past, the Dal Gilbert and Sullivan productions have been outstanding successes and this year promises to be the same.

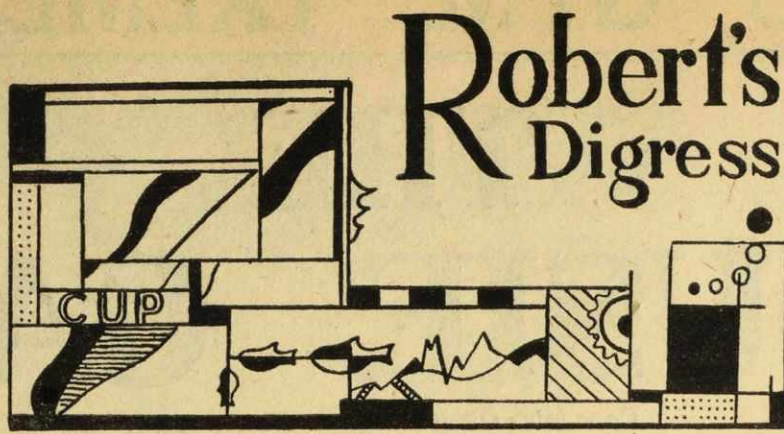
To the Glee and Dramatic Society, its President Graham Day, and "Arsenic and Old Lace" student so-directors, Carol Vincent and David Murray, the Gazette wishes to extend its heartiest congratulations for a banner show, and hopes that the future will be as outstanding as the past.

ON TEXT BOOKS

Someone, some time should conduct a survey to determine how much money students waste every year paying for text books which they seldom if ever use. Relying on their high school experience, many students suppose that the texts listed in the calendar are ones which they will use constantly throughout the session. They therefore visit Tech Supplies early in the fall and stagger home weighed down with forty or fifty dollars in books. Unfortunately, these students may discover by Christmas that their professors put little faith in some of the assigned texts. Or they may discover that they are able to find all they need in the books by using them in the library.

Although some of the volumes acquired in this manner prove of value in the future, they are an immediate burden on the pockets of the students concerned. Once this situation has occurred several times most students are wise enough to wait until the professor has given his verdict on a particular book before they buy it. There is, however, no reason for anyone to be burnt even once. List of text-books should be deleted from calendars in all the faculties, or else be replaced by tentative lists subject to professorial approval. Students should also be advised not to purchase texts until they are certain they are spending their money wisely.

Reprint Queen's Journal.



Robert's Digress

ED: In last week's Gazette the news editor was kind enough to give some explanation as to why I didn't hand in my CUP national conference report (i.e., I had become separated from my suit-case on my way here and the report was in it.) Dave mentioned that it was too bad, for the report that is, not for the suit-case. So I would just like to tell him that had it been his suitcase I would not have cared either, for the suit-case that is, not the report.

As you all probably know this is the CUP column. In it I have tried to keep up-to-date about what goes-on on other campi. Canadian University Press (CUP) is a national organization composed of 22 college or university newspapers.

One of CUP's aims is to create some contact between students all across the country. In order to achieve this, a wire service system was organized, so that news breaking on any one campus, is immediately relayed to all other members.

Also to create more interest and to help towards the publication of better college newspapers, CUP has organized a national award competition for the various classes of papers. Once a year during the Christmas holidays, there is a Christmas CUP Conference. This year it was in Ottawa and I attended it as Dalhousie's delegate.

Here is a brief summary of this conference:

Monday, Dec. 27th: Executive paper's report, presented by the University of Montreal, in which nothing much was said. It was no more and no less than a breakdown of the agenda. Next came the financial report for the ending year, this was a *Lulu*, a few lines of figures and that was it. It was referred to a special committee.

Next came the question of affiliations. One had been received by the *Ryersonian*, but it was rejected on the grounds that it was too good a newspaper to be competing with the rest of us. One reason for it being so good is that it is published by their school of journalism. *St. Mary's* college also had applied last year for membership and had been granted what is called "affiliated memberships" for one year. This year the majority of the conference rejected a motion to accept them as a full-fledged member, but extended their affiliation for another year.

Next came the reports from the regional conferences held earlier in the year. One from the western section and one from the Maritimes. Since these are never of any great interest to the national conference. It was decided that from now on these reports will not be read in full at the national conference as they had been in the past, but only the relevant points would be brought up.

To finish the day we had two speeches. One from Mr. Fillion, NFCUS secretary. He told us of the many things this organization does for the students. Then Mr. Brown, Editor of "Le Droit," told us about the various duties of a newspaper men.

Tuesday: Reports were asked from: McGill, Laval, and UNB about mandates they had received last year. But not one of them had any thing to report, so they were granted permission to keep their respective mandates for another year.

Next came two reports, one from the NFCUS delegate to the World Conference held in Switzerland last summer and one from the editor of the *Varsity* who was to a conference behind the Iron Curtain as a Canadian observer. Both delegates asked to be reimbursed part of their expenses, the conference was all in favor of doing this, but no funds were available so—tough luck.

Queen's University was also supposed to investigate CUP's travel pool and hand-in a report but they had done nothing. Before ending the day, the various committees (i.e. finance, wire service, trophy and editorial) were chosen. I elected to sit on the wire service.

Wednesday: Part of the morning was devoted to the "committee sitting." And then each one submitted its report:

1. **Finance:** Since the treasurer's report was so insignificant, nothing much be done in this field, but it was decided that next year the report had better be more complete or this secretary (which by the way receives not a cent for all the work he does) will be out of a job.

2. **Trophy:** The cut-off dates for the issues to be sent to the various judges in view of the various trophies were moved back to November 25th, in order to give a better chance to those universities which publish only weekly and whose registration date is only in October.

3. **Wire service:** The whole relay system was re-organized, and one university per district will serve as a relay point for all news going out or coming in. A more frequent use of this service was urged from all members.

4. **Editorial:** This committee came back to the plenary session with a bag full of resolutions. Some were defeated, some were passed, here are a few examples: "CUP expresses distress at the unimaginative similarity between the results of the annual NFCUS Conference in the last seven years"—motion carried. "Be it resolved that the CUP recommend to NFCUS that they undertake a campaign for student rights and responsible autonomous government in student affairs"—motion carried. "Journalistic standards should be the sole consideration in the publishing of news by members of the CUP and never the possible effects on the public relations of their respective universities"—motion defeated. But the motion was amended to read: "GOOD journalistic standards should be the PRIMARY consideration in the publishing of news by members of the CUP, rather than the possible effects on the public relation of their respective universities"—this was carried. So this took care of the committees.

Two papers applied for the Executive's job next year. MacMaster got 10 votes and Manitoba 11. As for the site of next year's conference Toronto got two votes, Quebec city 19. Also Mr. Fraser was elected honorary president for the coming year.

This year the *Varsity* were won as follows: *Varsity*: for the best English; *LaRotonde*: best French paper; *Carabini*: best editorials; *Western Gazette*: best English paper published less than twice a week.

NFCUS SHORT STORY CONTEST

Dan Usher of the McGill Committee has informed us that New Liberty Magazine will publish the winning entry in the NFCUS short story contest. Regular rates will apply to this first prize entry and the second prize will consist of a \$50.00 cash award. Entries MUST be received by February 15th, 1955.

Enquire today about further details.

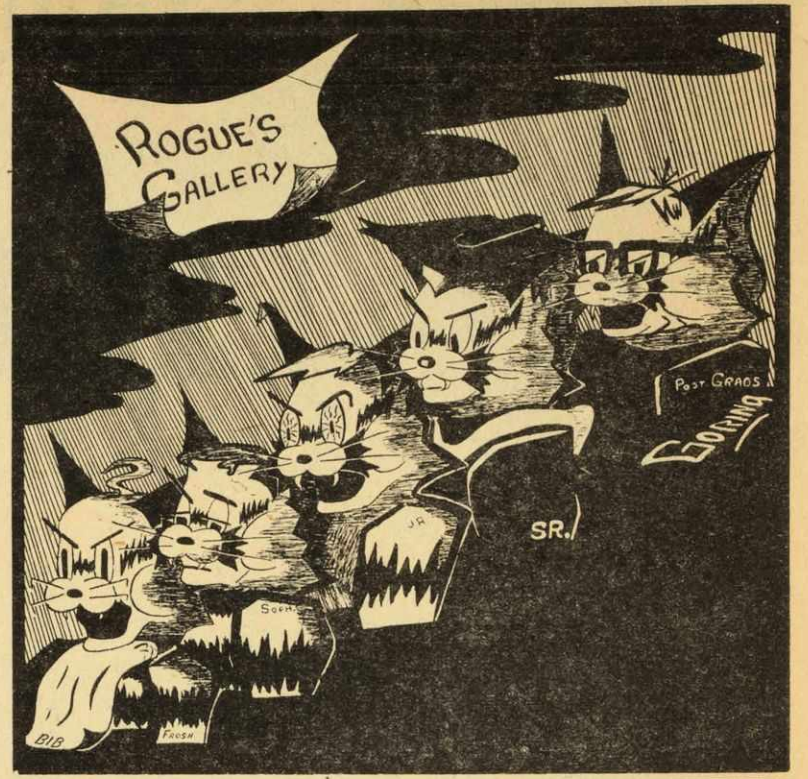
UNESCO MEETING

Greater co-operation between COSEC and UNESCO should result from the recent decision of the bi-annual General Meeting held in Montevideo which voted COSEC consultative status. NFCUS is a member of the nine country Supervision Committee of the Co-ordinating Secretariat.

A similar request by the International Union of Students was rejected on technical grounds.

INTERREGIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The National Office has announced that NFCUS Interregional Scholarship application forms have been mailed to all member universities. Complete information may be obtained from your local NFCUS Committee. DEADLINE for applications will be February 15th, 1955.



Library Memorial Fund Established

Establishment of the "Marshall Saunders Library Memorial Fund," income from which will be used to acquire and maintain books for the Dalhousie University Library has been announced by Dr. A. E. Kerr, President of the University. The fund is based on a bequest to the University of more than \$20,000 by the late Mrs. Rida S. Moore of Pasadena, California, and is in memory of her sister, Margaret Marshall Saunders, C.B.E., a Canadian author whose books, especially "Beautiful Joe," have been published in millions of copies and read in 20 languages.

Margaret Marshall Saunders was born in Milltown, Nova Scotia, in 1861, the daughter of a Baptist clergyman, the Rev. E. M. Saunders. She attended schools in Nova Scotia, in Edinburgh, and in Orleans, France, and later at Dalhousie University. For a time Miss Saunders taught school in Nova Scotia, wrote occasional magazine articles, and began the travels which were to take her so frequently through Europe and the United States.

Early in the century she entered her book, "Beautiful Joe" in a contest sponsored by the American Humane Society which sought a companion piece to Anna Sewall's "Black Beauty." Her story won the Society's prize and the book was an immediate success. By 1912, it had reached a printing of half a million copies and was soon translated into many languages. Encouraged by the success of this book, Miss Saunders turned her attention to writing as a career. For some

years, she made her home in Halifax — when not travelling abroad—surrounded by the hundreds of birds to whom she gave sanctuary. In 1914, she moved to Toronto where she made her home until her death in 1947.

Miss Saunders had an abiding interest in animals and birds and was a member of the Federated Humane Societies of America. She was a member, also, of the Authors' League of America, the English-speaking Union of New York, the Esperanto Club of Geneva, l'Institut Litteraire et Artistique de France, and the Canadian Authors Association.

The NFCUS short story contest is getting underway, and we will publish more details next week. The winning story will be published by Liberty Magazine, and second prize is fifty dollars. Entries are being received by Dennis Madden, who can be contacted for information at 2-5410.

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