

# DALHOUSIE Gazette

AMERICA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

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## Letters to The Editor

January 20, 1953,  
Halifax, N. S.

12 Hunter Street,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia,  
January 21, 1953

The Editor,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Halifax, N. S.

As the gratuitous and dogmatic trumpet blasts of enlightenment die away, I want to throw in my two bits worth. In case, O.U.P. did not know, the hoax of enlightenment died at the end of the nineteenth century — he is weak on history. A great scientist said not long ago, "We simply cannot answer the question of present day miracles, but perhaps tomorrow."

So, we furnish facts, the enlightened are obliged to explain or wait for tomorrow! The miracle of the sun at Fatima lasted twelve minutes and was seen by unbelievers miles away; no one had to shade his eyes, although the sun was blindingly bright in its endless gyrations on which were greatly curtailed by Hollywood; remarkable cures of cancer, consumption, blindness (N.B.) meningitis, peritonitis, Pott's disease have been classed as inexplicable by best doctors available, unbelievers included. The children amazed attending doctor by dying exactly on time, as predicted, even though no signs of immediate danger were in evidence. The heavenly lights prophesied were seen a year later all across Spain and Portugal, and this problem was taken up and left unsolved at a subsequent meeting of English astronomers.

The dogmas of unbelievers precluded the possibility of their even investigating our present day miracles. The blood of St. Januarius at Naples for example—this miracle has been going on since the fourth century and can be seen by anyone with eyes, but many refuse to even give it an investigation, because their eyes are closed. There is Padre Pio, there is the Medical Board at Lourdes (read Alexis Carrel on this). Theresa Newman is another weird case — the fact that she is even alive without food is fantastic.

But the blindness of the enlightened is something to be pitied. How ignorant can you become!  
Mike Carney, B.A., A.R.C.T.

Dalhousie Gazette,  
Dalhousie Campus,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Sir,  
I feel it necessary to write you regarding the article "Miracle of . . ." which appeared in the Dalhousie Gazette last week, and to add my name to the list of those taking exception thereto.

It is beneath the dignity of a University enjoying such high repute to stoop to such petty tongue-in-cheek criticism and mockery of a subject held in deep reverence by many of the student body itself, and by so many of those your publication comes in contact with.

Yours truly,  
Catherine T. Smith  
(Mrs. L. W. Smith)

Mount Saint Vincent College,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia,  
January 20, 1953

The Editor,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Dear Sir,

Your article "Miracle at Sunova Beach" infuriates me as a Christian student. Things are coming to a pretty pass, when a student, who is supposed to have a high standard of values, can mock religion in such despicable fashion. It grieves me to know that a student from a well known university would write an article such as yours. But please do not be so misguided as to think that our Christian religion is belittled; rather it is strengthened, because your article has made Christians leap to the defense of their beliefs, either inwardly or outwardly. It is most regrettable to realize that you have made yourself an object of pity because of your lack of respect and tolerance.

I hope you may sometime get an opportunity to redeem—if that is possible — this public affront to Christian religion.

Sincerely yours,  
Mary MacLean

## Letters To The Editor

Mount Saint Vincent College,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia,  
January 20, 1953.

The Editor,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir,  
Our attention has been drawn to a recent article, "Miracle of . . ." (it grieves us to even mention it) which appeared in your paper.

The article leads us to believe that at Dalhousie there is no faculty advisor, in which case the Editor is responsible for the printing of such an article.

The feature is unmistakably a burlesque of the Motion Picture "The Miracle of Fatima", which drew so much admiration from those who saw it! It is a direct affront against the 212 Catholic students on the campus of Dalhousie and those Catholics in the city of Halifax who read the article.

We do not blame the writer, but give him pity and prayers. It is our belief that the blame rests on the shoulders of the editor who allowed such an item to pass.

Sincerely,

Margaret Sutherland,  
Adele Driscoll,  
Patricia Langley,  
Lorraine Martel.

P.S.—Print this, we dare you!!

Office of the President,  
Mount Saint Vincent College,  
January 20, 1953

The Editor-in-Chief,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Dalhousie University,  
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir,

On the behalf of the Federation that we represent, we wish to register a strong protest against the article "Sonova Beach" which appeared in the January 13th issue of your publication. The very title of this "feature" article is a disgrace; we cannot understand how it was permitted to go to print.

The nature of the article is anti-Christian; more specifically, anti-Catholic. It cannot be entirely by coincidence that "the article" was printed immediately after the popular run in this city of the movie, "The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima". To Catholics, the Miracle of Fatima is something very real and very wonderful. Your "feature" writer has attempted to make it a crude farce.

As Catholic students we resent such an attempt on the grounds that it is a direct attack against our religion. Furthermore, it is directly opposed to any Christian's principles of common decency.

Very truly yours,  
Maureen Mantin,  
National Secretary,  
Per, The Executive.

Mount Saint Vincent College,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Editor,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir,

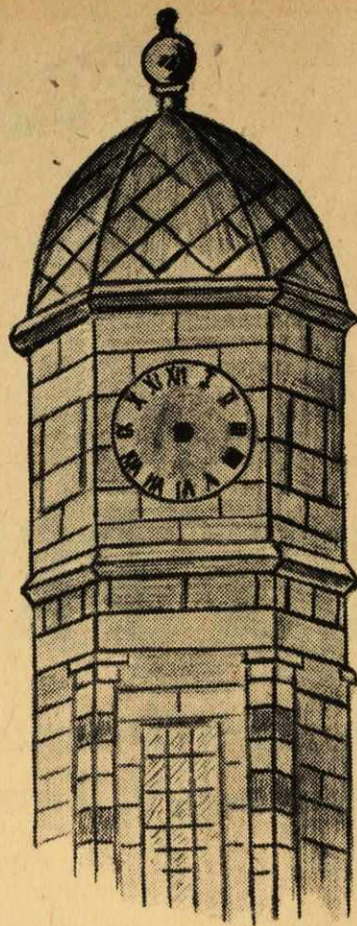
We are just four of the many people who have read your shocking article " . . ."

One of the four freedoms of our country is freedom of religion. Is this your idea of this freedom? The mockery and ridicule of the religious beliefs which you have printed in your paper certainly are not characteristic of the standards of college such as yours should uphold.

We feel certain that this not the general opinion of the majority of the students at Dalhousie. Nevertheless, the fact still remains that the article has been printed by a few, read and has maybe influenced many.

With regards to the writer of this article we can only feel pity that he is evidently a victim of the spirit of Godlessness which is prevalent in the world today. But it is for the editor that we have most concern. An editor necessarily has a great responsibility toward his readers. You must remember that in publishing this article you have

## Famous Last Words: "Look Ma, No Hands"



*[Handwritten scribble]*

*[Handwritten scribble]*

## Letters to The Editor

openly insulted the 212 Catholic students in your college.

Freedom of the press is also one of the four freedoms. Show how you believe in this freedom by printing this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Mora  
Shirley Trask  
Catherine Foley  
Barbara MacPherson

The Editor,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:

To borrow a phrase from the United States election campaign, "It's time for a change."

When a government no longer represents the wishes of the people it is voted out of power. What is to happen when a college newspaper, the voice of the students, no longer speaks the language of the students?

Today, the Dalhousie Gazette is in this position. When it departs from news reporting and enters the field of ideas it is no longer the voice of the students.

A recent Gazette featured a satirical attack on the faith of a large group on the campus, a non-sectarian campus. Followed in the next issue by a "Poem" in which the hairy-legged spider is remorsefully crushed to death by the student author who has "pangs of guilt" when forced to kill his "Fellow Beings."

It is hard to believe that these articles found their way into the Gazette by accident and it is equally hard to believe that this is the type of thinking to be fostered through the medium of a student publication in a Christian campus.

The Gazette is the students portrait—to the outsider do you think it has been disfigured? The analogy to democratic government, however, has one shortcoming. The President of the United States answers the electorate. To who does the Gazette answer?

It would seem to be no one.

Yours truly,  
Doane Hallet, Law '55.

Editors, Dalhousie Gazette

Dear Sirs,

Re that brilliant and informative little note appearing in January 20 issue of the Gazette signed O.U.P. We were at a loss to explain its appearance in your columns — at first glance we thought it might be an excerpt from "Songs of a Psychotic", then we thought it might have been the haphazard wanderings of a mosquito trying to escape from a drop of ink, but at last the solution dawned upon us

and we feel the rest of the university should know also.

A week or so ago the editors were crowded in their office . . .

"We've got a dull paper on our hands and a dull staff to write it. The readers just won't bite for that student apathy line any more. We have to think of something that will get a big reaction; something that'll really get them up in arms, but above all we must be bohemian. Let's try God and religion—ridicule it, make a mockery of it. That's it, that'll get them if anything will. Then one of the cartoonists echoes 'Oh boy! that's really bohemian' "

And so Sunova Beach was published. It hit the spot like a flat beer . . . the only results were a few letters remarking on the editor's poor taste.

A deep fog set over the Gazette office and a new conference was called. The editors had to preserve their one original thought of the year, so they sink to the all-time low and last resort of newspapers—they conscript one of their own staff to congratulate themselves upon their own wonderful article.

And so O.U.P.'s letter was published.

Its appearance in America's oldest and dearest college newspaper is justified by our paper's cheap editorial policy of exploiting all that is crude and disgusting in the minds of the students.

—Yes, Mr. Oscar U. Pudymaitis, "it is about time to stop and think".

Len Martin, Law '55.  
Pat Nowlan, Law '55.  
Ross Eddy, Law '55.

## APOLIGIA PRO EPISTOLAM SUAN

Editor, The Gazette,

Certain members of the student body accuse me of being a tool of the Gazette to stir up emotions on the campus. To clarify the situation I wish to announce that I have ceased to be a member of the Gazette staff since January 5th and opinions expressed in the letter are my own. I admit that I was the only one to defend such a lost cause as that article "Sunova Beach", but since this is a free country, expression of views is permitted (were this not the case, I would have stayed in Russia).

O. U. P.

The Editor,  
Dalhousie Gazette,  
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir,  
In re your issue of Tuesday, January 20, may I ask what happened to the guts of "name withheld"?

Just curious.

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