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EDUCATION ON CREDIT PAYMENTS OVERDUE

a letter

Dear Sir: As I understand it there is not a university in Canada which the average student could afford to attend which does not rely financially on the good will of the taxpayer. The fact is that the fees which a student pays do not come even close to paying for his education. Keeping this in mind, there are two questions I would like to ask: what right does the student have to ask this kind of support of the taxpayer and what duties does this right impose on the student?

soon must we begin to repay him and how?

To me the answer is simple; as soon as possible - in fact, for many right now, for Dalhousie habitually fails seventy to eighty percent of its English I and Math I students and less but certainly too many in virtually all other subjects. If we students could cut down these percentages by even a few points we would save the taxpayer literally thousands of dollars. I suspect that this campus contains upwards of five hundred students capable of doing tutorial work - students who have the time and the ability to teach. The fact is that most Dalhousie students are or will be free loaders. They will take money from the government for their own benefit and then stand impervious as thousands of dollars are wasted and feel no duty to stem the waste. I am not saying that all students can pass all shouldn't, but many more could and don't simply for the lack of some help.

I believe that Dalhousie students capable of tutoring have a positive moral duty to do so. Further I believe that they should be willing to tutor free of charge that the greatest number of students in need of help can make use of these tutor's services. This is not to say that the paid tutor is immoral; for if a student can pay he should for he has received services, but if he can't, he still has a right to the services if they are available.

There is one last thing to add, a man's a rotter if he stands idly by and watches a fellow student flunk a course for need of a tutor. Anyone with a grain of campus spirit or Christian charity will agree. I'm putting two boxes outside the Gazette office in the Old Men's residence and I want all people available for tutoring to put their names, addresses, phone number, and the name of the course which they can tutor and at what times on a slip of paper and put it in the first box. I want all those who need tutors to put their name, address, and phone numbers and the course they need tutoring in in the other box. I'll mark the boxes accordingly. During January I'll sort out the information and pair the students with the tutors. I hope to see at least ninety per cent of the Graduate School and Education students and at least as many of the senior students and certainly all those on the executive of campus organizations. Virtually anyone with the education and sufficient time can or can learn to tutor. My name is in the box.

Peter F. March Pre-Med - 2

CUS: A National Necessity

Recently we had the pleasure to hear CUS national president, Mr. David Jenkins, address Dal student council; we also had the opportunity to confer privately with him.

In our opinion, CUS is a vital, necessary and indeed essential organization on the Canadian scene. It is the voice of the Canadian student. Now there are 12,000 students in our Canadian universities, within the decade this figure will double. We are told we are the leaders of tomorrow; if this be true, and we hold it to be self-evident, it is our duty TO SPEAK FORTH NOW and let our views and ideas be known.

The Canadian university student has long been neglected in our country, indeed the needs of the universities as a whole have not occupied the position of priority they deserve. Through a national organization we can present a united front to bring our needs before the people and our government.

This pressure activity has already had its results. A tax concession to university students has been obtained. It is small not that widely effective in the Maritimes, but it is the direct result of student representation to our government. An example of the fact that with a strong continuing voice we can be heard in government circles.

Our president was able to have a private conference with the Prime Minister of our country to discuss the problem of RCMP surveillance on our campuses. The results were not spectacular. We received generalities in our request for specifics, however without a national office our views would never have even been represented.

CUS sponsors many seminars, and conferences for exchange of ideas across the continent.

Most important, through adjustment, CUS has remained a truly National body with French and English Canadians represented. This was an important

accomplishment in a time when many national groups including the provinces are separating.

The projects and hopes of CUS are listed below. There have been failures, projects have not been as successful as they could have been. Part of the problem is the financial limitations of the organization. However, we cannot condemn an organization that has had some failures, when its purposes and possible achievements are so varied. CUS international activities bring to many countries of the world the ideology of democracy as well as material items. This is an extremely valuable aid to our country's overseas relations. It is unfortunate that again financial limitations curtail these efforts.

We at Dalhousie must add our voice to the national office; suggestions and criticisms will be well received. It is time that we recognized our responsibilities to the Canadian and international scenes through our national organization.

CUS ACTION

- 1. One year study of Confederation.
2. Frequent and improved "Campus Canada".
3. Demanding Government stand on R.C.M.P.
4. Publications: manuals, newsletter, etc.
5. Seminar on International student affairs.
6. Additional interregional scholarships.
7. Discount Service expansion.
8. High School visit program.
9. National Debating Finals.
10. Student Government Information Service.
11. Surveys on student problems, i.e.: student summer employment, SUB, etc.
12. Travel Department Services.
13. Information for friends of the Union.
14. National Congress-Windsor, Ontario.
15. National Seminar-Laval, Quebec.
16. Regional Seminars.
17. Life Insurance Plan.

- 18. Representation to Governments for scholarships, tax deductions, exemptions, etc.
19. Representations to other groups such as the Canada Council, Canadian Universities Foundations, Canadian National Commission for UNESCO, etc.

INTERNATIONAL

- 1. Pressure on Federal Government to increase foreign aid.
2. CUS delegates Canadian students living abroad to attend international meetings and congresses where they present Canadian viewpoint.
3. Aiding the development of student autonomy abroad.
4. CUS fund raises for material aid for overseas student unions.
5. CUS will participate in international cultural and educational exchanges: i.e. USSR-Canada exchange in 1961.
6. Several Canadian students work for the Coordinating Secretariat of National Unions of Students located at Leiden, Holland.
7. CUS distributes numerous international student publications.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CUS

- 1. Income tax exemptions for students, i.e. fees.
2. Hosting of ISC, Quebec, 1962.
3. Student Mental Health Conference.
4. Twenty-seven National Congresses (140 students).
5. Six National Seminars (120 students).
6. Increasing Interregional Scholarships.
7. Annual debating finals.
8. Reduced travel costs.
9. Numerous charters, group flights, tours.
10. Obtained inexpensive life insurance.
11. Initiated national student magazine.
12. Leading in structural reform.
Financial Note: In addition to the 50 cents (average) collected from students, the Secretariat fund-raises another \$50,000.00 for the CUS program.

CUS: Some Critical Thoughts

By J.A.F. MacDONALD

Recently I had the disturbing experience of hearing the views of Mr. David Jenkins, the national president of the Canadian Union of Students (CUS). I say disturbing, because I found the tenor and substance of Mr. Jenkins' remarks profoundly so. Mr. Jenkins is personally charming and an effective speaker, but his constant seeking of the "cute" phrase soon becomes wearing. His talk revealed a greatly exaggerated sense of the importance of CUS as a national force and an horrendous lack of insight in discerning, let alone solving, the real problems of Canadian students.

After a lengthy dissertation on the "idealistic" side of CUS (which I would find physically painful to discuss) Mr. Jenkins turned to the discussion of what he charmingly described as "practical" matters. To his mind the most important "practical" function of CUS is the "pressuring" of various governments with the united voice of 120,000 Canadian students. Letting pass the debatable assumption that there is a united voice of 120,000 Canadian students, let us see what accomplishments this tremen-

dous pressure bloc has to its credit. Mr. Jenkins was able to point to only two concrete accomplishments in the 37 years the organization has existed, the current tax exemption on University fees, and the "assurances" CUS has received from the government about the RCMP "spying" on poor innocent students.

If we allow CUS the credit for effecting the grant of the tax exemption, it still, by their own reckoning, took 10 years to get it. In my opinion this is ten years of time and effort that could have been better used elsewhere. The benefit applies to an extremely small number of students, especially here in the Maritimes. Perhaps the money and time would have given more value in a student employment agency or some other such activity.

The second item for which CUS feels justified in taking credit was the assurances of academic freedom given by the Prime Minister and the Commissioner of the RCMP. (Reported in the Gazette November 20, 1963). CUS was assured that there is no "General RCMP Surveillance of Canadian Campuses". In my opinion there has been entirely too much hot

air expended on this matter of the RCMP performing its legitimate functions as the agency responsible for the internal security of this country. Mr. Jenkins' childish ideas on how the Force conducts a security check are nearly incredible, but those who attended the meeting will agree that he said that the only substantive check was in their own files. While we are on the subject, there are undoubtedly members of the force who have neither Mr. Jenkins' intellectual capacity nor his physique, but to describe them, as he habitually does, as "great hulking Mounties" does this fine body of men a distinct disservice. The men involved are, after all, only carrying out their orders.

However, even if we grant that the maintenance of internal security should be subjected to the demands of academic freedom, the action taken by CUS to effect any change in the present situation had been little more than laughable. The "assurances" given Mr. Jenkins by the Government are so worded to be of about as much use as was the German-Czechoslovak Friendship Pact in 1938.

A few other random comments-CUS as giving a "sphere of influence for the student voice", and Mr. Jenkins' concomitant suggestion that Student Councils discuss world affairs regularly-it seems to me that most S.C.'s ing with the problems they were elected to handle.

"Aiding the development of student autonomy abroad" - a very laudable goal; a little more student autonomy in some South American universities and civil war is likely.

"A one-year study of Confederation"// to replace the Royal Commission on Biculturalism no doubt.

"A national magazine to publish the work of student writers" having examined the contents of the 2 issues of Campus Canada so far come off the press, one is forced to the conclusion that most of the junk printed thus far should have been strangled on birth.

In sum, it seemed to me, from Mr. Jenkins' remarks that CUS in philosophy, policy and leadership is in a pretty bad way at the present time and we can only hope that the future will bring better things.

WHAT WE HOPE SANTA BROUGHT

- * good results from Christmas tests
* happy holidays for all
* no more ineligible players for our Hockey Team
* a win in league play for our basketball team.
* plans for a Student Union Building
* snow for skiers, snowmen and winter carnival
* outstanding candidates for our next student council
* a new book store arrangement
* good voices for D.G.D.S.
* retirement for Mr. Atwood
* new athletic facilities for our campus
* a voice for Dalhousie and:
Peace on Earth, goodwill towards men.