

A Letter To The Editor

Dalhousie Gazette
The Editor,

22 January, 1949
71 Seymour Street,

I would appreciate it if you would publish this letter as soon as possible:—

Students of Dalhousie:

The report of the January 14th meeting of the Council in the January 18th edition of the Gazette attributed the following statement to me:

"I have reached my decision and will vote against the motion. If I am wrong I do not feel that I can stay on the council, on what I think is right."

That is definitely a mis-quote, and I want to take this opportunity of correcting the misapprehension that it has created. I have checked with several impartial people who attended the meeting and they agree that I was mis-quoted.

Let me clarify my stand. I voted against the motion because I am convinced that it was not in the best interests of Dalhousie. As an elected representative of the students of Dalhousie it was—and still is—my duty to vote according to my convictions on all matters concerning the student body of Dalhousie. It is not my privilege to resign whenever a difficult and delicate problem presents itself. On such matters I must follow my convictions, fully realizing that some of my decisions may run in the face of the sometimes vacillating winds of opinion. It is my duty to reach such decisions according to what is right or wrong, and having made my decision, with full knowledge of the facts, I must stand by it until it is demonstrated to be contrary, not to the wishes of one meeting, but to the wishes of the majority.

If it is proved conclusively that my decisions offend the majority, then, and only then, will I tender my resignation.

Meanwhile, I will continue to discharge my obligation to the student body to the best of my ability. You placed that obligation upon me when you elected me last year. I will not abandon it lightly in the face of a demonstration conducted by a relatively small group of studnets, who may or may not be representative of the majority. Rather, I will stand firm on my convictions, and refuse to play the grandstand or "drive in the ditches of expediency." I will pursue a firm policy of standing for what I believe is right.

Public office, even on the smallest scale, is a trust that requires courage, conviction and consistency in its fulfillment.

BILL COX

EDITOR'S NOTE:—Mr. Cox's sources may have been impartial, but apparently they were not reliable. Three members of the Gazette staff kept written notes of what was said at the meeting, and their notes on Mr. Cox's statement were identical. However, it is only fair to Mr. Cox to add that he did say, earlier in the meeting and before the motion was made:

"It is our duty to come to some form of decision, and if our decision does not please the student body, it is up to them to ask for our resignation."

It goes without saying that no one, and that includes the Gazette, wants Mr. Cox to resign. He has been a strong and exceedingly honest vice president, and has contributed much to the capable running of student affairs during this school year.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

22 Jan. '49

DEAR EDITOR—In answer to your report on the victory of the Dalhousie Gazette over the Students' Council (Jan. 18th), to a Letter to the Editor by Mr. "W.A." (Jan. 21st), I propose the following solution to the hot controversy.

Perfection of policy is an ideal, not a reality. The Gazette, this year, has far surpassed publications of recent years in that its articles are of greater interest to the readers. It is more widely read and therefore enjoys a position of distinction. BUT it does not enjoy a position of perfection, and therefore I would ask the management to give credit to suggestions that are proposed.

First of all I would remind the editorial staff of the Gazette that the victory over the Council on January 14th, (which they so freely credit to themselves), was NOT entirely due to their efforts. From the beginning the Gazette had the support of the student body on a POLICY issue, but it was Mr. Mingo who presented order to the controversy and suggested the real issue was not one of policy, but, one of the methods of PRESENTATION of policy. The student support of this development in the issue was clearly indicated by the hand he was given. This important and very significant point was not mentioned in the report of the Gazette

Secondly, Mr. O'Neill's by-line column of Friday last presented an interesting point of view. "When we get out into the cold cruel world . . . we will find that discretion is valuable in earning a living. "Admittedly true! He goes on further to write, "The Gazette (is) entitled to express their views on any matters WHETHER THEY ARE ON THE BEAM OR NOT."

This statement is windy, stupid, incredible and intolerable think-

"All I Did Was Curse"

Tavern Scene 1949

By a man who calls himself "Joe Doaks"

"The wars have all been fought," I said, "We are in the new era. This is civilization. The time has passed when human kills human!" "We gotta decrease the population," said the merchant seaman. We had a couple of drinks together at the Atlas Cafe. "There are too many people in the world," he said. "Look at China."

I looked at China. "Whose world?" I said. "Whatta yuh mean whose world? How many—worlds are they?"

So I went to the Churchill Tavern. There I met a boy who said he was 21. But he was only 19. I know this because I myself was once 19.

"We made a mistake," he said, "Fighting the Germans—it was the Russians who were our real enemies." He swallowed some beer. I watched him drink some beer and then left.

At the Royal a man told me, "Hitler made one mistake." "This is one hell of a winter," I said.

"Hitler made one mistake," he said, "He didn't kill them all. "Brother, what do you mean?" I asked.

"He didn't kill all the Jews. If he had we'd be O.K. today." This man was nearly drunk. I don't know if he was looking for a job or not. He was at the Royal Tavern.

"Brother, what do you mean?" I asked.

"We gotta get rid of the Jews. Hitler was right. We fought the wrong party."

So I hit him in the face. I hit him with both hands—I am not a Jew.

I am no ball of fire when it comes to fighting. I was drunk and lost my head. I knew I was doing more harm than good, but I kicked him until they grabbed me and held me.

How many wars must be fought?

I was fined \$20 and costs. I left the court with the urge to go screaming up the street: "Look at me! I have two hands and two feet. Also a nose and mouth. I am human. What a coincidence, brother, so are you!"

"But all I did was curse, because that was all I could do."

ing for a university student, a Law Student! Such a policy, as suggested by Mr. O'Neill, if followed, cannot be creditable to any one of these groups; once more cannot be creditable to the editors concerned. The remainder of Jack McKenna's Letter will be published next week.

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Around the Campus with Egbert

Egbert says . . . "Are you perchance, er-r, bep?"

Egbert's really cooking on the front burner tonight . . . but he won't have an ounce of bounce when he finds he's crashed the Faculty Formal instead of the Freshman Frolic.

Egbert may not be able to avoid the odd social set-back but he's got the perfect answer to dollar difficulties . . . a growing account in "MY BANK".

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