

False info

To the Gazette:

Please allow me to express a few comments about a letter which appeared in the *Gazette* regarding a meeting at St. Mary's concerning the 1939 invasion of Poland. The speaker in the meeting was Hardial Bains of the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist). The letter which I am referring to was written as if to sum up the main points of Hardial Bains speech for *Gazette* readers, and then show the absurdity of the "points" as the writer remembered them. The letter, although pretending to be facetious in some parts, did not represent anything which was said, accurately. I attended the meeting and took careful notes particularly on historical points, and would be happy to share those notes with anyone on the "letters to the editor" staff so that you may see for yourself that the letter in question was nothing but malicious distortion and not fit to print.

Those genuinely interested in the political situation in Poland may recall a meeting at the Kilm Library in the 1982-83 period, in which the Polish ambassador to Canada was the invited speaker. The ambassador

spoke on the state of the Polish economy, itemizing many of the larger components of the foreign debt, including the extent of the indebtedness to various NATO countries. While admitting quite candidly, the failure of the foreign credits to bring about any economic progress, he excused this fact by offering "self-criticism" on behalf of his government for having spent the loans on quick-fix solutions to the crisis. He then went on to give figures to justify how, with the help further foreign credits, Poland would gradually be able to sustain its debt payments and overcome the crisis.

The ambassador, even under questioning, would not specify where his government would draw the line when obtaining foreign loans and investments. He could not give the principle followed because there was none, at least not any principle of sovereignty and self-reliance.

Thus we will not find that Poland's economic problems are a result of non-participation of western finance capital. Nor will the importation of greater quantities of finance capital be the solution which has been amiss until now. As Hardial Bains passionately stated in his speech, Poland is once again being placed upon the dinner platter for carving. The lessons of the sequence of events preceding the

invasion of Poland by Hitler teach that peace-loving people should not remain silent while the largest military powers the earth has seen decide the destinies of entire countries. Mr. Bains spoke out of a sincere concern, not only for the people of Poland, who stand to suffer from its subjugation to either superpower, but for the cause of peace. It is a shame that the *Gazette* has given credence to someone who claims to be of Polish descent and yet who would trivialize such a topic by posturing as a comedian instead of offering his own historical documentation such as minutes of inquiries, or court transcripts from the Nuremberg trials, or some evidence which can be corroborated.

G. Brown

Fees

Dear Editor:

I am writing with reference to the article "Fees will climb" which appeared on page 3 of the October 19th *Gazette*.

The article encapsulates the situation nicely, but I thought that your readers would be interested to know, in addition, that the "Schedule of Revenue" contained in the version of the "Statement of Institutional Role and Planned Capacity of Dalhousie

University" which was "endorsed by the Senate and Board" was blank in the columns headed "1993-94."

In particular there was no indication of the projected fee revenue from tuition fees for 1993-94 in the document brought to the Senate and the Board for approval.

I should also like to endorse Dave Shannon's reaction to the effect that "the cart (is) being put before the horse."

Yours sincerely,
David A. Tindall
President

Dalhousie Faculty Association

Edited

To the editor:

The article "Our environment" (*Gazette*, October 19) may be perceived as saying economic growth in the Third World should be slowed or the global environment would collapse. That was not my intention.

Left out after editing was the idea that had the World Commission equated development with balance rather than continued economic growth for all, the appropriate message would have been increased ecologically-sound development in poor countries, with limits to growth in the rich.

Also, the need for equality is within the world economy, not between the economy and the environment, as the article's final version implies. The environment should always be paramount in questions of development.

Thank you,
Sean Kelly

J'aime le français

To the editor:

Well, we cannot understand why the francophones seem to have come under fire by the likes of Asad Wali, the 'linguist' expert, David Evans, the linguistic purist, and Cigana Raven, the hater of les Quebecois.

When we came to this garrison town called Halifax, we naturally expected some anti-French sentiment. But even at Dalhousie, a multicultural melting pot, there is some screwball elite who believe that *Anglais* is the only legitimate language and that:

1. To use any other language like French is snobbish (see Cigana Raven for more details).
2. To mix French and English is a sacrilege (see Dave Evans).
3. To try and use flowery, *ketaine* English is somehow a sign of class (see Asad Wali).

Donc, nous nous sommes ammusés quand nous avons vu ces commentaires. Ben la, c'est une signe de l'ignorance culturelle et d'une grande manque de respect pour des minorités ici ou ailleurs. Et de plus, ici dedans la *Gazette* même il y a pas des

articles sur les sujets d'intérêt aux francophones ou vers les membres des autres groupes culturels. Cette espèce de l'ignorance est aussi vrai sur la côté des francophones (chez nous) ben sur ça fait que nous disons pas que nous sommes parfaites. But we would suggest to these people to keep an open mind. If people like Mademoiselle Fourrette want to mix their words, so be it. If you think that we are being snobbish then come over and talk to us and see for yourself what we are like. It's because of ignorance or prejudice that causes mistrust and leads to tragedies like the certain death of L'Accord du Lac Meech. Nous demandons pas beaucoup dedans cette accord-là. Bien au contraire, ce que nous voulons faire c'est de joindre la famille Canadienne mais avec confiance et fierté. Si les deux petites provinces n'aiment pas que nous soyons reconnus comme une société distincte, ben la ... c'est vraiment tant pis.

Si vous avez des lettres ou articles intéressantes ou importantes, envoyez-les-nous. Nous sommes au 3e étage de l'édifice du Syndicat des étudiant(e)s (SUB), salle 318. Toutes vos soumissions doivent être tapées, à double interligne, moins de 500 mots, et signés. SVP joignez votre numéro de téléphone.

To the editor:

I am writing in response to the revealing letter about revealing clothes written by W.H. Lord, P. Eng, Director of the Physical Plant. Mr Lord justifies the content of a Dal Security pamphlet on Rape which advises women not to wear revealing clothing at night by telling us "Unfortunately that's just the way things are. We're saying this for your own good."

This advice, repeated by police departments and other male authorities, sounds logical enough — but is it true?

There is absolutely no evidence that women who wear revealing clothing are sexually assaulted more often than other women. If more women are sexually assaulted while walking outside in the summer than in the winter, (while wearing fewer layers of clothing) my logic tells me that it's because it's more comfortable for an assaulter to wait for a target when it's warm than when it's cold.

Mr Lord's logic reflects two old myths. One, that men can't control themselves, and two, that women are responsible to do it for them. This logic leads to blaming victims of sexual assault — if only they hadn't been at that place, at that time, wearing those clothes....

If Dal's pamphlet on rape is truly to advise women about the way things are, it would have to

Dear Editor:
I think you are some kind of Communist. Where do you get off saying sexism, racism, oppression and war are bad things?



The Gazette reserves the right to refuse to publish material of a sexist, racist or homophobic nature. The Gazette also reserves the right to edit all letters for space and libel.

All letters must be typed, double-spaced.

All letters must be signed and a phone number must be included. They should be no longer than 500 words.

Bring them to the Gazette office, on the third floor of the SUB. If no one is here, stick them in the box on the door.

If they are racist, sexist or homophobic, stick them somewhere else.