

The Editor's MAILBOX

Wants more "Literary" contributions

Dear Sir,—

We have noticed in the last few years that the Literary Column of the Gazette has been given less and less prominence, and we understand that the reason for this is a supposed apathy on the part of the students. However, we feel that a great many Dalhousians would like to see this Column given more consideration, and, if given more encouragement and support, would be willing and capable of contributing articles of sufficient literary merit to maintain its position as one of the best in any Canadian university publication.

We have seen suggestions that gossip columns be given more space in The Gazette; no one has as yet spoken out for the literary column. Without disparagement to the features already in the Gazette, we suggest therefore, that our literary column be given the most vigorous support, and assured a reasonable space each week.

Yours very truly,

H. F. AIKINS,
DAVID COLDWELL,
KATHERYN BEAN,
LOU COLLINS

(We fully agree with the sentiments expressed above—but, without contributions, what can we do? In view, however, of limited space and heavy advertising, we favour SHORT articles or poems of a high standard to the long mediocre variety.—J. C. McL.)

Express views on Campus Sports

Dear Sir,—

Unfair and unjust criticism levied carelessly and with reckless disregard for facts and circumstances is certainly unwarranted, however, I cannot think that a college of Dalhousie's standing in Canadian University circles would foster any such conditions as are existing under the D.A.A.C.

Every year the D.A.A.C. receives a grant of \$3000.00 This sum, and I think it is not unreasonable to call it generous, should be entirely devoted to the building and maintenance of a student athletic programme. It is not to provide highly specialized training to a few versatile individuals, nor is it a fund to sponsor professional teams. It is afforded by each student's contribution and it is the privilege and the duty of every student to take his or her part in college activities. But first and foremost it is the duty of the D.A.A.C. to arrange a programme whereby some measure of interest may be aroused in sport and its affiliated activities. It is not fair that this sum of money should benefit only a small minority of the students. No blame can be placed on these students, nor is it just to affix blame on the members of the D.A.A.C. However, I should think the activities which merit the expenditure of three thousand dollars would and could be more extensive.

JACK NICHOLSON.

Scores Lackadaisical College Spirit

Dear Sir,

Being a freshette at Dal this year, I feel that it is my privilege to express my opinions of some mishaps on the campus.

My main complaint concerns the spirit among the students. All in all something has to be done. Take the girls game with Acadia: near the end when the Acadia score was creeping up, did any Dal student clap or cheer? No, but some bright (?) males were busy learning Acadia yells.

The team could not be expected to have any spirit without support. How can the players be enthusiastic when the students don't care if their team wins or loses?

If something isn't done about "Dal spirit", all athletic teams will be abolished. We must build it up with all the students taking part.

Another weak spot is found in the "Gazette". Too many responsibilities are resting on a few people. All activities should include every Dal student and they all must take part in everything.

If you were to listen to the opinions around the campus, you would find similar complaints. I am not writing this letter to be sneered at but to arise new lights in students' minds. Come on, Dal—show us some real spirit, NOW!

Sincerely yours,

MARGOT ROSS.

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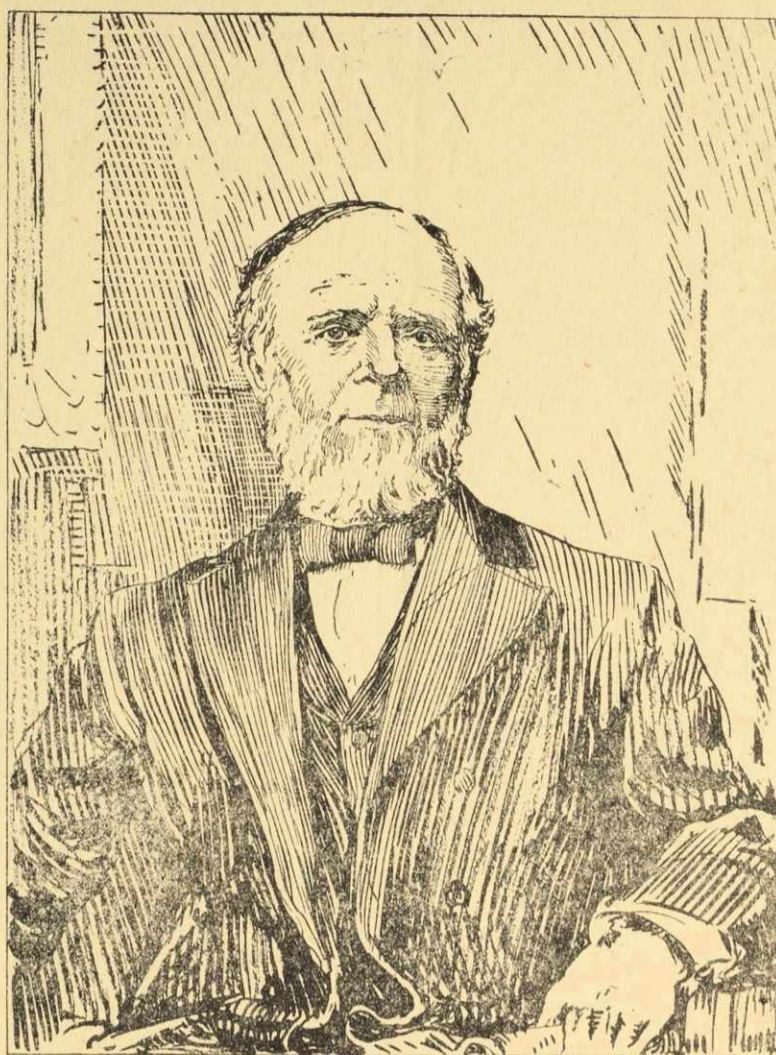
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ANNUAL MUNRO DAY HONORS GREAT DALHOUSIE BENEFACTOR



The second Tuesday in March has been set aside by the university every year since 1928 to celebrate the benefactors of Dalhousie, and has been called Munro Day, in respect to George Munro, not only because of the great financial aid he gave but also the timeliness of his gift. For when the university was to be closed down due to financial difficulties, George Munro made his significant contribution.

George Munro was born in 1825. His father had a small but successful farm and in the atmosphere of Scotch family life he grew up. In his home, religion and patriotism were highly respected and with his nine sisters and brothers he shared all the joys of a happy family. All these pleasant associations and influences made a deep impression on him and in later years he returned to his home in Millbrook annually, bringing with him his children to show his old home with considerable pride.

In Printing Business

His primary education was similar to that given all country boys of that time. When he was twelve years old he entered the office of "The Pictou Observer," to learn the printing business but he only remained there two years and left to return to school—this time in New Glasgow. After two years here, young Munro turned to the teaching profession but when he was eighteen years old back again to school to continue his studies, under his former school master, Basil Bell, who was then at Pictou Academy.

After a two year period, Munro went to the New Glasgow school but now as a teacher. When he had taught there for three years, he proceeded to Halifax to teach mathematics at the Free Church Academy in Halifax. He was later made Principal.

Along with the duties of teaching, he studied theology but he never became a clergyman. It is said that after preaching one sermon, he resolved never to renew the ordeal. Being a modest man to the extent of near-shyness, this vow is quite understandable.

At that time Nova Scotia had nine colleges, each having close religious affiliations, which were responsible for much enmity. Munro, being extremely interested in education, was displeased with the religious controversy within the province, which was undermining the educational program. He then turned toward "the States" and in 1856 he was employed by a large publishing house.

His previous training, family influence, ambition and energy soon placed him in a position to set up business for himself.

Endows Publishing House

Munro's interest in education persisted and in 1867 he established "The Seaside Library"—a publishing scheme to develop a taste for good literature in the minds of the masses. His aim was to publish the best fiction, essays and history in cheap editions so that through them he might assist in the education of the people.

Besides being called a great "innovator" in the educational field he became known as the father of the Skyscraper, for when Munro built his publishing house on Vandewater Street it was the highest building in New York. One of the first apartment houses in New York, overlooking Central Park, built by Munro, who was now a wealthy man, bears the name "Dalhousie."

His first donation to Dalhousie University was in 1879 and was larger than any previous donation given to a Canadian college. He made many more generous gifts during the next few years. In the 1880's Dalhousie's future was very insecure and had it not been for the benefactions of George Munro, the university would have closed down.

Ardent Presbyterian

In his success, George Munro remained the simple and noble person he had always been, reluctant to accept praise and fame for his good deeds. He was always a contributor to worthy causes, hospitable and a true believer in the Presbyterian Church. He wished his gifts to be considered a part of his ideals to promote education and pay his respect to the land of his birth.

To George Munro, we, the present students owe a two-fold debt—as a benefactor who made our attendance here today possible and as an example of unselfishness and virtue. "Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime, And departing, leave behind us Foot-prints on the sands of time."

—Wordsworth.

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Council President Titus Reports on Student Activities For Year

The Students' Council has nearly completed another year, and although hampered seriously by decreased income, we feel that it has been a very successful one. A very active election campaign was carried out by the nominees last Spring which was not only interesting and enjoyable, but also served to acquaint the students with the people they were electing to the Council, and it is hoped that this will again become a tradition at Dalhousie at election time.

As was stated above, decreased income has this year, as in all the war years, seriously curtailed many activities which the Council would ordinarily sponsor. All in all, however, the essential functions plus a few extras have been carried out to the best of the Council's discretion, even though it did mean digging into our reserve built up in past years.

Financial Budget

The Council endeavoured this year to straighten out the problem of budgets with the result that they were all in and passed before the term was a month old.

The student directory was published well before Christmas this year while in past years it didn't appear until well after.

Early in the fall an attempt was made to arouse student spirit to support our teams and other college functions. Pep rallies and smokers were held with very good results but there is still room for a great deal of improvement along this line. It is hoped that the Council next year will continue this programme.

Athletics

In athletics, our teams, although not of championship calibre made their presence felt in every league and in every game and several trips were made to outside colleges and towns both by mens' and womens' teams. This included a swimming team to a Maritime meet at Fredericton.

Delegates were sent to a reorganization conference of the National Federation of College and University students held at London, Ontario. The delegates gained valuable information that has been a big help to this year's Council and should prove of even greater benefit to next year's Council.

The Students' Council this year also tried and is still trying to obtain a common room for use by both men and women on the campus. At the time of writing no definite answer can be given except that prospects have become very bright in the past few weeks and that our

common room may be a reality before next year rolls around.

Changes have been advocated this year regarding the financing of the football field and our annual gymnasium rental fee which if accepted by the University will release an additional sum for student activities. Changes regarding the financing of our year book, Pharos, have been undertaken as well but as yet are still indefinite. It is hoped, however, that these changes will remove some of the obstacles in publishing it and for an immensely better year book worthy of the University.

The war work this year has been mainly along two lines, namely, (1) through our blood donor society which has had another very successful year. Nearly two hundred students have donated their blood to the Red Cross and also the society sponsored a Red Cross dance with all the proceeds going to the Red Cross. (2) The Council this year invested two thousand dollars of its reserve fund in the recent victory loan.

Cooperation

This has been a year of changes within the university, our president having resigned, and from the looks of the above outline the Student Union has shared in these changes as well. Before concluding this report, as president of the Students' Union, I should like to thank very much the members of the Students' Council and the Student Body as a whole for their cooperation throughout the past year for without their support and hard work nothing could have been accomplished. I would also like to thank the Dalhousie Alumnae Association and our Faculty advisor, Dr. Bell, for their very fine support on the many questions that were put before them through the year.

We wish the incoming council the best of luck for the new year ahead of them and hope they may benefit by our mistakes.

Dalhousie Students' Council,
Arthur Titus, president.

They sat side by side in the moon-light
She murmured as she smoothed his brow

"Darling I know that my life has been fast
But I'm on my last lap now."
—The Brunswickan.

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