

Registration Poor

by Peter Costwell

At the time of this writing Dalhousie is experiencing its annual week of heartbreak and frustration casually termed "registration". Despite a few changes it was organized in basically the same manner of previous years — proof of man's inability to learn from his mistakes. Mind you I realize every year we write a critical report of registration and consequently, every year our observations are ignored by the powers that be, so this year I would like to outline some particulare student problems encountered at registration in hopes that they might be overcome for future Dalhousie students.

The set-up that exists at present seems to be good for returning students because at least they know what to expect and therefore tend to drift through registration with the practised air and reckless confidence of the vetrans that they are.

First year students however must feel some sense of bewilderment when their furture careers are dealt in a space and time that must be limited by the fact that there are probably at least fifteen students in line behind them at any given time.

A shocking thing I found was that approx. one quarter

of the first year students I met dduring registration (I worked in A&A 21 - the first port of all for them) hadn't any idea of what courses to take a situation probably compounded by the fact that there were not more than ten calendars to be found in the entire A&A building—surely a few more could of been on hand. There was also a distinct lack of timetales for new and returning students alike which forced everybody to stand around the two posted timetables in the A&A

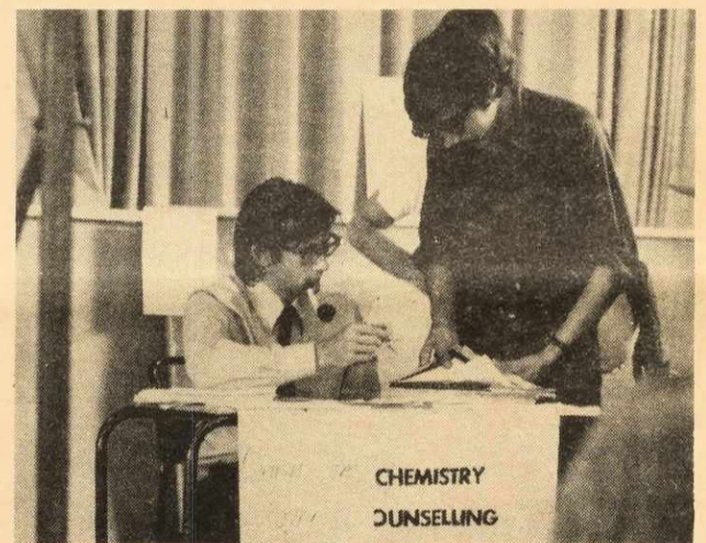
Another bone of contention for many students was the fact that despite registra-tion was open for a total of 51 hours at least a third of these hours were unnecessary because of the absence of representatives from the various departments. I estimated that at the very least one half of the department booths were not staffed at one period or another. For example, on Wed. the 11th the Biology Department was only represented for four hous out of the ten and one half that registration was open. Worse offenders than this were characterized by the Architecture departments inability to show up at all thus forcing the students who wished to register for archi-tecture courses to walk all the v ay to the Nova Scotia Tech. College.



Photo by Bill Jensen

However, in defence of registration it must be pointed out that the profs. and administration personnel that were there to man the antiquated registration facilities preformed with a good deal of patience and understanding. This probably saved an inefficient and ineffective system from turning into total choas and to them we should express our thanks.

Perhaps next year if some of the afore mentioned criticisms are heeded a more orderly system can be set up for these people to work with.



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FILM SOCIETY

This year the Dal Film Society is presenting an international selection of 17 films. For over 10 years the Film Society has brought to Halifax some of the many excellent films that the commercial theatres won't show — a student-run organization providing a service to Dal students and the community as well.

Several Third World films are on the program this year. From Jamaica on Nov. 27 comes "THE HARDER THEY COME" with Jimmy Cliff and superb Jamaican reggae music. Vincent Canby of the New York Times said this film "has more guts, wit, humour and sheer exuberance than most movies you'll see in any one year." "SAMBIZANGA" from Angola tells the story of a young woman's confrontation with Portuguese authority at the beginning of the liberation struggle which is now nearing success. "THE JACKAL OF NAHUELTORO" and "WHEN THE PEOPLE AWAKE" are from Chile (before the coup d'etat!), and "TUPAMAROS" is a documentary from Uruguay about the famous urban guerillas.

On Oct. 16 an important Canadian film — Denys Arcand's "REJEANNE PADOVANI" will be shown. This is a drama of shady political deals in Quebec and the personalities behind them.

The first film this year, on Sept. 25, is Luis Bunuel's "DISCREET CHARM OF THE BOURGEOISIE" — a comedy focussing on the foibles of a group of rich Parisians. Also on the programm this year are Tati's "PLAYTIME" — "one of the greatest film comedies of all time", and Orson Welles' interpretation of Shakespear's great comic character Falstaff in "CHIMES AT MIDNIGHT".

The films are shown Wednesday evenings at 8 in the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium. Memberships for the year are only \$5 for students and are available at the Dal Central Box Office or at the door.