

## Letters

### Cabinet really is aware

To the Editor;

I am writing with regard to the article that appeared Fri. Feb. 14, "Students Rally in Protest". Your reporter stated that the provincial cabinet was meeting in Shelburne and "... was directly unaware of the events..." By this is your reporter suggesting that while the cabinet was directly unaware they may have been indirectly aware?

My suggestion is that the cabinet was aware, whether directly or indirectly is unimportant. The Halifax Police Department (and their horses) were aware as they oversaw the march from Dalhousie to the legislature. The local media were aware as they scrambled to cover the event. The readers of Thursday morning's paper were aware that a protest was to take place.

Are we to believe that the members of the cabinet were not made aware of the planned march? As the protestors arrived at the legislature did no one bother to contact the cabinet? If someone did, surely a message could have been relayed to the students.

Thus we can draw one of two conclusions, i) the cabinet is (directly?) unaware of events or their own doorstep or ii) the cabinet was scared and found shelter in Shelburne. As a participant in the protest I found the "no one is home" policy of the government unpardonable.

Devin Leighton, Chemistry  
Kevin Leighton  
Chemistry

*This is a copy of a letter which was sent to the Editor of the Halifax Herald.*

### A fast and a fundraiser

To the editor;

Please allow us through this forum to address the faculty and student body of your campus on behalf of the "Tools for Peace" branch of Acadia University. Our



local branch support in solidarity the cause of equality and justice for the people of the Revolution in Nicaragua, and oppose the ideologically sanctioned forces of the Reagan/Contra opposition.

Out of our commitment to the people of Nicaragua we are uniting with the "Students for Peace" of Oxford University, England, in a three-day solidarity fast and fundraiser for the people of Nicaragua (March 7-9). This fast will be a water only fast.

As the Students for Peace have extended their hand across the Atlantic to us, we in turn extend ours across the province to you and other Nova Scotia universities. We invite you to join with us in solidarity so we may assist the people of Nicaragua. Should you have any questions that you would like answered please contact us.

Regardless of the futility of it all, we **must** try. Tomorrow's realities will be created from today's dreams **ONLY** if we do not give up those dreams to reality.

Working together makes it less futile.

Never surrender. Never sell out.  
"Students for Peace"  
c/o Soc. Dept.  
Acadia University  
Wolfville, N.S.  
Canada, B0P 1X0

### Unsubstantiated charges

To the Editor;

The Dalhousie Faculty Association Executive wishes to express its concern about the recent cut-off of funding by the provincial government to Dalhousie Legal Aid.

The F.D.A. is particularly concerned by unsubstantiated charges made by Social Services Minister Edmund Morris. Attempting to justify the cut-off of funding, Mr. Morris said that "the leadership of Dalhousie Legal Aid allowed that service to become a partisan — virtual — training school for New Democratic Party candidates."

The D.F.A. wishes to reaffirm its belief in academic freedom and political freedom not only for members of our Association, but for all members of the Dalhousie community.

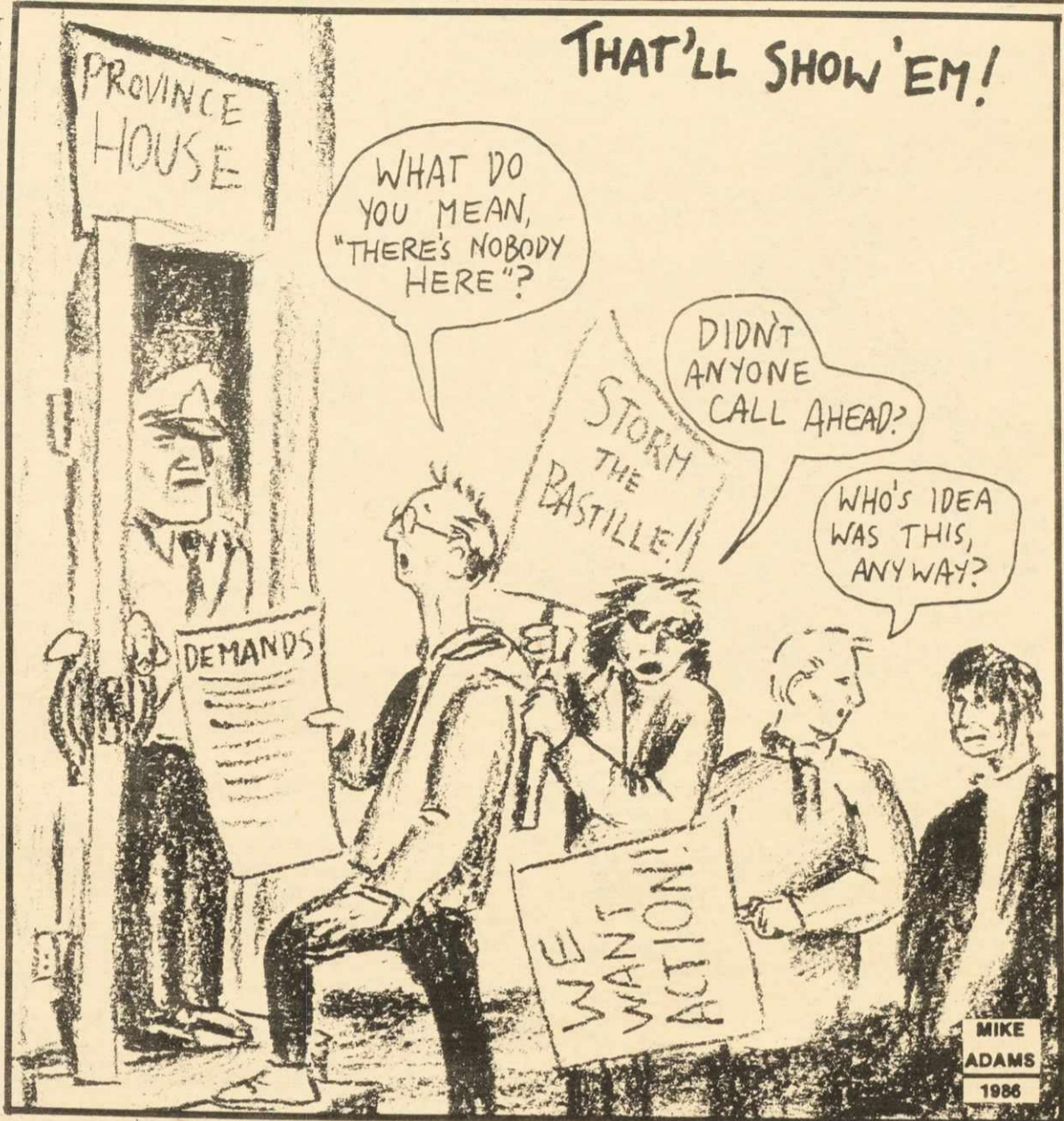
Further, we believe that Dalhousie Legal Aid has provided a valuable learning experience for Dalhousie law students and we are concerned that the recent cut-off of \$88,000 in funding will jeopardize this "classroom in the community" for our students.

Yours sincerely,  
John G. Rutherford  
President  
Dalhousie Faculty Association

### Insufficient media coverage

To the Editor;

It must be said at the outset that the student march and demonstration to Province House this past Thursday was indeed a suc-



cess. With over 2500 students expressing their discontent with the Royal Commission's Report on Post Secondary Education, this demonstration was definitely the largest that Halifax has seen since 1981! Students representing most of the post secondary institutions across the province were united with one objective in mind — to "can the commission". Included within the 2500 were students from Dalhousie, King's, NSCAD, Mount Saint Vincent, Saint Mary's, TUNS, faculty members and passersby who became aware of the need for accessibility and joined the march.

The University College of Cape Breton staged their own protest and St. Francis Xavier expressed their desire to keep the Report as just that — a report. Universities from Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and Saskatchewan sent telegrams outlining their support of Nova Scotian Students. Thus, this protest was not only contained within the city, but was spread province-wide and even extended across the nation.

What about media coverage?

I must say that the local television and radio stations did a sufficient job at bringing the plight of Nova Scotian students to the public as well as the *Mail-Star* who placed a picture and story on their front page. However the *Chronicle Herald* must have felt the importance of this 2,500-strong protest minor in comparison to a secretary's vacation in Haiti as she made the front page, and not us? Well, we made page 19. According to the "C.H." we were

1200-1500 in total as opposed to the more accurate number of 2500 (as quoted by Canadian Press, television and radio stations). Within the pages of the *Globe and Mail*, the students of Nova Scotia found themselves contained within an eleven-line blurb on page 11. As for the national news programs, the *National* could not find the time or the space to squeeze us in.

It is unfortunate that some media did not pick up the possibilities creating a domino-effect in other provinces. Students from across the country are watching Nova Scotia with bated breath as they know that if the Nova Scotian government passes these recommendations, there is no safeguard against the governments of their own provinces following suit.

In light of all this, it was very disappointing that the media coverage was not more extensive. It was a shame that the media insisted on downplaying the importance of this report. Perhaps if we had been 2500 fishermen, or 2500 businessmen, maybe then we would have enjoyed the kind of media attention that we hoped for.

Kamleh Nicola  
SUNS Campaign Co-ordinator

### Congrats!

To the Editor;

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Dalhousie Commerce Society, and in partic-

ular, to the organizing committee of the Dalhousie Business Seminar (DBS) '86 on a job well done. The seminar was an overall success and I've heard nothing but good remarks from my colleagues who attended the event.

Although the agenda was a long one, it was by no means dull. It was an interesting and enlightening day, to say the least. The wide array of speakers were very inspirational and conveyed some very important messages to the audience.

We, as students, don't always have the opportunity nor the fortune to listen to so many successful and high-caliber members of the business community at one time.

DBS '86 was a real eyeopener to some very grave issues concerning today's business environment. The free trade issue is a factor that is too serious to ignore. As well, entrepreneurship plays such a vital role in the future stability of the Canadian economy.

I hope the Dalhousie Commerce Society keeps up the good work and continues to inform the students of today and business people of tomorrow that there is a lot more to the business world than you find in the classroom.

Thank you DBS '86.

Sincerely  
Curtis Swinimer  
Saint Mary's University

Deadline for letters to the editor is noon, Monday before publication. Letters must be typed and double-spaced and be less than 30 words. Letters can be dropped at the SUB enquiry desk or brought up to the *Gazette* offices, third floor, SUB.