

# Kane on History

by SKIP KANE

To a great many people history is but a series of facts, dates and events seemingly unconnected and unrelated. Although facts and dates do play a role in historical study they are but a framework over which the fabric of history is woven. Alone they have little importance, for they imply that history is but a fortuitous sequence of events.

That Caesar crossed the Rubicon or that in 1789 a mob stormed the Paris Bastille are in themselves unimportant unless interpreted in the light of the circumstances that precede and surround them. It is only through careful study of these that we can come to some conclusion of their causes and effects.

Any comprehensive interpretation of history requires that one be, for the lack of better term, historically-minded. It is necessary to disassociate oneself from contemporary views and prejudices and view the event in its proper time element. But one should not be content to be a mere dispassionate observer, but consider the event with some sympathy as one of the period. Only in this way can we hope to arrive at some understanding of the thought and outlook of the time. With this spirit and with careful observation of events and their order we can arrive at some knowledge of their causes and effects.

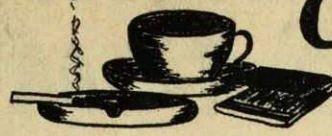
Some, with varying degrees of success, have applied the scientific method to history. History obviously is not an exact science. One cannot begin with any universally accepted definitions. And yet there has been discovered a clearly distinguishable pattern or trend in the plethora of human events.

One theory which still receives wide acceptance is the Hegelian dialectic. Hegel saw in human affairs

a continuous and orderly development or trend. Each age or period has its own character, which pervades and unites all the institutions of that time. Hegel believed that men are instruments of a great historical "necessity". The individual's role in determining the course of events, in this view, are strictly limited. Perhaps we do to a small degree influence events but in large we co-operate with this "necessity".

The dialectic is based on the Platonic dialogues where two positions are maintained, the thesis and antithesis. Each is partly right and partly wrong. These opposites work themselves out in what is called the synthesis, a more adequate and stronger position than the other two. It is in this way we see historical forces resolving themselves. Unchecked, monarchy develops into despotism, while extreme democracy results in chaos.

Karl Marx revised this theory and incorporated it in his dialectic materialism, so called because it is based on economic forces and class struggle. For example we have seen the aristocracy and peasantry clash to produce the bourgeoisie. Today the struggle seems to be between this class and the proletariat. While Hegel envisioned a continuous and spiral development of the dialects which would end with man. Marx predicted that this struggle would culminate in communism.



# Around the Campus

Dal's NFCUS Committee will sponsor a gala Record Hop and Carnival on Friday, January 30th, in the gym. Many activities are planned for the evening and the event promises to be lots of fun. Music for dancing will be provided by records. Throughout the evening, a number of booths will be open for interested persons to participate in the games. Also on the agenda will be a number of variety acts which are guaranteed to provide entertainment. Special contests such as pie throwing and hula hoop will also be featured. Master of Ceremonies will be Murray Fraser. Proceeds from the Carnival will go to the NFCUS Scholarship Fund.

The first of this year's Girls' Intercollegiate Basketball games to be held in Halifax will be played in the gym on Thursday, January 29, at 7:30. The Dalhousie team will face U.N.B. in this first encounter.

A Political Forum and feature debate will be held in Room 21 at 12 noon on Thursday, January 29th. The topic for the debate will be "Should there be Sunday Skating". All interested students are invited to attend.

The big day for the politically minded is Friday, January 30, when students will cast their votes at polling booths found at King's College, the Canteen, the Forrest Building, and the Dent Building. Anyone holding a Dal or King's Student card will be able to vote between the hours of 9 and 5.

On Sunday, February 1, the Newman Club and SCM will hold a meeting in the East Common Room of the Men's Residence at 3:00.

Boy's Intercollegiate Basketball games scheduled for this week include Saint Mary's at Dal on Saturday, January 31, at 8:00 and Acadia at Dal at 8:00 on Monday, February 2.

On Wednesday, February 4, the second of the new Co-ed Sports Nights will be held in the gym starting at 8:00. There will be organized participation in badminton, volley ball, ping-pong, squash and gymnastics. Following the gym period there will be a party for the participants at Sigma Chi starting at 10:00.

A Student's Forum will be held on Thursday, February 5, at 12 noon, in Room 21 of the Arts and Administration Building. Among the topics to be discussed are the controversial Rink and Canteen Questions.

The East Common Room will be the scene of the big West Indian Carnival on February 7. Admission to the fiesta is free.

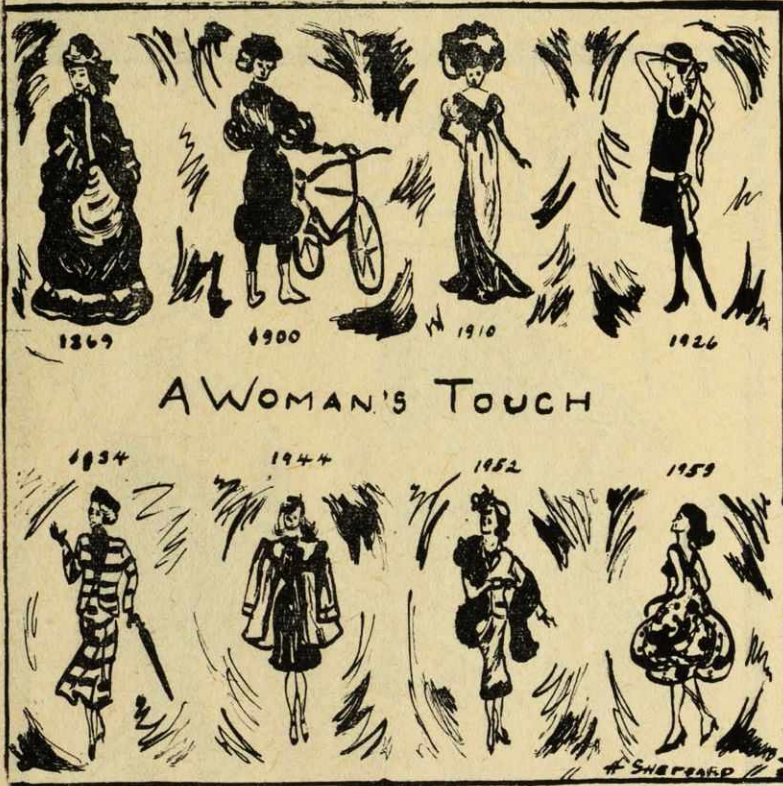
One of the biggest events on the campus, the Engineers' Ball, will be held on Friday the 13th day of February. The Ball Committee promises the dance will be the best.

Set aside Saturday, February 14 for the trip to Acadia for the Acadia Winter Carnival. Tickets at the low price of \$3.00 may be purchased from Les Karagianis and other members of Dalcom.

Last call for chorus members for "Paint Your Wagon"! Chorus rehearsals take place in the Music Room on the third floor of the Arts and Administration Building, on Saturday afternoon at 3:30 for the girls and on Tuesday evening at 7:30 for the boys.

Any boys who are interested in working on Stage Crew for "Paint Your Wagon" please contact Forbes Langstroth in the Physics Building anytime or inquire from any member of the DGDS executive when a working party will be held. Willing hands are needed.

Students are advised that the 1957-58 edition of the Canada Year Book has recently been released. The price for the cloth bound edition is \$5.00 per copy, while a limited number of paper bound copies is available at \$1.50 to teachers and university students. Either edition may be purchased from the Department of Public Printing and Stationery, Hull, Quebec, or the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.



A WOMAN'S TOUCH

## Nancy Rice Pharmacy Queen

This week, called "Commerce Week" at Studley, would well have been called "Pharmacy Week" at Forest. All pharmacy students were busy making last minute preparations and anxiously awaiting the big moment of their graduation banquet and dance.

Friday afternoon there was an informal coffee party, a chance for the students to meet the guests for that evening. Professor Roger Larose, from Montreal University department of Pharmacy, and Mr. Alexander, President of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Society were present.

The 15th annual banquet and dance were held in the Nova Scotian Hotel with Donald McNeil as Master of ceremonies. The 1959 graduates were honoured by the special seating arrangements.

A toast to the Maritime College of Pharmacy was proposed by Glen Bagnell and responded to by Dean J. E. Cooke. Other toasts were proposed to Dalhousie University and to "The Ladies" by Bill Wilson and John Staples, respectively.

Greetings were brought from the three Maritime Pharmaceutical Societies.

Professor Larose gave a lecture on "Education in Pharmacy" outlining his views on what should be stressed in Pharmaceutical teaching.

Sat., Jan. 17th

Did betake me early to the College-by-the-Sea. Refreshing calm prevailed, the annual orgy of Hades Stockings being over. Stepping over a trifling litter of lost scalps and new-broken hearts, did enter the Coffee House. A few wan figures waited endlessly at the bar, or toyed daintily with the delicious refreshments provided. Rejoicing in the Wren's Mesidense, for Haller Stayhouse, now an inmate, proclaimed Grampas Thing. Also nosed about

The highlight of the following dance was the crowning of the queen. It was first time in history that the queen was a pharmacy student. Looking very radiant, Nancy Rice was crowned.

Several prizes were presented for spot dances, "Name the Music" dances, and as door prizes.

Dancing to the music of Reg Quinn's Orchestra, all enjoyed the successful evening.



that Miss Man Landing awarded the honours of the Hazy Fray, the Dainty Grabbers Goal.

Thurs., Jan. 22nd

At a late hour, did stroll through the Strand. Observing Fleet Street in a hubbub, methought to venture in, there to find Wolf and Coughing at their task of literary hack-work. Much rejoicing, the scurrilous rag now having reached such a state of senility, 'tis thought its life span may soon near its end. Did therefore deign to celebrate with these poor literary hacks, with music and with song. All of Goody's crew becoming excited (and in their poor lives of poverty-stricken drudgery what little opportunity for rejoicing enters) that they did hold high revelry far into the night. All the Chimes were ringing, and the vile scum forgot their troubles for a short spell. These miserable ones had the audacity publicly to advocate healthy outdoor recreation, but at work, or play they are ever found in the same smoky atmosphere, consorting ever with the same wretches.

Did repair to the Coffee House (itself could do with some repair). Upon perceiving the portrait of a beauteous maiden, inquired eagerly. Informed it was the likeness of one Miss Northersea, the idol of the financiers—truly, they have excellent taste.

Also did hear that the men of money and members of the Exchange, upon sighting one great Doe had attempted to inveigle others to invest in their floating-stock. Although much interest, but little Profit. Rumoured their wondrous attempts foiled—but tush, all may be only a vile rumour.

The Place to Eat

## Chantecler

380 SPRING GARDEN ROAD

## ALL-DAY MILDNESS



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