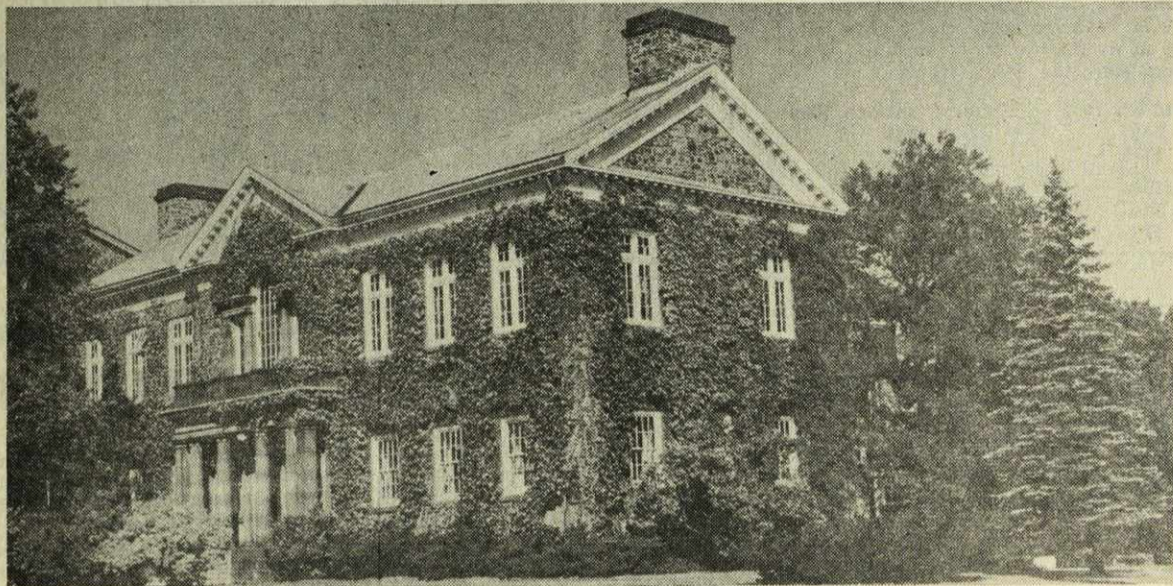


Is Our Library Obsolete?

By SUE HERMAN

The years of patient indoctrination by high school teachers, beseeching their pupils not to cram for exams, has had an effect. The recent crops of freshmen are studying, not just the week and one-half before exams, but from the very time classes begin. This raising trend has forced the MacDonald Memorial Library to improve its service and attempt to stretch the library walls to the breaking point.



Not only are there more students registered, but accompanying the higher entrance requirements, more above average and scholarship students are attending Dalhousie. These are the ones who are conscientiously using the library as a study hall in an endeavour to prove worthy of the help being given them. The professors must also be given credit for active promotion of the use of the library. Of the many books being placed on reserve, some cannot be removed. Consequently, students must use the Reading Room in order to complete many of their assignments. Today the entire nation, stimulated by Russian advancement, has become concerned with the problem of education, which, of course, is made up of knowledge found in books. Thus the number of students desiring to learn increases the Memorial Library and it will need greater facilities.

Mr. Lochhead, University Librarian, does NOT believe that the library to be located in the Sir James Dunn Science Building nor the tentative reading room in the new Men's Residence will alleviate the overcrowded conditions to any noticeable extent. Increased stack study privileges have been arranged by opening up a newly-lit room in the attic, but demands are far from satisfied.

More and more students are requesting stack privileges, and more and more refusals are being given. The library is the one building which houses most of the existing knowledge of the University courses. It is the one place where students can avail themselves of this learn-

ing. Yet no concern for the library is apparent in any plans for the expansion of Dalhousie.

Mr. Lochhead feels that there is no hope of anything being done within the next two or three years. But he points out, that with registration due to increase yearly, the already overcrowded library can become the one weak spot on Dalhousie's campus, now that the rotting timbers of the old Men's Residence will soon be obsolete.

One possible plan for increasing the size of the library would be to build an addition on the back, creating a "front" looking towards Coburg Road. This addition should have reading rooms on two floors, one or two seminar rooms, and increased stack space. Now even space for the books is becoming a problem. The library workers prophesy that in two years or less books will be stacked on the floor for the erring feet of unknowing juniors to mutilate.

It has been suggested that the students, if they would cease plagu-

ing the administration for new buildings, might, by giving matters a rest, actually accomplish more than by agitation. In reply . . . if the students are not interested, who should? Surely no costly improvements will be handed to us if we have no desire to gain them! Moreover, the buildings now under construction are costing more than actually necessary because of the desire to have the entire campus on the same architectural style. Stone is more costly than brick. Admittedly, done poorly, a different architectural style might make Dalhousie look like an architect's nightmare, but it has been heard from reliable sources that Yale has done it, with a library extension, no less.

Dalhousie is a prominent university. As such, its capacity to meet the demands of the students should increase unceasingly. The now familiar Dental Building, the Sir James Dunn Science Building, and the new Men's Residence are adding to the advantages already enjoyed by Dalhousie over other Maritime universities.

With the advent of new paths to learning, a more spacious place in which to assimilate the information gleaned in lecture rooms is needed. The library is being taxed beyond its limit. It is apparent that the proper authorities MUST turn their attention to the solution of this problem in the immediate future.



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ATHLETIC BOARD ALMOST HERE

By JIM HURLEY

For many years Dalhousie has been plagued with disorganization and a financially precarious position within the various athletic groups on the campus. To remedy this situation, "Spud" Chandler, President of the DAAC, has tried for the establishment of an Athletic Board at Dalhousie. At last, the university administration is about to adopt such a plan which would eliminate or solve most of the problems which have beset the athletic department in the past. The following is an interview with Mr. Chandler, during which several leading questions concerning the proposed Athletic Board were answered.

What would be the aims of the Athletic Board, and why should students be interested in it?

Well, first of all, the Board would present an organized and qualified body to supervise and co-ordinate athletics at Dalhousie. At the present time, our system is inadequate and incompetent. Secondly, such a board would aim to improve and extend the calibre of the existing program and to encourage more participation in the programs by developing and stimulating interest in athletics in all the university bodies. This is, of course, where each individual student should find a vested interest in the aims of the Board. At the same time, such a Board would establish a continuity in the athletic administration which currently is left totally in the hands of chance. Another aim of the Board would be to improve the present system of athletic funds allocation to allow more flexibility in budgeting. This would also permit greater financial stability to the athletic department.

How do you propose to improve finances?

We would like to see a set amount of the Council Fees allocated annually for athletic uses, in return for which the Council would receive the income from all the sports. Such a plan would erase

the yearly doubts that surround athletic budgeting, and it would give the athletic budgeters more confidence in making foresighted plans.

Of whom would the Board be composed?

The Board, as planned, will be composed of about 12 or 13 members. Of these, there would be representatives from the Students' Council, the DAAC, the DGAC, the faculties, the alumni and the athletic directors. This would, of course, form a better liaison between these various groups.

Has such a Board ever been planned by another university?

Most definitely yes. Most Canadian universities possess Athletic Boards at the present time, and they have found that such Boards greatly increase the efficiency and appreciation of athletic in those universities.

When can we expect to see the Athletic Board definitely established?

As you know, meetings are under way at the present time to complete plans for the Board. On December 1, 1959, the Students' Council appointed two members to work on the special Committee to draw up a Constitution. Work on the Athletic Board has progressed well, and we expect to see this Board realize this very year.

MUNRO DAY FESTIVITIES ORGANIZED?

Christmas vacation has passed and the second term is now well under way. In less than seven weeks, the students of Dalhousie will stage their annual week-end. In an attempt to find out what plans had been made, the Gazette interviewed a member of the Council.

Until now little has been heard from the Munro Day Committee or the Students' Council on what is to take place that weekend. In an attempt to find out what plans had been made, the Gazette interviewed a member of the Council.

He provided us with tons and tons of information. Like this:

1. The Chairman of the Munro Day Committee is Bill Wilson.
2. Another committee has been set up to run Students' Council elections, which are held just before the big spree.
3. Still another committee has

been set up in order to compile points for gold and silver "D's" and other awards.

4. The Council is trying to obtain the services of a "big-name" band, although it has been rumored that a local band might provide some swinging tempo free.

5. Nothing has been done about the Black and Gold Review.

6. Nothing has been done, so far as the Council knows, about arranging for the big sports attraction which has hitherto always been a feature of the weekend. Just nothing.

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