

DAL GAZETTE

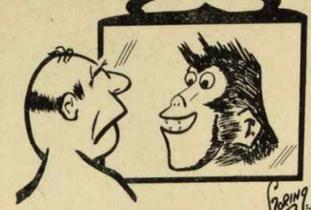
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LET'S FACE IT



By Anne Coburn and Libby Mayall

Two little names on the Registrar's List
Are looking back on all they've missed;
They peer ahead for what's to come—
PARTICIPATION by EVERYONE!

Formerly, we were content to sit back and discuss our many gripes and grievances with our most intimate friends. This was the lazy method, as our complaints never went farther than the patient ears of our friends. Besides, we finally gave up in disgust. How could we or anyone else argue sensibly if we were not in full possession of the facts? How could we know whether or not our gripes were justified? Thus we are reverting to the mists of obscurity in search of the facts, so that we may clear up the confusion in our own minds.

Campus Life

College education is not complete without an intimate knowledge of and participation in campus life. What constitutes campus life? Is it only those coffee breaks, the football games, or the college dances? No, there is much more involved. The motivating energy on campus comes from the pride you take in your college, no matter how you are connected with the school. How can you be proud of something you don't know? Campus spirit falters and fails except for home games or dances in the gym. What happens when support is needed for college games played away from Dal? Because these events require some time and effort on your part they are neglected.

Likewise, every other college activity which requires your support suffers. Just as the heart pumps the life blood through the arteries, so do the college organizations need to work through you. Who is to be blamed for a hardening of the arteries??

What do YOU know about NFCUS, other than the fact that it sounds like a sneeze and can get you a discount at various stores? What more is known of WUSC, except that it sends representatives somewhere for something or other? Do you KNOW how your class is participating on campus? Do you even know who the officers are?? Have you realized that more than one half of your student directory gives information about various campus organizations, with special emphasis on the Constitution of the Council of Students?

The chief complaint of students seems to be that the same few people hold the ropes and run the various organizations. Why is there such a situation? Have you ever thought that these people might be TIRED of herding the rest of you, and that they might like someone else to produce the ideas for a change??

We found that our knowledge of campus life was like that of the average student — HAZY! It is our hope that these articles may disclose some facts which will be beneficial to you if you are also seeking to KNOW AND UNDERSTAND YOUR COLLEGE.

Letter To The Editor

January 1, 1956.

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

Dear Sir,
Your editorial on Greek Letter Societies, which appeared on your last issue of the Gazette cannot remain unanswered. Since you have taken the trouble of printing it twice within a year, it is obvious that you desire the matter to be discussed.

I shall take my stand as a fraternity woman, and shall try to present our side of the matter as such. Perhaps at this point it is worth while mentioning that there are two kinds of women's Greek Letter Societies. There are local sororities that exist on many campuses and cities, and there are international women's fraternities that have chapters only at universities. At Dalhousie there are chapters of two of these international groups, Pi Beta Phi and Alpha Gamma Delta. Both fraternities are members of National Panhellenic Conference, the body which governs and co-ordinates the activities of all such fraternities. On each campus where there is more than one international fraternity, there is a local College Panhellenic made up of alumnae and undergraduate members of each fraternity. This body co-ordinates and directs the activities and policies of all the groups of which it consists.

As a member of Dalhousie College Panhellenic and a member of Alpha Gamma Delta, I can state with certainty that there is no racial discrimination in either of the two women's fraternities which have chapters at Dalhousie. There are two requirements that a girl must fulfill before being rushed by either group. She must have good scholarship, and she must be a member of the Christian faith. The question you will ask will naturally be, "What about other faiths, such as the Jewish faith? Don't you believe that they are worthy of joining your fraternity?" The Jewish race as a race is not excluded from our fraternities, but as a religion it is because the ritual of both fraternities is essentially Christian, and members must naturally accept the Christian faith if they are to be members at all. A positive proof of this is the fact that we have members that are Christian Jews.

"What about Negroes?," is your next question. They also are not excluded. Our chapters in the Southern United States might exclude them. But surely that is the fault of that particular society, and you must not in due fairness, attach the blame on the fraternities. In rushing we must consider the feelings of these southern chapters, and herein, lies a possible fault which everyone hopes will be corrected in time. But, I repeat, it would be a great shame to disregard the many advantages and services of fraternity life because of this one problem which everyone knows is a very complex and difficult one.

You will please note that I am defending only the groups to which I am connected. I do not know anything about the local sororities in the city or the men's fraternities and the stand they take as regards this matter.

I should like to point out that every girl at Dalhousie who fulfills the requirements above mentioned is invited to join a fraternity. A large number of those excluded for other than scholastic reasons are girls belonging to the Jewish faith. I have long been an advocate for the founding of a Jewish fraternity chapter for these girls. It would be a pleasure to have them work together with us in our various projects as fraternity and Panhellenic members.

Our fraternities are not perfect. What man-made institutions are? But you could at least give credit where credit is due. Through our various altruistic projects and other schemes we do accomplish much that is worth while.

In closing, I should like to quote the last paragraph of the Panhellenic Creed:

"We, the fraternity women of America, stand for preparation for service through the character building inspired in the close contact and deep friendship of fraternity life. To us fraternity life is not the enjoyment of special privileges, but an opportunity to prepare for wide and wise human service."

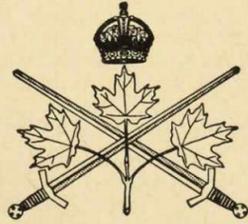
Yours sincerely,
Janet Conrad.

NOTICE

For the benefit of those who may have occasion to contact the E-in-C, his few hours at home are now spent at 319 Spring Garden Road with a telephone listing of 2-6841.

A not very reliable report has it that a horse recently graduated from the college of Arts and Science. At the commencement exercises the dean was reported to have said, "This is the first time in history that an entire horse has graduated from the university."

C.O.T.C. News



The BIG NEWS this week is the annual COTC dance to be held, as previously announced, in the Officers' Mess, R.A. Park, January 13. This dance is for all members of the COTC, ROTP, and all ex-members of the COTC. For those ex-members, tickets may be obtained from the RSO's office in the Dal Gym. The dress is to be formal — battle dress for those who come in uniform, otherwise, blazer and flannels. NO CORSAGES.

There will be a reception line starting at 2100 Hours and music is being supplied by the Royal Canadian Artillery Dance Band, and there will be plenty of food for everyone. So let's get out and make this one a real success.

Lectures for the first theoretical phase cadets have already begun and to those who are still thinking of joining the COTC are reminded that JANUARY 15 is the deadline for recruiting — see Major Gillan in the COTC office at the gym.

Is This The No. 1 Villain In Heart Disease?

Coronary heart disease is the greatest single cause of death in Canada. Does the food we eat contribute to the effects of this killer?

January Reader's Digest brings you the results of new research indicating that the real villain in heart disease is the fat-like substance *cholesterol* — and tells you how to reduce this fat in your diet. Get your January Reader's Digest today: 33 articles of lasting interest condensed to save your time.

RESPONSIBLE BUT FREE

How much control is there of college newspapers by students' councils and/or university administrations? A one-year investigation thoroughly conducted by the "Silhouette" of MacMaster University has revealed that the contents of several student publications is being censored still or is subject to censorship prior to publication.

The report, issued at the recently concluded 18th Annual Canadian University Press Conference, also included an unofficial rating of Canadian university papers as related to the question of control. The Dalhousie Gazette placed in sixth position amongst some 22 eligible CUP members. This placement reflects the attitude of the present Dal administration and its students' council; the former having clearly stated, "There is no administration censorship of the Dalhousie Gazette!"

And on a similar vein, the president of the students' council at Studley campus declared recently, "There is no council committee assigned censorship powers over the Dal Gazette."

In either case, this paper has had no restrictions or obstacles placed in its path to criticize either its university or student administration and has followed its unwritten code of campus and newspaper ethics concerning news items generally, and various personal and controversial religious and racial matters.

One of the most heated resolutions passed at the CUP Conference read, "that the CUP adopt an editorial policy strongly in favour of freedom of the student press from control of contents by the students' councils and/or the Administration." Delegates from across Canada split evenly on this contentious point with those anti protesting against the invasion of the CUP into matters of a purely local campus scope.

In casting the deciding vote in favour of the resolution, retiring CUP chairman, Jules Koteles of the "Manitoban" stated his interpretation as one consisting, not of interference, but of "persuading in spirit" those councils or administrations to adopt a policy in keeping with a responsible and free student press.

The "Gazette" delegation unhesitatingly voted wholeheartedly with the majority while agreeing to the letter with Chairman Koteles' viewpoint.

C.U.P. CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

A campaign to establish an editorial policy on the part of all Canadian University Press papers to encourage a greater participation in all extracurricular campus activities will be in force in Canadian Universities in 1956.

Scope of this campaign will be the training of competent students to assist in the raising of general political standards throughout Canada.

Federal and provincial governments are to be urged by CUP to cooperate in establishing a National Scholarship Program. This measure is expected to alleviate the present dire need of the country of adequately trained men and women, and also the need now existing among students for assistance.

McMaster's Weekly, The Silhouette, will replace the Manitoban as the CUP's executive newspaper for the 1956 season, and Toronto's Varsity will act as host to the 1956 convention to be held in December. Lord Beaverbrook was elected the CUP's honorary president in place of MacLean's Blair Fraser, who held this post in 1955.

Letters to the Editor should be handed in by 1:00 p.m. on Thursdays. If possible, they should be type-written, double spaced on one side of paper only. The Editors reserve the right to select letter to be published and if necessary to edit them. Names will be withheld on request, but must be in our possession.