

The Dalhousie GAZETTE

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Apathy Toward College Interests

It has recently come to our attention that a well-known Maritime company has taken the initiative in sponsoring the CBC television programme "Hi Society", which displays the talents and describes the activities of our high school students to a wide variety of viewers. We praise the necessary steps taken by both CBHT and the sponsor in making such a show possible, but at the same time we must question the absence of any college programme from the air waves this season.

Since the opening of a second TV station at the beginning of this year, we have become aware of the fact that many programmes have switched from CBHT to this secondary station, leaving ample room for the development of local programmes by both the publicly-owned CBC and the CJCH private broadcasters. Even as recently as last week several time slots remained to be announced by CBHT and CJCH suggesting it would have been quite possible to place a college programme at a prime viewing hour.

Instead, we find the evening hours being filled with cartoon shows, second-rate anthology films, country jamborees, and a host of other tripe, including a halfhour television show occupied solely by an Australian pianist.

We had hoped that such programmes would be justified in being labeled only as summer replacements, and it must be obvious even to the staff of both stations that summer ends September 21. From the schedules presented we find that the word competition is now being defined by viewers and programme executives alike as a state of either watching the Flintstones or Top Cat. Surely we need not question the sanity of such executives in providing us with such liberal choices.

Carl MacCaull, CBHT programme director, commented: "It is an excellent idea, but I doubt if we would be able to use it due to our present commitments." **The editors realize that the task which is currently confronting the CBHT staff is great, but fail to see the purpose of the extensive coverage of topics aimed at the interests to farmers, supplemented by programmes on fishing and the ever-boring Atlantic football games, without considering coverage of one of the vital factors of any economy, namely, education.**

The Gazette approached a CBHT producer some time ago on the feasibility of presenting a college programme on that station. Without consultation with other members of the staff, the idea was discarded on the grounds that it would not provide enough continuity and interest. However, we have noticed that most CBC television stations across Canada, Montreal and Winnipeg to name examples, have found both the continuity from college sources and the interest of the viewers to make such a show successful.

Even in the United States, where mass programs leave little room for other experiments, one can find college shows spanning the country through the medium of television networks.

An idea for a college programme was also submitted to CJCH-TV, before they went on the air, and it was again drawn to their attention this May. However, it appears that their interests lie in flooding their programs with Popeye cartoons, re-runs of Canadian and English produced films already seen on CBHT two or three years ago, and a host of asinine quiz shows

that should drive even the most durable viewer back to radio.

Don Hildebrand, CJCH spokesman, comments: "We could work a student television program into our schedule if it is organized and if the university has good suggestions to offer. If students have good subject matter we'll lend them everything we can to present it."

We wish to assure Mr. Hildebrand that if the student body shows sufficient interest in the proposal the necessary and proper steps will be taken by the Student's Council within the immediate future, and that CBHT and CJCH will again be approached to consider, on the basis of a public service and satisfaction of college interests, the promotion of a college programme which reflects the colleges and universities in our area.

We trust that a diversion from private eyes and shoot-em-ups towards a more conservative programme will not be too difficult a task.

An Elegy On Chivalry

A writer once commented that when the young men of today ask a lady for a dance instead of saying "May I have the honour of this dance" as their fathers would have done, they simply shout "Com'on, snake, lets wiggle."

While this may be an extreme example there is little doubt of the fact that today chivalry is dead. Gone are the days when men would always open doors for women, help them on with their coats and give them a seat on the bus. Those little gestures which were once an integral part of our way of life have almost disappeared.

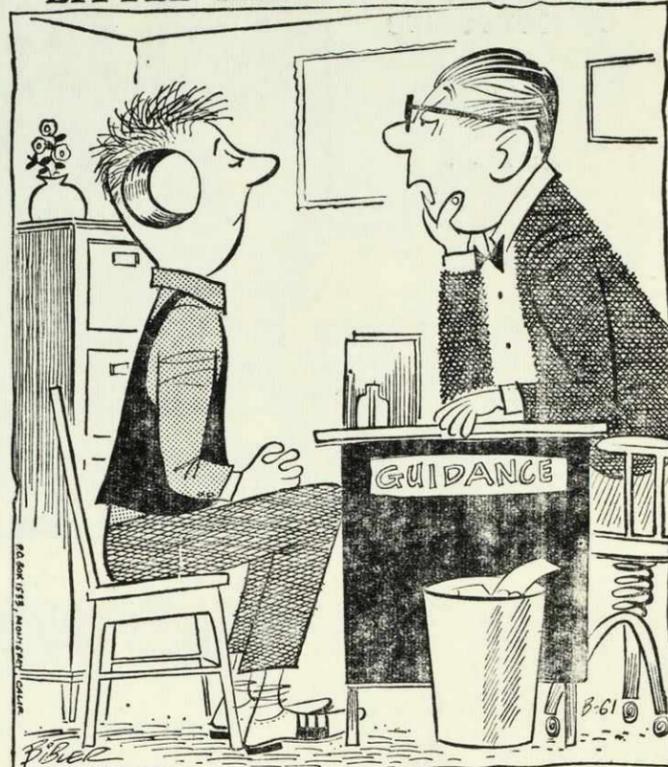
This decline in chivalry is justified, by most men, by the fact that women now have equal rights with men. They work at many of the same jobs, earn the same wages, and are no longer confined to the home. The conclusion is then drawn that if women are equal partners in our society then there is no reason why they should receive the added benefits of chivalry.

Surely this argument is completely false. While it is true that equality before the law may have equated that sexes in one way, it is equally true that in many ways men and women can never be equal. A woman will always remain basically a housewife and a mother. She may come to college for an education, she may take a job for the sake of earning money, but both these occupations are only interim measures until she begins to fulfill the role which females have played down through the centuries.

It can also be argued that the world of today has become such a cold, hard, place where people are very unfeeling and unfriendly, and that chivalry would add a splash of brightness to our drab surroundings.

It is for these reasons that the Gazette would like to see a renewal of chivalry among Dal's male population. It is time that all of us started treating women with a touch of gallantry. It is time that we stopped using the hackneyed cliché — "After all women are equal" — as an excuse for laziness. It is time that we realized that in our relationships with the opposite sex "little things mean a lot".

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"Now, son, how's it happen you want to be a teacher?"

The Critical Eye ARE WE RELIGIOUSLY TOLERANT?

In the words of our founder George Ramsey, the ninth Earl of Dalhousie, Dalhousie College is "founded upon the principles of religious toleration." To us this means that Dalhousie shall be open to believers of all faiths regardless of whether they are Protestant or Hindu, Catholic or Jew. Over the years this concept has been put into practice perfectly and it stands as one of our most cherished heritages.

But to us this idea of religious toleration also means that no attempt will be made to influence a man's views on religion and christianity. It means that no inconveniences will have to be endured by a man who is an atheist or agnostic.

Yet such a situation does not appear to exist at the present time. The administration, besides enforcing the antiquated Lord's Day Act in this province, appears to have instituted measures of its own designed to force all students to make some observance of Sunday, even though it may hold no meaning for them.

There are several possible illustrations of this paternalistic attitude, one of which concerns the tennis courts. They are not open on Sunday and according to the man in charge of the nets, he has been given orders not to let students use the courts on this day. What possible excuse could there be for such an order except that the administration thinks that it is not right for tennis to be played on Sunday?

Why is it too that West Indian parties which are held in the East Common Room on Saturday nights must end at midnight? Or why do students seeking a game of football as

their daily exercise have to go elsewhere than the Dalhousie field if they desire to play on Sunday?

But perhaps our most important complaint about Dalhousie's own version of the Lord's Day Act concerns Shirreff Hall leaves. The girls are allowed to stay out a half hour later on Friday's than they are on Saturdays even though they may have to get up for a nine o'clock class on Saturday morning. Surely if the University had its own interests at heart it would reverse the procedure and let the girls come in later on Saturday, when those who don't want to go to church the next day could sleep in.

We can only see two reasons for the current state of affairs. First because of the provincial Lord's Day Act most public dances must close at midnight and hence the girls should have no trouble getting in shortly thereafter. We contend that this is false reasoning because most of the Hall girls are at fraternities parties which are not subject to the midnight curfew. This would lead us to conclude that the administration thinks that more immorality takes place on Saturday night than on Friday and hence the girls are brought home early for their own protection. The fallacy here is extremely obvious.

In our opinion it is indeed unfortunate that Dalhousie University as an institution of higher learning and as leader in the field of liberal education should adopt such a policy. And we are strongly suspicious that we are not as free from the yoke of religious intolerance as our founder would have liked us to be.