

65 Days

'Till

Exams

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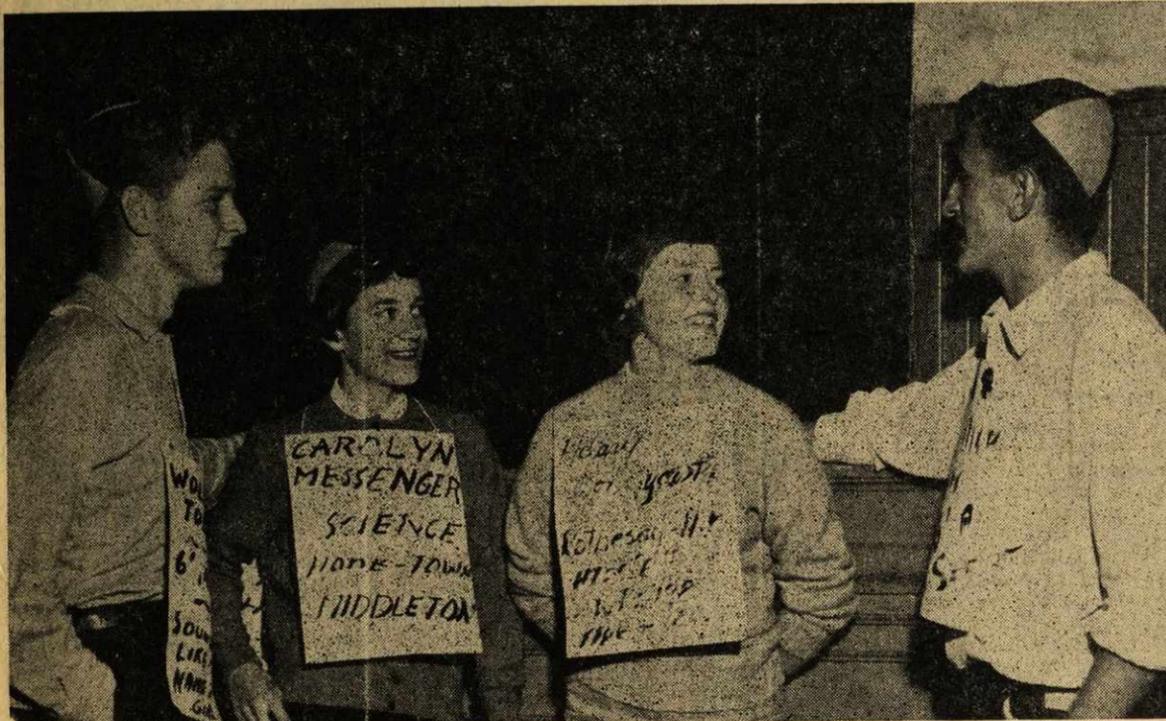
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FIRST-WEEK FROLIC ENDS



Eager young frosh caught in grueling initiation week.

(Photo by Thomas)

Frosh Wined and Dined In Series of Parties

by ~~GEORGE MILLER~~ BOB MILLER

This year's freshman class, described as one of the best to enter Dalhousie in many a moon, has now completed its "season". Like desirable debutantes during their debut, the frosh have been wined and dined in a series of coming-out parties.

Gerry Blumenthal, a member of the Freshman Initiating Committee, told this writer he thought the new students were an excellent class. "They had a lot more spirit than most new classes," he stated. His words were particularly evidenced by the fact that most freshmen turned up for all the week's events. However, he added, most of the events were parties. So "it was not surprising that the freshmen say they enjoyed their first week at Dalhousie. Most of those interviewed said that the initiation was not what they had expected, but added neither was college. One freshman summed it all up: "The parties were great".

Campus Pepcats Are Revitalized

Fall having fallen, along with the football team, at the time of writing the Pepcats, the spirit core of Dalhousie, are once again attempting to prove to disbelievers that an abundance of campus spirit at Dalhousie is far from an impossibility. Started last fall and guided through a reasonably successful year by Dave Moon, the Pepcats are starting this year with renewed enthusiasm and optimistic plans.

Things have gotten off to a good start with the aid of a benevolent council and a spirited Freshman Class. Perhaps the most obvious example of solid progress is the Dalhousie Band. After having been a dimly small and spasmodic organization for the past few years, it cheered the hearts of many with its rousing performance at the St. F. X. Football game. Made up of a small group of upper classmen and numbers of talented freshmen, it is the first Dalhousie Band in years to be rated above the Salvation Army in the quality of their performance.

Band instruments and equipment always a problem, have been repaired and replaced, or soon will be, and the possibility of band uniforms is being investigated. A newly painted band room has also helped matters considerably, along with the purchase of some up-to-date music.

In the cheerleading department some improvements are also contemplated. A permanent corps of cheerleaders has been chosen from which good results are anticipated. It is hoped to have nine cheerleaders present at every game this year, and the purchase of a full set of megaphones for their use is being considered. With lots of promising talent available the calibre of Dalhousie cheerleading should be higher than that of last year. Pep rallies are also planned: Support your Pepcats!

New students who have come to Halifax from other universities in Canada and elsewhere, have said that while it was not an initiation, it was at least a freshman program. They cited other colleges, such as Bishop's University in Ontario, where the persecution of the lowly frosh got so out of hand that all freshman activity has been cut out. Dal's, they added, is better than none.

The week long "Well, here we are at College" ritual featured a movie party, a weiner roast, receptions, dances galore, campus tours, and series of Welcome to Dalhousie talks. The freshmen's initial enthusiasm was obvious as was their appreciation of the work done by the committee in charge of Freshman week.

A spokesman for the Registrar, Miss Smith, said that it would be a few days yet before exact totals of faculty registration could be completed. Present total Dalhousie enrollment is 1,616 of which 556 are new students. Of these, 422 are in the Arts and Science Faculty, 39 in nursing, 31 in Medicine, 27 in law, 24 in graduate school, and 13 in dentistry. Included in this group are, as usual, several overseas students.

Dean of Arts and Science, Dr. W. J. Archibald, stressed that it would be Dalhousie's policy to continue to raise entrance requirements as the pressure of students desiring admission to Dal increased. This year's freshman class, he pointed out, were all subject to the increased academic eligibility.

In response to suggestions of possible faculty additions, Dr. Archibald insisted "We are carrying about all that our present staff and facilities can handle. It has not been decided yet what effect the new building will have on present enrollment".

Council Holds Meeting; Hears Varied Problems

The first meeting of the term of the Council of Students was held in the Shirreff Hall Library on Monday of last week. Despite the comical and constant accompaniment of Arnie Benson's Band in the main hall, the meeting proceeded briskly.

Lively and informal discussions highlighted the agenda which, under the chairmanship of Council President, Dave Matheson, dealt with several current and important student problems

Among them Halifax's Mayor Vaughan's long awaited housing development which struck Mulgrave Park with devastating efficiency early this summer. It's result: the disappearance of Dalhousie's unique housing arrangement for married students. Student petitions, the council was informed, had delayed the National Housing Board's operations until Aug. 1—the final date of departure from the now demolished grey and weather-beaten student block.

The committee responsible for looking into the situation reported the absence of similar accommodations in other Universities. However, the council was assured a complete examination of housing opportunities for married students culminating in a list of recommendations to be presented to President Kerr.

Editor Jim Goring's forgotten masterpiece, the 1958 Pharos, will shortly make its belated appearance on Campus it was announced Monday night. Discussion of the factors which resulted in Pharos late appearance was kept at a minimum; however, the thought was expressed that Pharos should, if at

all possible, be out by Graduation, even at the price of dull conformism.

Law Student and NFCUS president Stu MacKinnon gave a brief resume of the forthcoming NFCUS conference in Ottawa this week. Scholarships at \$550.00 apiece from the Canadian Government, tax exemption on University Fees, and legislation to exempt students from paying unemployment insurance or receiving the benefits, will be the main issues at the conference. Stu announced the NFCUS members to attend the conference and also hinted at a possible NFCUS conference at Dalhousie two years hence.

Council Secretary, Miss Robb, announced the recent investiture of \$1200.00 of Student funds this summer: \$8,000.00 in accumulative debentures at 4½% and \$4,000.00 on temporary loan at 3½%.

The Rink Canteen came under spirited discussion. As Al Riggs is not returning to Dalhousie the suggestion was made to call for tenders for management of the canteen. Council Vice-President, Joan Herman, was asked to approach

President Kerr Greets Students

Room 21 was filled with students, most of them freshmen, who last Tuesday were greeted by President A. E. Kerr for the third time in initiation week. The event was Dalhousie's annual welcoming convocation.

To open the hour-long meeting, Dr. Kerr first introduced the new faculty members, among them NATO exchange Professor Dr. Oswald Hauser, formerly of the University of Kiel in Germany. Then Dr. Kerr began the main business of welcoming freshmen formally, explaining their relationship to Dalhousie and urging them to "think well of yourselves", and be justly proud of Dalhousie.

Dr. Kerr went on to explain the University's historic record of academic achievement. He stressed that "we are custodians of the past . . . in an age of science, whose many benefits must be appreciated. These will be happy years, concluded Dr. Kerr, and I commend all extracurricular activities to you, provided they are kept in perspective with studies." To freshmen completing a hectic week of welcome, those words had meaning.

Delta Gamma to determine its willingness to take over canteen activities for the entire year.

Two important dates were decided. The Blood drive, under the directorship of Joan Herman, will be the first week in November, and a Student forum, at which an important issue will be the Medicine "Tri Semester Plan", on Oct. 22 at 1:15 p.m.