

GOOOBitorial

A Prophecy

Our first impression of the SUB is one of frustration: with \$3.7 million being sunk into it, we expected much more. Not that we doubt its 'usefulness': the SUB will be functional. It will also be sterile and uninspiring. It will encourage all the worst defects of traditional relations between the student union and its members.

The SUB appears to have been designed deliberately to separate the student body from its executive, its elected representatives, and even its clubs and organizations. Lounges and cafeteria space are all on the first two floors, as are the commercial establishments, bookstore, bank, and barbershop; whatever the faults of the old arts annex, at least it brought the student body past the doors of the Union offices daily, and provided them with an easy opportunity to drop in and chat with

council members, PUB members, or Gazette staffers.

GOOOB will change all that. Now our offices, and more especially those of the student council, are raised above the level of day-to-day life in this building of ours; the student who wishes to speak with a council member must penetrate the carpeted halls which, deliberately or not, proclaim an atmosphere of executive exclusiveness discouraging any but the most business-like transactions between the mass of the student body and their so-called leaders.

There is a danger that student leaders will also succumb to this executive mentality and use broad staircases, glass doors and long carpeted halls as a shelter from contact with the student body; this building, so long anticipated as the great

unifying force for Dalhousie students may only serve to increase the polarization between the activist and the complacent.

The informality and the spontaneous personal contact of the Arts Annex are gone. GOOOB ushers us into comfortable surroundings where "student leaders" can spend a day without seeing a strange face, and other students can pass hours without seeing a familiar one. We argued in this column recently that the SUB may become little more than a \$4 million canteen and office building. Having seen the physical layout of the place, we are more apprehensive. The SUB is designed as if it was intended to be a canteen for the students and an office building for their leaders, with little or no thought for ever trying to bring us all together.

New "Selected works of Mao-Tse-Tung" Published

A single-volume de luxe pocket size edition of the Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung, containing the complete set of four volumes, came off the press on the eve of the 19th anniversary of the People's Republic of China. This exciting and happy news from the publishers is another result of the great proletarian cultural revolution.

The newly published Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung is printed in small and clear characters on high-quality light-weight letter press paper. These, plus a new binding technique, enable the new edition

to be only half the size of the one-volume Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung and one-third the size of the set of four volumes. Made of a foam plastic synthetic leather, the covers are moisture and curl proof. Easy to carry about, the volume was published by the revolutionary publishing and printing workers and staff especially for people who work outdoors and whose jobs keep them on the move most of the time.

Holding aloft the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought in the great proletarian cultural rev-

olution, the broad masses of the revolutionary publishing and printing workers have made great contributions in printing a large quantity of Chairman Mao's works for the revolutionary people of China and abroad who are bent on studying Mao Tse-tung's thought.

In doing the work, the revolutionary publishing and printing workers overcame many difficulties. Resolutely implementing Chairman Mao's brilliant instruction "Be conscientious and make a good job of publishing," the workers in charge of type-setting, block-making and trial printing succeeded in producing this edition with the greatest enthusiasm and at the most rapid speed. Under the unified leadership of the local revolutionary committees, the publishers and printers in most provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions enthusiastically set about printing the new edition.

The revolutionary workers and staff engaged in distribution and delivery have all made concerted efforts to send out, during the National Day holidays, the first batch of the new edition to revolutionary workers and P.L.A. men working outdoors, to whom priority is given.

— reprinted from the PEKING REVIEW

A letter to the editor

To the Editor:

I am taking the time to write to the Gazette because I feel that there has been a lot of undue criticism of our paper. As an amateur journalist I fully realize the problems that arise with the issue of a publication of your sort. Especially at Dal., where we have a lack of people interested in journalism, the faults we may find in a paper cannot be entirely blamed on the editorial staff. Further, anyone who has followed the Gazette over the past few weeks have to admit that there has been a definite improvement, especially in the coverage of campus events. Readers must also realize that this campus is certainly not a hotbed of political or social activity and so coverage is limited.

Having just attended an International Conference on College Publications in New York, I was able to compare our latest issue with the better U.S. publications. The Gazette, based on my observations, is on a par with many of their good papers. I was also asked to pass on compliments from some of the editors present at the conference. For example, the Editor of the Providence College paper said that "of the two hundred or so college papers I receive a week, the Dalhousie Gazette is one of the few I read from cover to cover." He also stated that they were especially impressed with the coverage of the bookstore price issue.

Finally, concerning the widespread criticism of our student publications one should be reminded of the statement by the ancient Greek Plutarch who said, "It is a thing of no great difficulty to raise objections against another man's writings, -- nay,

it is a very easy matter; but to produce a better in its place is a work extremely troublesome."

Yours sincerely,
Dave Harrigan
Editor - Pharos

The Dalhousie Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

Published by the Dalhousie Students' Union, Halifax, N.S. Printed by the Dartmouth Free Press, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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CANADA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

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