LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CUCND

Sir:

The opponents of nuclear disarmanent have adopted the phrase "Better dead than Red," as their slogan. We feel this phrase provides an excellent starting point on which to base an explanation of the aims of the CUCND.

Our viewpoint is quite as realistic and rational as that of our opponents, if not more so, for we do not advocate the ruthless slaughter of millions of innocent people. We fully realize the foolishness and impossibility of complete western unilateral disarmament. We have never advocated such a policy. We do, however, advocate a complete renunciation by Canada of the use, possession or storage of nuclear weapons. We feel that, by such a refusal, Canada can lead the way for a similar refusal by other nations, thus curbing the spread of these weapons; she can act as a buffet state ie. "a small state between two larger ones, diminishing the chance of hostilities" (Concise Oxford Dictionary); in short, she can lead the way in a race toward peace.

A frequent objection to this position is that Canada is vital to the defence of North America. This idea is based on a lack of realization of the fact that a nuclear war would be totally unlike any war the world has ever experienced. The United States now has six nuclear submarines. Each one carries sixteen missiles. Each missile carries a warhead with the explosive power of all the bombs dropped by both sides during the Second World War. With her submarines alone, America can effectively devastate ninety-six Russian cities.

In addition the United States has large numbers of both manned bombers and ICBM'S. Dr. Linus Pauling has estimated that "three hundred great bombs exploded in positions rather uniformly over the United States could kill everyone in the U.S. The same number would kill almost everyone in Russia. The U.S. has 75,000 of these bombs and the U.S.S.R. has nearly as much'. Under these circumstances, what effect is the possession of nuclear weapons by Canada going to have on the security of North America

The only defense against nuclear weapons is peace. There is no other, and until some nation leads the way in striving towards that peace, the situation will simply get worse until by some accident, or even deliberate decision, mankind is exterminated. Canada is in a unique position to fulfill this role of peacemaker. Let Canada lead.

Sincerely
DAVID MAXWELL
(pres. CUCND)

RACIALISM

Sir:

In a recent letter to the Gazette, William H. James imputes to me the notion that I distinguish between the moral and factual wrongness of racial discrimination. The absurdity of this conclusion derives from the poverty of Mr. James' logic as applied to my statement.

In this statement, I drew a distinction between the possible evil of a man's ideas, and the evil of a man himself. I reaffirm the validity of this distinction and I would remind Mr. James that it is a distinction recognized by all the major religions. This, of course, says nothing in respect of the rightness or wrongness of the distinction, but it does at least confirm its existence.

If Mr. James could be persuaded to adopt a less doctrinaire approach towards racialism, to desist from persuing stereotypes of wholly evil white men and invariably virtuous black men, he might find room for genuine charity in his psyche. He may thus feel secure enough to admit the reality that good and evil, cruelty and kindness are not the exclusive monopoly of any particular race, but are apportioned in a strange variety of ways throughout human kind. This, I feel, might be a more reasonable position than the inverted sense of injustice from which Mr. James presently seems to suffer, and which lends to his invariably thoughtful and well presented comments and unfortunate note of uncompromising stridency.

Sincerely,
A. St. G. Abbott

A LAWYER REPLIES

Sir:

I respectfully submit, at the risk of being somewhat harsh, that the letter headed "Lawyers" written by Peter Green in the January 10 issue of the Gazette is a blatant example of fuzzy thinking that should be remedied. It is replete with biased and unsubstantiated opinion. I should like to call attention to only a few of the more glaring errors of fact and illogical presentation of ideas.

Mr. Green begins his comment with the hypothesis that undergraduates, meaning those students in the Faculty of Arts and Science are "the most important students in the university". The quantative measurement of importance is a nice task, but what does Mr. Green use as criteria? He says that undergraduates should be given special recognition especially as being the sole candidates for class executive positions, because they are undergoing the shock treatment of being forced to think on a university level which heightens their insecurity. If this is the case I would suggest that the insecure students see a psychiatrist rather than run for class office.

Mr. Green's other pre-requisite for student importance is that nebulous commodity known as SPIRIT. But is it fair to deprive someone of a chance to compete for a student position mainly because he doesn't cheer as loudly and wildly as some eager-eyed freshmen? It may be true that most law students are too apathetic to chant jingles at football and hockey contests, but there is always a large proportion of professional students attending varsity sports events. Also were law students as apathetic as the undergraduates who didn't attend the meeting to elect officers to the graduaing class? As for the validity of the election, Mr. Green should be informed that it has been sanctioned by the Students' Council, the only official body representing the students of all faculties.

Have law students withdrawn from student activities? It is true that there are no card carrying Pep Cats studying law, but even a varsity survey of extra-curricular activities will prove that law students are not the decrepid, tired old men who "have had their day' that Mr. Green attempts to portray.

For the past three seasons the quarter-back of our football team has been a law student, the captain of the hockey team is a law student as are several other members of these and other university athletic teams. The chairman of WUSC is a law student and the president of Sodales also attends Law School. Law Students have appeared in major roles in DGDS productions and this academic year the director of "My Three Angels" was a law student. Law students are in other student organizations such as the SUB committee. Surely, more cannot be expected from a comparatively small group of students.

I have no intention of giving the impression that only law students are active in student activities. I merely wish to point out that Arts and Science is but one of several faculties at Dalhousie and that students from the other faculties show their talents and energies in the establishing of a student community at Dalhousie. The Apartheid policy advocated by Mr. Green is not only unrealistic but adversely prejudicial to an even greater participation of professional and graduate students in campus life.

Sincerely
HARVEY NEWMAN
Law II

BOUQUET

Sir:

A bouquet to the Gazette for printing the article on prostitution. Perhaps the Gazette in cooperation with the Students' Health Service, would like to initiate the proposals set forth in the last paragraph on a trial basis here at Dalhousie?

Sincerely
DAVID A. GIFFIN

THE RCAF

DON'T FORGET THIS DATE

JANUARY 22

AN RCAF PERSONNEL OFFICER WILL VISIT YOUR CAMPUS TO

INTERVIEW

ALL FINAL YEAR UNDERGRADUATES INTERESTED IN PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

AF-59-34U

COUNCIL OF THE STUDENTS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 30, 1961
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Budget	Estimated Income	Expend. to Dec. 30/61	Income to Dec.31/61
	Advertising Bureau		
73.35	—	7.00	—
	Co-Ordination		
8.00	—	—	—
	Council		
7,540.00	31,500.00	2,271.09	25,369.74
	D.G.D.S.		
4,974.00	4,000.00	1,607.39	342.95
	Dance Band		
309.00	—	125.00	—
	Delta Gamma		
245.25	240.00	32.00	—
	Gazette		
7,498.00	1,500.00	4,045.32	210.00
	Int. Student Assoc.		
510.00	—	212.00	—
	Pep Cats		
575.00	—	161.39	—
	Photography		
1,154.80	—	999.99	—
	Publicity		
61.80	—	31.68	—
	Sodales		
585.00	—	10.00	—
	Year Book		
7,452.00	6,000.00	1,906.72	2,183.36
	D.A.A.C. — D.G.A.C.		
13,855.00			
		6,973.29	1,885.58
game receipts		1,126.78	
$44,841.20	**$43,240.00**	**$19,509.65**	**$29,991.63**