

# THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

Canada's Oldest College Newspaper

Member of Canadian University Press

Published at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

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## The Life You Save...

The Labour Day weekend, the last of our summer driving extravaganzas is behind us. Deaths over the holiday weekend totalled 46. Over the same period in 1955, 55 people were killed. This represents an improvement of sixteen per cent, though we can scarcely refer to the killing of 46 people as an improvement.

Every province in Canada has stepped up its enforcement programme and has extended its road improvement programme. We are paying attention to Enforcement and Engineering, but we are neglecting to make the most of Education, which is the most important of the three "E's" of accident reduction.

Accidents are prevented through education. It is probably the strongest weapon we have. Education in our schools brings regimentation both for the children and for their families. Regimentation brings discipline. Discipline brings control, and control—self-control or group control—outlaws accidents.

Now that the children are back to school, weekend travel has lessened, holiday trekking is over and pleasure driving is reduced. We can look for fewer accidents because of less traffic density and fewer driver distractions. The class-room lessons in safe walking will infect child and parent alike. The children will be doing their share to remind us to drive and walk carefully. May we hope that as adults we will take a good look at our driving habits and try to drive with care and courtesy.

Accidents happen one at a time. They may be prevented one at a time. There are very few traffic accidents which would occur if the situation repeated itself. Few of us drive as well as we know how to drive.

Days grow shorter. Night comes quickly. Roads are more slippery. Driving conditions in general become more difficult during the fall. The Canadian Highway Safety Conference urges that we pay attention to these things and by our watchfulness prove that October and November need not be serious accident months.

## Old Faces

Occasionally we run across a bit of news concerning last year's grads; we'd like to pass on these little scraps of info to those of you who use your Gazette for purposes other than mothproofing trunks. Eileen Kelly, Helen Scammell, and Elise Lane are all teaching school in the city. "Kell" and Jean Anthony have an apartment together; no doubt this is so "Kell" can help Jean with her homework. Oh, yes, Jeanie's back at Dal taking her B.Ed. Vic Burstall has been admitted to the Bar (legal, that is) in Alberta, and is now with the C.P.R. legal staff out there. Mary Desborough was married last June to Stewart Lindsay, Jr., of Concord, Mass., and of the U.S.N. They are now living in Norfolk, Virginia.

Soon we hope to be hearing from Dal's young adventurers who are all in far corners of the world. But for the moment the mailbox is distressingly empty. Other news? Oh, yes, about Burpee Hallett... he's still around.

## Hither and Yawn

by ANNE COBURN

And off we go for another year of C.U.P. (Canadian University Press) news from all across the country. This is a good time to welcome anyone who would like to read the papers sent to the Gazette by other colleges. Our files will soon be bulging, and the papers are here for your entertainment. So feel free to come in and "browse".

And now for some news. The accent seems to be on fall fashions, as students have suddenly become conscious of their wearing apparel. From the ONTARIO comes the word that the Union Council is enforcing new Dining Hall Regulations re said problem. (Ed: A good idea to raise money for a new Student Union Building, methinks.)

Meanwhile, at the U. of Ottawa, "Dungarees, windbreakers, T-shirts, peg trousers" are definitely on the way out.

While we're being thrifty, here's another scheme adopted by the U. of Ottawa. Smoking in classrooms has been tabooed, both for students and professors. Here again a fine is involved.

Money, money, money. Another financial note appears in the VARSITY (U. of Toronto): The University bookstore has begun a dividend plan, by giving students coupons with all purchases. These coupons can later be cashed in or exchanged for a purchase. (Ed: While there's life, there's hope.)

From the SILHOUETTE (McMaster U.): "Are you good looking, confident, logical and eloquent? Only a miracle or a disaster can alter your appearance, but participation in debates can build your confidence, improve your logic, and increase your eloquence." (Ed: Take a bow, Sodales; you are getting a free and unsolicited plug. Seriously, interfac debates could stand a little boosting. Any freshmen interested???)

The following ad appeared in the FULCRUM: "Tonight a bilingual debate 'Down With Exams'—four professors participating." (Ed: The year has just begun and some party pooper is trying to spoil it already!)

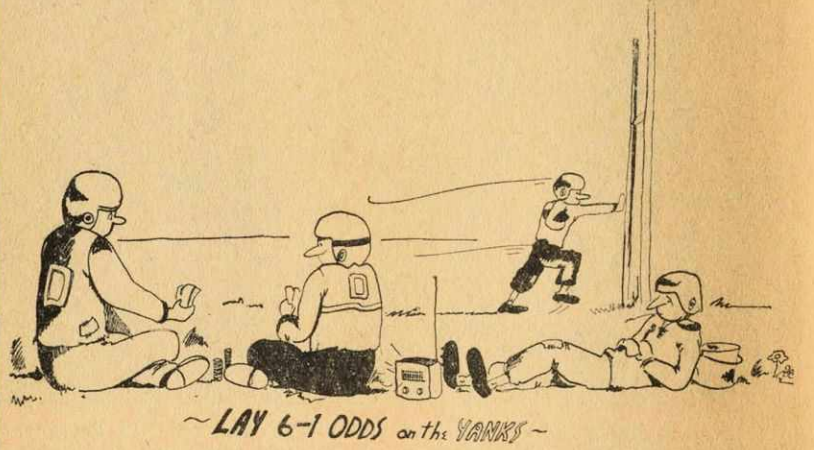
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## AN IMMEDIATE TASK

With the short article entitled "The Life You Save" . . . appearing in the next column, the Dalhousie Gazette is proud to begin the first of a series of editorial campaigns against one of modern civilization's greatest evil, careless driving. During the past few years this has become one of the biggest scourges of life and in North America, where the automobile has become a symbol of success, the automobile today poses one of the greatest threats to the happiness of the family. How long then are we in Canada going to allow the slaughter of the highways? How long are we going to allow hundreds of families to suffer? Today, the terrible diseases of medicine are rapidly being subdued and millions of dollars are being poured into the field of modern medical research. Suffering will be abolished say the medical men and every Canadian firmly believes and hopes with the medical researcher. But what about the motor vehicle? What are we as Canadians going to do about a problem that brings just as much and often more acute suffering to thousands of Canadians annually? Clearly, we must take the initiative and take that initiative soon.

The highway accident toll in Canada is staggering, and staggering indeed is the problem that lies before us. Yet today, Canadians are more and more realizing that twisted, and torn bodies are a crime, a crime that must be ended. Through various organizations, through provincial Departments of Highways, and through municipal groups, Highway Safety is rapidly being exalted as the "Protector of the Highways." With a growing Canada has come a growing system of modern highways, highways designed with the best equipment and best engineering modern man has yet presented. Yet despite the super thruways and modern roads such as Trans-Canada, the highway accident toll still mounts. Is it because these modern roads are still unsuitable for the modern cars and for the modern driver? Will more police enforcement diminish the toll, or will this only increase the cost and make the situation worse? Obviously, the best and most efficient start can be made through education, education of the public of the necessity of good and happy motoring.

Today, a program has been launched in the schools whereby safety is being efficiently drilled into the drivers of tomorrow. But, is education only to be limited to these drivers? What about the drivers of today and of the immediate future, drivers who have grown up with the motor car, but people who have become overpowered by the machine? It is with such people as these and particularly with our generation that the best start can be made. We must realize at once the importance of the problem and begin at once to correct it. The young driver of today, although statistics place him high in the accident column, must be the subject of an intensive highway safety program. With the hopes and anticipations of this fresh North American generation must lie the seeds of modern highway safety. Northern American society is relying on us to bring a new and promising era on the highways . . . may we not fail in our duty.



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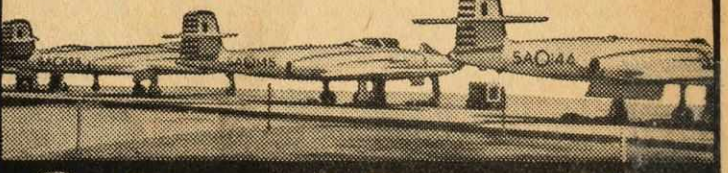
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