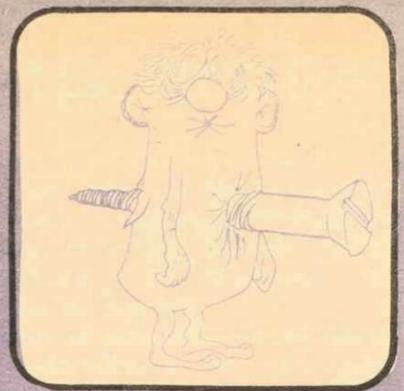


Dalhousie Gazette

Vol. 104

November 12, 1971

Number 9



Security measures tight

Degree sign of friendship — Tito

Story by Alison Manzer
Photos by Bob Jeffries

President Josep Tito of Yugoslavia received the Honorary degree "Doctor of Laws" at a special convocation of Dalhousie University last Saturday.

Tito said he accepted the degree with satisfaction and gratitude, taking it as not only a personal tribute but as a sign of continuing friendship between countries.

Tito and his wife were here on a state visit at the invitation of Governor General Roland Michener. Dalhousie University asked him to receive the degree during his visit here.

The reasons behind the move are not clear but university president Henry Hicks has made several attempts to rationalize the convocation. In his speech Hicks established links with Yugoslavia through alumnae associations with the Yugoslav partisans. He particularly named Major Jones of Nova Scotia, who is to be honored by having a Belgrade street named after him.

"We applaud President Josep Tito as one of the most ardent proponents of the principle of peaceful co-existence; the principle that people, espousing different political and economic systems, can live peacefully side-by-side and can resolve their problems and differences of opinion by rational rather than violent means," he said.

Tito spoke later in the convocation, principally about the situation of non-aligned countries in world politics.

He also gave an account of the establishment of the democratic-socialist political state. This need arose, he said, from the establishment of an economy based on public ownership and the resulting necessity for a corresponding political system. The most important development in Yugoslavia, according to the president, has been the concept of self-management. The workers have been managing the factories since 1950. This move has created a more democratic system and has provided a stable base for the political set-up.

Dissipation of power to the regional structures, with the federal body interfering only in matters concerning the whole country, has created a renewed unity and increases in production. Dissatisfaction in the country results from ex-bureaucrats attempting to take power in the labour unions. There is still

some unrest coming from agitation by external forces, said Tito.

He discussed the role of non-aligned countries, stressing the importance of a peaceful resolving of differences and the desirability of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. Concerted action and cooperation through such organizations such as the United Nations are the most effective ways to establish a peaceful co-existence, he said.

The speech was marked by the obvious sleeping of our provincial Lieutenant Governor whose somewhat corpulent frame was bent over his gold topped cane. The interesting point was that he repeated the performance over an official dinner later in the day.

At the official dinner provided by the provincial government, the president thanked the province for providing him such a warm welcome and expressed the hope that relations between the countries would benefit by the visit.

A large crowd waited outside the auditorium to watch Tito's departure. The gathering was watched by double lines of city police aided the RCMP and other forces. There were also police on the roofs of the Arts Centre, the Student Union Building, and on most street corners between the university and the hotel. An armoured car was flown in from Quebec City.

The official itinerary also included visits to Ottawa and Quebec City. In Ottawa Tito participated in official talks with Trudeau and other members of his party spoke with their Canadian counterparts.

According to a Canadian-Yugoslav communique:

"Both sides affirmed the attachment of Canada and Yugoslavia to the cause of international peace and security and the improvement of relations between states on the basis of the principles of non-interference in international affairs, mutual confidence, reciprocity renunciation of the use or threat of force and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with the purpose and principles of the United Nations Charter. They also stated their conviction that peaceful relations between states are possible only in conditions of respect for sovereign equality,



Yugoslav President Tito addresses convocation guests.

including the right of every state freely to choose and develop its political, social and economic systems, for independence and the territorial integrity of states and inviolability of frontiers."

"Further, the Canadian side informed the Yugoslav side that, upon the completion of the necessary administrative arrangements, non-immigrant visas for Yugoslav nationals visiting Canada

would no longer be required and that, under certain conditions, multi-entry visas valid for one year would be made available for non-official to Yugoslav non-official commercial representatives posted in Canada.

The announcement of the agreement concerning non-immigrant visas was the only concrete result of the three days of talks.



(bob jeffries/dal)