

The Dalhousie Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

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Victorian Prose

The attitude towards student activities that certain members of the Senate of this university hold needs to be changed very quickly.

The Gazette understands that fear of the more reactionary members of this body led to the inclusion of the first by-law in the set of by-laws which Joe Macdonald, the Chairman of the Constitution Committee proposes to have replace the old constitution.

Essentially, the by-laws merely set forth the clauses embodied in the constitution drawn up last year. For the most part the students owe Joe Macdonald a vote of thanks for the Herculean task of transforming the Constitution into by-laws (required under the proposed act of Incorporation) and putting them into an order which makes the rules that govern the Student Union much less ambiguous.

However, the inclusion of the paternalistic sections of By-law I is a retrograde step that betrays every bit of progress that the student movement has made at Dalhousie in the past two years.

For example Section 6 of the by-law states "It has been, and is, the policy of the Senate to refrain from intervention in the affairs of the Student Council or other student organizations so long as these appear to be managed with due regard to the interests of the Student Body, and the position of the University in the community, but it is the clear responsibility of the Senate to intervene in such organized activities when ever it appears necessary to do so."

The Hypocrites

Almost every student government in Canada pays money to certain students who help run student activities. Three reasons are usually advanced for this practice: 1) to pay back expenses incurred through carrying out the functions of the particular office. 2) to pay some compensation for the amount of time spent in student government and, 3) to make unpopular jobs more palatable in order that the positions will be filled.

For the past five years the following honoraria schedule has been in effect at Dalhousie:

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| President of Council | .. \$200. |
| Editor of Gazette |\$200. |
| Editor of Pharos |\$150. |
| Photography Dept. |\$300. |
| Recording Secretary |\$ 50. |
| Since the burdens of the offices has increased during the five years this scale has been in effect, and since university costs have also risen, the Honoraria Committee under Bill Macdonald, the Graduate Studies Rep. presented a revised scale to Council. This was: | |
| President of Council |free tuition plus \$50. |
| Editor of Gazette | free tuition |
| Treasurer |\$250. |
| Vice - President |\$150. |
| Editor of Pharos |\$100. |
| Winter Carnival Chairman |\$100. |
| President of DGDS |\$100. |
| Photography |\$300. |
| Recording Secretary |\$ 50. |
| plus free passes to Council members for all campus events as an added fillip. | |

As soon as Bill Macdonald had finished presenting his report, Joe Macdonald, Member-at-large and Executive Assistant to Robbie Shaw objected. The essence of his argument was that it was impossible to determine who in student government deserved an honorarium and who did not therefore there should be no honorarium. He was, however willing to make an exception to this rule for the President of the Council, and was unwilling to press very hard his objections about the Editor of the Gazette.

For a half hour an excellent debate raged fast and furious with Joe Macdonald's forces pretty well carrying the day. The final result was to cut the Pharos to \$150., cut the Vice-President, Treasurer Editor, Carnival Chairman and DGDS President to nothing and keep the others as they were in the report. Council took a tough line.

Well, that's not quite accurate since they did become a bit soft over one item--the free passes for Council members.

Imagine it, this wilful group of student councillors, most of whom have nothing else to do with student government from one meeting to the next decided to give nothing to the Yearbook Editor, the Drama Society President, or the Winter Carnival chief each of whom do ten or twenty times as much work as the ordinary Council member but in the same breath voted to give themselves and their successors free passes (worth up to \$100 a year) to all campus events.

It is to Joe Macdonald's credit that he had his decency, as did others who agreed with his heredity line stand, to vote against this pork barrel. It is to the eternal disgrace of some of the members of the Council that they caused this hypocrisy to be flaunted in the faces of the students of Dalhousie.

The Gazette expects this intolerable action to be remedied at the next Council meeting.

Decline of Council

It was one of those great meetings. The main business was to have been a discussion of the Student Union Constitution soon to be converted to by-laws in order to conform with the requirements of the proposed Act of Incorporation. However, the Council never quite got to rubber stamp Joe Macdonald's draft. Acting under the orders of last year's "grey eminence", this year's somewhat less than powerful CUS Chairman, confused Carl Holm raised as a point of procedure that the Constitution committee had not considered the changes hence they could not at that time be debated by the Council.

Robbie Shaw, ever the smooth democrat ruled that the discussion would be held next week and the Council moved blithely on the second item of their two item agenda.

This was reported as an extremely important discussion of the pros and cons of hiring a professional administrator for next year. This is a very serious step for the Union, the salary range mentioned was from \$7,000 to \$9,000 and it is not a decision to be lightly

In other words the 'constitution' of the Dalhousie Student Union gives to a body of senior faculty members the right to veto or suspend the decisions of the duly elected representatives of the members of that Union. The Student Council under a legal interpretation of this article is nothing more than a subordinate committee of Senate, instructed to run dances and Carnivals to fill the idle hours of the students.

The Gazette is opposed to this rape of student autonomy. We believe that the students form an integral part of the university community and are full and equal partners with the other sections of the community. We recognize the leadership of the faculty and the administration, but will resist with vigor their attempts at despotism.

There is a case to be made for some kind of statement in the Student Union by-laws that recognizes the right of the Senate to administer the internal affairs of the University. Though we are anxious that the Senate immediately recognize the right of Students to be represented on the governing bodies of the University, nevertheless we would not oppose some statement to the effect that the Senate has a responsibility for the whole university community.

However, we insist that the Victorian prose of By-law I be abandoned in favour of a short simple statement, describing the relationship between the Student Union and the Administration. We trust the Council will take this step; we hope that the Senate will welcome it.

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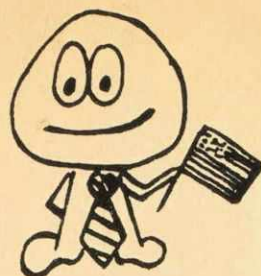
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The Gazette expects this intolerable action to be remedied at the next Council meeting.

However, four of your elected representatives decided that they couldn't stay past 8:15 p.m. Perhaps this merely reflected their understanding of the political fact of life that the decision to go ahead and hire an administrator had already been taken and the Executive. They may have felt that there wasn't much point to the "pro-forma" discussions of the Council. However, the fact that three of them, Liz Campbell, Barbara Dexter, and Ruth Manuel actually put attendance at a sorority meeting above their duties on the Council is a sorry commentary on the whole evenings abortive proceedings.

Wednesday night's meeting was only reflective of the gradual decline of this year's Council. They are a bright group of people, of this there can be no doubt, nonetheless they have allowed their executive to dominate them to the point where their usefulness is somewhat questionable.

Yes, it was a great meeting, even that third of it conducted without a quorum. The Gazette humbly suggests that every member make it next week.



Democracy is the only way!



So why do we have to force it on people?



I was worried about all those people being killed in Viet Nam 'till I talked to my priest



It's all right - they're only pagan communists.

Lifted From "THE UBYSSY"

Letters to the editor

Engineers protest fine

Dear Sir:

At the Oct. 25 Council meeting, the Student's Union of Dalhousie University passed a motion fining the Dal Engineering Society \$20 for stamping the Gazette after previously defeating a motion to fine us \$120. For the past twenty years it has been a tradition that the Dal Engineers stamp an issue of the Gazette prior to their annual ball. I don't know if Mr. Yablom remembers, but last year we had a photographer, who shall remain nameless, who because of no contract, cost the Dalhousie Student Union a fair sum of money.

4.) If Mr. Yablom or any other student who had his graduation picture taken by Mr. Hines, wants an extra copy of his picture, he may order directly: Mr. Sherman Hines

sides which in past years the deadline-the yearbook deadline-has always been sometime before Christmas.

3) Pharos has always pre-selected its own photographer for the sake of convenience both to the yearbook and to the student. This year, in contrast to past years, a contact was made with the photographer with the interests of the Dalhousie student in mind. I don't know if Mr. Yablom remembers, but last year we had a photographer, who shall remain nameless, who because of no contract, cost the Dalhousie Student Union a fair sum of money.

4.) If Mr. Yablom or any other student who had his graduation picture taken by Mr. Hines, wants an extra copy of his picture, he may order directly: Mr. Sherman Hines

c/o Brooks Institute of Photography
2190 Alston Road
Santa Barbara, California

including the size of the picture desired as well as the type of finish (glossy or matte)

Most of the graduating students who had their picture taken have been informed of this already. Mr. Hines will be sending out order forms to the students, whose picture he took, sometime before the middle of February.

Most of the graduating students were aware of the above points so I would suggest to Mr. Yablom before he tries to set the world on fire, would he make sure he has enough wood to burn.

Sincerely,
Jo Alders
Graduate Editor, 65

Facts and figures

The extent of poverty in Canada

There are many more people in poverty in Canada today than is generally supposed, reports the research department of the Company of Young Canadians.

As a result, said a Company spokesman this week, the federal government has undertaken its special program to reduce poverty "even in this time of affluence."

Poverty is usually measured by low income. The average income of Canadian families living in a town or city is \$5,450. There is no precise measure of how far a family must be below this average before it should be classified as poor. But the best indicators are those based on the amount of money needed to provide an essential minimum of food, clothing, shelter and other necessities.

By this measurement, not only are many people in Canada behind the mainstream of national progress; a considerable number are suffering real hardship from not having enough money to buy the bare necessities of life.

Different methods of calculation produce minor differences in statistics and there are regional differences in the cost of living. But it is generally accepted that a city family of four people is living in poverty if it has an income of less than \$3,000. Such a family with less than \$2,000 is suffering real destitution. Single persons in town or city with less than \$1,500 a year are considered poverty stricken and single persons with less than \$1,000 a year as regarded as destitute.

By this definition four million town and city dwellers in Canada are poverty stricken; that is, about one in four. 2.4 million of these people are below the line of destitution. They are not getting enough to eat. They are not adequately dressed or housed in a standard which public health authorities regard as acceptable minimum.

Eskimos and Indians, though predominately a rural population, present a special category in defining poverty. By the usual standards, it is estimated that about 70 per cent of Canada's Indians are poverty stricken and 45 per cent are destitute.

It is even more difficult to arrive at figures to indicate the extent of poverty amongst Eskimos. A rough approximation places from 55 per cent to 70 per cent below the poverty line and from 30 per cent to 45 per cent suffering destitution.

EDUCATION
There is an obvious connection between levels of education and levels of unemployment both

present and future. It is widely predicted that to meet employment needs in the last quarter of the twentieth century, the median level of education in Canada should be at least high school graduation.

3.2 per cent of the adult Canadian population has achieved university graduation, 15 per cent stopped at Grade 12 and 21 per cent at Grade 8. Levels of education have certainly improved in the past fifty years and younger Canadian age groups tend to have a higher level of educational achievement than older Canadians. Nevertheless, 40 per cent of Canadian youth between 15 and 24 have never gone beyond Grade 8 and have now left school with no apparent intention of returning.

About 8 per cent of the Canadian adult population stopped school at Grade 4 or earlier. There are over 1 million Canadians who have left school still illiterate.

Not surprisingly, income levels are closely related to education. The lifetime earnings of Canadians with elementary school education are about \$131,000 as contrasted with \$354,000 for those with a university degree. Lifetime earnings of high school graduate are just over \$200,000.

There is also a close relationship between unemployment and education. Forty-four per cent of Canadian unemployed did not finish primary school and 48 per cent finished primary but not secondary school. Only 9 per cent of the unemployed finished secondary school.

Levels of education in Canada and the United States contrast sharply. Forty per cent of the college age population in the United States is now in college. Only 8.5 per cent of the Canadian population of the same age is attending university.

HOUSING
Poor housing is a very visible symptom of poverty. Slum dwellings not only affect the families who must live in them but drag down the whole community. Poor housing is therefore the immediate concern of all Canadians.

At the time of the 1961 census, more than one Canadian family in ten lived in a dwelling with no running water. Almost a quarter of Canadian families lacked the exclusive use of a flush toilet. One in five had no bath shower. More than 5 per cent of all Canadian housing was in need of major repair or replacement.

From the vestal's temple

By NANCY WHITE

By NANCY WHITE
From the Vestal's Temple
I walked into the Gazette office last Saturday afternoon and, to my dismay, found Terry, Linda, Tim and Piers all huddling around last week's edition and weeping bitterly.

Linda began the conversation. "Sob, sob," she commented. Her three co-workers echoed her sentiments loudly. Piers blew his nose.

Trying desperately to be casual, I ignored them and spit into the wastebasket.

"Nine feet eleven inches! Where is this sports editor at a time like this?" I muttered. But curiosity won out. Besides, the achievement had been utterly disregarded.

"What is the matter?"
"Struck by his aptness of expression, they raised their tear-stained faces."

"Oh, oh, oh, have you read this week's issue? We have been chided most nastily," they chorused. "We have been called names."

"Criticized. Oh, is this gratitude?"
"And, what is worst of all, we have been challenged to print an issue without any sex in it."

By this time they were in agony, rending their clothing, weeping, wailing and gnashing teeth.

My heart sank. Sympathetic tears my cheeks bedewed.

"Oh, sorrow," I sighed. "This means I don't get to write my usual terribly sexy column then."

The five of us wallowed in despair for a moment.

"And I can't run any more A cadia girl's pictures," said Piers, settling down for a good sulk.

"Half our advertisers will pull out for sure," Terry moaned.

"And the undergraduates will pillage the office in rage," Tim pointed out.

"Dreadful, simply dreadful and outrageous problems, all these. I agreed. But there is a more difficult matter at hand. You know how all year I've been trying to interview Shirley A-Go-Go? Well, this week I finally got an appointment, Wednesday at 4 a.m. in the canteen. And the red tape! The only way I could get there myself was to take a weekend leave. I left the residence today and now I can't go back until Thursday morning, and believe me, sleeping in those coin laundries is an awful drag. But I figured it was worth the sacrifice. Such an interesting story

and all."
(Shirley A-Go-Go was a very popular Dal girl writing an MA thesis on the poem,

"Let me live in a house by the side of the road
And be friendly with men.")

Piers was ecstatic.
"You finally got hold of her? But that's wonderful! What are you going to ask her?" he said, forgetting the Gazette Crisis in the excitement of the moment.

"I had planned to skillfully draw her out on how she reconciles her broadminded viewpoints with her strict Baptist upbringing. But now I don't quite know," I said.

"Baptists, Baptists, the cause of it all," said Terry. "And John Birchers and Americans." He deliberately took the Lyndon Johnson portrait down from behind his desk and jumped on it. The glass crunched beneath his feet and we heard him muttering "What do you call 100 Baptist paratroopers?"

"Here, here," I said. "Some of my best friends are Baptists."

Linda was going over the letters column again and looking extremely puzzled.

"What is a pinko anyway, do you suppose?" she asked.

"Ping-pong, pinguid, pinguin, pinna, pink, pink, pink, pink, pinna - it doesn't seem to be here. But it's probably a typographical error. Pink, according to this, can be a garden plant with sweet-smelling white flowers; a fox-hunter's coat; pale red; slightly inclining to purple; yellowish pigment; sailing vessel esp. with narrow stern; pierce with sword; ornament with perforations; or young salmon."

"I think," said Piers, "the writer would be meaning the young salmon part of it. Because of Nova Scotians being called herring chokers. It's not very nice, is it?"

"No indeed," said Linda. "Not very nice at all."

I brightened visibly. Here, then, was the answer to my problem. I would still keep the appointment with Shirley, but instead of interviewing her on sex and the single Baptist, I'd get her views on discrimination against Maritimers.

As I left the office with springing step, I heard Terry saying, "Nova Scotians, Nova Scotians, cause of all the problems. What do you call 200 Nova Scotians who lie down in a field?"

And walls and sobs still went up from the staff.

And walls and sobs still went up from the staff.