

# THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

AMERICA'S OLDEST COLLEGE PAPER

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No. 31

## UNATTENDED DEBATES

At a recent debate at Dalhousie, the audience was composed of two people. The debaters were forced to carry on without benefit of any of the listener appreciation which so greatly adds to the quality and the reward of their efforts.

Not for many years has so little interest been taken in debating at Dalhousie . . . and for no apparent reason. The quality of this college's debaters compares favourably with those of any similar institution in the country, as evidenced by the victory of our representatives at Osgoode Hall. Debaters here are easily accessible, and Osgoode Hall. Debates here are easily accessible, and bates are not, perhaps, weighty, but good debaters can transform the most unlikely material into an evening's satisfying and stimulating entertainment.

Such performances will soon become extinct at Dalhousie, and the more able of our men will lose interest, if student support continues at its present level. That a debate at St. Dunstan's should attract an appreciative audience of over two hundred, while pressing affairs here will allow only two of our students to attend one just as good, is a very poor commentary on our support for those phases of activity which are among the most beneficial college life can offer.

No one will deny the valuable training given by debating. And, no doubt, training in preparation and delivery is still afforded those who debate before an empty room. But listener response, and a feeling therefor are among the greatest assets a debater can boast. The two are absolute necessities to all public speakers since, at times, they can be turned into pressures as compelling as any arguments put forth by the speakers. The ability to use them however, will never be developed by those who never meet them.

It is time the great majority of Dalhousians forgot some of their short-sighted self-interest, and paid more attention to those things which would, in the long run, prove of more value to themselves and their college.

## Letters To The Editor

Dalhousie University,  
 Halifax, N. S.,  
 Feb. 10, 1950

The Editor in Chief,  
 Dalhousie University  
 Dear Sir:

I have been informed that the present campaign for funds of the International Students Service has been meeting with a considerable amount of indifference, which is to some extent malignant and to some extent unenlightened. As Faculty Adviser to the Local Committee, I feel obligated to try and remove certain of these misconceptions about the I.S.S.

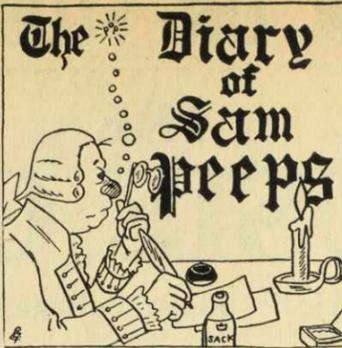
First of all I wish to state very emphatically that the I.S.S. is NOT a Communist organization nor is it in any way under Communist influence. Many confuse the I.S.S. with the I.U.S. (The International Union of Students), which has been accused of having Communist tendencies. The I.S.S. has its International Headquarters at Geneva, not Belgrade, and does not operate East of the Iron Curtain. The Canadian Branch is sponsored by men whose political integrity is beyond question and the present campaign on this campus has been endorsed by the Presidents of both Universities and the Deans of the Faculties.

Secondly, there seems to be considerable doubt regarding the purpose for which the funds raised in

this campaign will be used. Our main obligation is felt to be towards the Czechoslovak student who we brought to Canada to study. This student had a brilliant war record with the Underground movement in his native country and since the war was engaged in espionage work for the Western Powers against the Communist Govt. of Czechoslovakia. Originally we undertook to support him for one year at Dalhousie University. We think that this aid should be continued for another year. In addition we hope to be able to continue assistance to deserving students from the Sterling Area. There is also a D.P. Science student here for whom we wish to provide further assistance. It is obvious that we must also make some contribution to the National Office. However, the greater part of the funds will be spent here in Halifax.

Whether a student signs over his caution deposit or not is a matter for him alone to decide. I trust that in making this decision he will not be misled by false information or malicious rumours. Those who are acquainted with the purposes of the I.S.S. will be sufficiently informed, if they will head the other columns of this Gazette.

Yours truly,  
 M. O. MORGAN,  
 Faculty Adviser to I.S.S.



Saturday, Feb. 18, 1950 — Rose early and breakfasted upon frogs legs, which Miss Rain Wailly, who is a student of the new science of Biology, had given me. They were very excellent, but had a strong taste of some chemical. To take this taste out of my mouth I did drink three flagons of cheap sack which I had left over from the parties my wife had held the last week.

Still able to detect this strange taste I decided to go to the Students' Assembly Room and drink cups of this new and very strong beverage, Fivecentcoffee. I did therefore repair thence at once and did drink but one cup of the stuff when I could no longer taste the frogs' legs; in fact I could no longer taste at all.

While at the Assembly Room I did meet many friends I do not see any place except in this room. Cabby Rush was there, watching several of his friends playing at the new game of cards. Apparently they could not play the game with any decree of facility, for he had to decide them on nearly every move and point out to them all the mistakes they had made.

Did also see my good friend Fister, who is one of our foremost experts in the field of athletes. He was taking time off and also advising a young damsel in the art of the new game.

Also playing at the new game was Dent-junk, a budding journalist and athlete. It doth seem to me that all the athletes spend a great deal of time playing at cards.

Hearing a group of scholars speaking in discontented tones I did go over to investigate. It doth seem that the girls at Marmalade Hovel are angered at the indifferent attitude displayed towards them by the young gentlemen of the college. Deciding upon direct action they did all agree to invite boys not from the college to the Gladie Crowns Dance and not to invite the scholars. The scholars are, naturally, quite incensed by this nefarious plan and are determined upon revenge of some sort or another. However, I feel it will come to naught, for I know all too well the persuasive qualities of the weaker sex.

Before leaving the Assembly Room I did look about and reflect how clean and neat it had been before the damsels of the college had been permitted to enter, and did wonder thereat.

Monday, Feb. 20 1950.—Awoke this morning with a strange taste in my mouth. Remembering the frogs legs of yesterday I did drink large quantities of that oriental drug, Fivecentcoffee until my sense of taste was deadened.

To the school of the Law scholars, for I did hear that they did have gossip. Did hear that All-fired Hairless was the only one there who did invite to go with him a fellow Law Scholar. I was quite dismayed until I did learn that it was Miss Stogie, who is quite attractive, though a Law student.

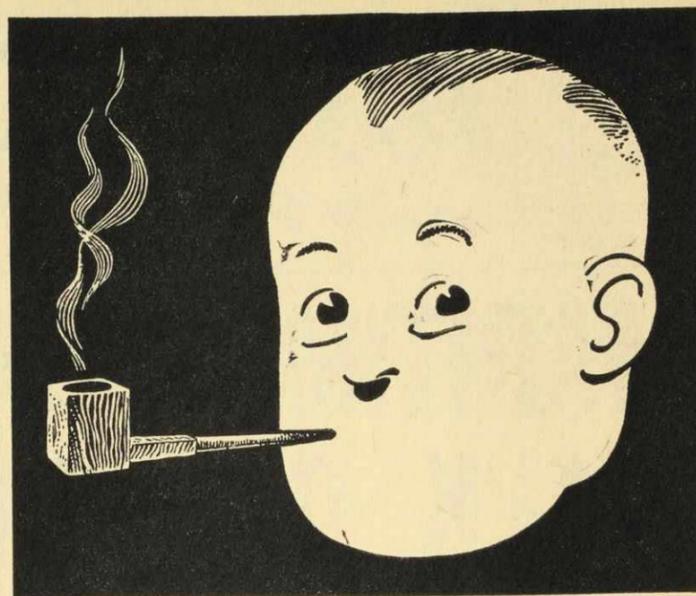
Also there was the leader of the new political party of the Law Scholars, Lord Missfits Patricks.

Many of the scholars arrived late at the party and some never did arrive, for it was held in a very out-of-the-way place. One who did manage to turn up, however, was Oddfellow MacDonnie, who did dance with another's partner and enjoy himself more than many others did, not feeling gloomy as did some.

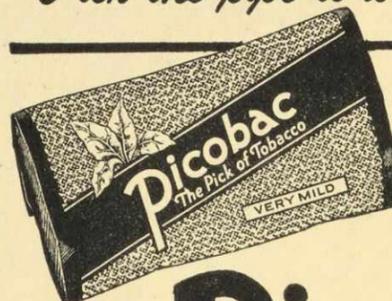
Did hear that Hide Peabush did improve greatly his relations with Miss Dreary Ratty. The elder Miss McThin did also seem elated at the Ball with her latest conquest, an Apple-Knocker. 'Tis said that she was so pleased with him

(Continued on page three)

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