

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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STUDENT ADVISERS

During the past few years Dalhousie University, as well as most Canadian and American Universities, has grown in student registration in greater proportions than the growth of faculties. Consequently many students may pass through a university with little personal contact with professors in their departments. A result of this is that many students fail to obtain advice which would make their courses more profitable.

It is recognized that over-worked registrars and faculty members simply have not the time to devote to all students, and generally time is given to the few students who take most interest in the respective courses. A further consequence of this is that occasional students are side-tracked into courses in which they and on some occasions the lack of interest in such courses causes a corresponding lack of results.

This could easily be averted if an organization of student advisers were formed on the campus, preferably under the guidance of a faculty member. This organization should consist of senior and graduate students who are willing to give time and advice to freshmen and sophomore students. The advisers should be chosen by faculty members for each department. This system has worked well in many other universities, and we suggest that the university administration consider its application to Dalhousie.

D.L.M.

INTER-UNIVERSITY DRAMA FESTIVAL

Last Saturday night, the Dalhousie Glee Club, along with the dramatic societies of Acadia and Mount Allison Universities, presented the first Inter-University Drama Festival. From the viewpoint of quality, the outcome was excellent.

Student participation at Dalhousie was not commensurate with the display. That is, of course, understandable for the first attempt, but it is to be hoped that greater attention will be paid to the Festival in future.

The idea may well be the first step in breaking down the antagonism which has existed for too long among Maritime universities. The cooperation during the Festival was excellent, and in dramatics, at least, that cooperation promises to produce ever-increasing quality.

Letters To The Editor

Editor,
Dalhousie Gazette

In reading your Mock Parliament report in the issue of Feb. 24 I see that your writer reports that I made a motion to have Cape Breton made a national shrine "for reasons beyond this writers comprehension."

I should like to amplify that "colorful" reporting to clarify the position of that dynamic new party which I represent, the M.R.P.

His biased treatment can only mean two things; he has never been to Cape Breton; and what is worse, he is not a Cape Bretoner. Had he listened to the report, which I meant to give in Gaelic, he would have learned why such a step for Cape Breton's furtherance was one of urgent national importance.

For him then, and the readers he has misguided, I should like to point out why Cape Breton SHOULD be made a national shrine.

According to a recent issue of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the island's crime-free reputation makes its crime rate lower than any island of comparative size in the world (this includes P.E.I.). The people of Cape Breton have been known for years as Peace

Loving, Temperate, God-wearing, Simple family folk whose sole interests are the welfare of Canada and the Millionaires. Since the days of Cabot this fair isle has been first on the tongues of Canadians. Here is beauty primeval, here are mystic glens, here are shaggy crags, here, indeed, is beauty unbounded! Here were produced such giants in Canadian annals as Angus McAskill, and James D. Gillis, the famous Cape Breton raconteur. Who has really lived who has not watched the moon come up over the slag dump, who can deny this true beauty as seen from a vantage point between two oil tanks on the lower Esplanade? This paper's yearly quota of newsprint could not contain THE wondrous tales of Cape Breton.

For these few, enough alone, and many other reasons Cape Breton should be made a national shrine. If your reporter is still not convinced, Mr. Leo MacIntyre will hold consultations on the issue from 3 - 5 p.m. daily in the Law Common Room.

As James D. Gillis once wrote in worldly vein, "I have been to Boston twice, I do not say it as a boast", so I would suggest most humbly that it takes greatness to recognize greatness, which may ac-

count for your reporter's lack of appreciation.

CIAD MILLE FAILTE
SIOL NA FEAR FEARRAIL
Ian MacRoberts

Dear Sir:—

There is a sad, sad situation on the Dalhousie Campus. A great pall of gloom hangs over us . . . student apathy, that terrible ogre which consumes all before it. So what! As far as this modest writer can see student activities are at a higher and better level than they have ever been in the boom post-war years, certainly better than in the past four years. And we've had a smaller enrollment and a decreased budget in 49-50. Let's look the field over before we gripe:

Athletics — Interfac sports are flourishing as in former years and competition is keener under the new point system which is to find the all-round interfac champion. Varsity sports naturally have their ups and downs depending upon the material in any given year. If this was a poor year for the Canadian Football Team, it is certainly a banner season for the Basketball Tigers. Again, so what!

D.G.D.S. — The Glee Club's two major presentations of 1950 were above the standard of the previous three years, particularly the production of Othello. Certainly there was no backward trend here.

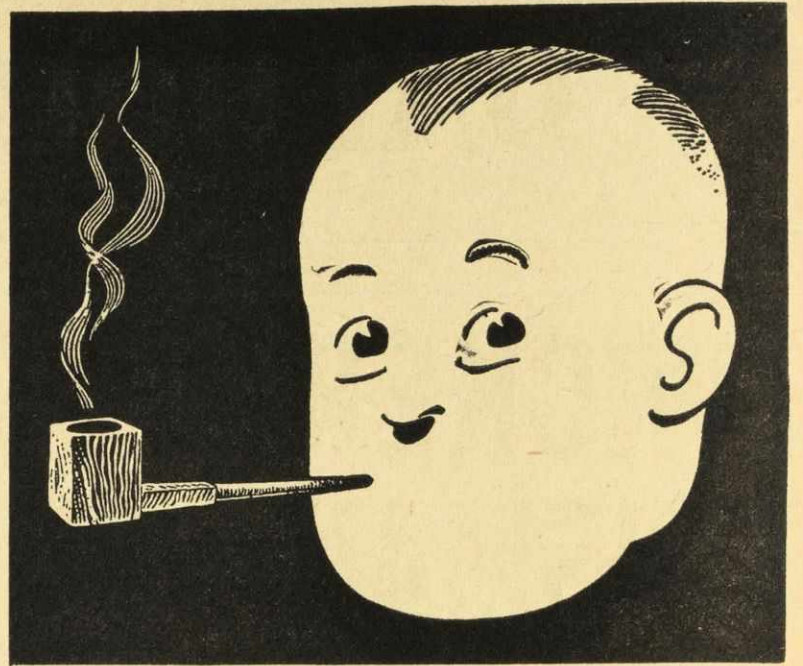
Pharos—Anything is better than the 48-49 fiasco (this is not passing any opinion on the ridiculous argument of who was or was not a bad boy) We will have to wait and see the end result of Pharos for '50.

Gazette — Perhaps this writer is biased, but news and sports coverage and certain other departments were very efficient this year, better than in the previous two seasons. Our features, or supposed 'literary' page has left much to be desired but this condition can be easily remedied for the future.

What more do you want? More student participation? Who's kidding! Only about 5% of any student body is ever active. If anyone ever disturbed the other 95% revolution might result. Let the 5% continue to martyr themselves. This writer conceitedly considers himself one of the martyred and enjoys it immensely. Perhaps it's a privilege to be one of the few who knew and is interested in what goes on around him. Dalhousie (the 5% that is) is in for another good year in 1950-51, though the decrease expected in enrollment may increase difficulties of finance. If anyone is particularly worried about student apathy, don't just join some organization or other and drown your sorrows in work.

Sincerely,
H.A.

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