



The Dalhousie GAZETTE

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Student?



The clothes worn by students at Dalhousie have come in for some journalistic comment. Following a letter to this paper last week, discussion has reached the point where an editorial on the subject found itself being written (see left below) and another letter arrived for the editor (at right).

Are the clothes worn by the unidentified male shown here typical? Is there anything wrong with the way he is dressed? We leave it to you to decide.

(Photo by Rofihe).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editors,
 Dalhousie Gazette,
 Dalhousie University,
 Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sirs:

We read in the most recent issue of the Dalhousie Gazette that a fellow student has exercised his amazing powers of perception and come to the unavoidable conclusion that many students on the campus present themselves in a shameful array, resembling in many ways the appearance of laborers (common implied).

We would like to make the following comments regarding this observed condition.

(a) We would like to point out that Dalhousie is a university and as such its prime objective is to develop the minds and intellects of its students and not merely to condition them for fashion or beauty parades.

(b) It is somewhat disappointing to learn that we have a student who exhibits this superior and definitely snobbish attitude towards those who are less fortunate than himself and who have not received or are not receiving the benefits of a college education and who feels that one of the distinguishing marks (during working hours) between himself and the "laborer" is the collar supported by a necktie. In all probability if our friend did not have parents to maintain him at his exalted station then he would starve to death as a lowly laborer himself.

(c) There are some of us who are operating on a rather tight budget and feel that money spent on clothing and related superficialities must be kept to a minimum.

(d) Further, it is apparent that our friend has overlooked the fact that some of his fellow students spend up to 31 hours each week in classes and labs, and their personal comfort cannot be completely ig-

nored. Although it would be admittedly ideal if all turned out in "proper" attire, it must be recognized that this would not be most conducive to freedom and comfort, particularly during lab sessions.

(e) We wish to emphasize that we do not advocate that the students wear dungarees and sweat-shirt, but we do feel that something so personal as the individual's personal attire should be a matter of his own discretion and be governed by his desires and resources and not by snobbish dictates.

(f) We further feel that if an individual considers that his criticisms and ideas are of benefit to his fellow students and the university and are worthy of print, then he should be only too desirous of having his name linked with these ideas. We can only assume that our friend is not totally convinced of the validity of his ideas and contentions since he does not wish to have his name published with his letters.

Yours very truly,

(signed) P. A. Clarke
 G. G. R. Buchbinder
 C. V. Brackett
 R. E. Nickerson

January 28, 1957.

Dear Sir:

I would suggest as reading for last week's anonymous letter writer "A Man's a Man for A' That", by Robert Burns.

Also would like him or her to consider the possible parallel between people who are traditionally well-dressed as compensation for spiritual inferiority and people who write letters, expressing criticism of other people and institutions, which they have not the courage to sign.

Yours sincerely,
 Lyall Campbell.

EDITORIAL

Should We Dress At All?

What is it? A bird? A plane? Heavens no, it's a Dalhousie student dressed in his best bib and tucker and heading for his next English class.

Halifax has seen, particularly in the past 18 months, much controversy over the dress of male students. First it was the Grade and High School students who suffered. As yet, there are no uniforms for teenage children but they are compelled to wear a shirt and tie to all classes. This ruling affects children from Grade Eight to Grade Twelve inclusive.

The campus has hummed during the last few days as students discussed the situation as it exists here at Dalhousie. At the moment there is not, so far as we can determine, any ruling in the University regulations concerning the dress of students. We sincerely hope that this will continue to be the case.

It is the male who seems to distress some people with his various outfits. There are obviously arguments both for and against compulsory tie and shirt-wearing. They look smart. They are the accepted style in the Business world, which most of us hope to enter in the not too distant future.

However, is a sport shirt and sweater combination sloppy? Is there something revolting and distasteful about an open collar? University students have the intelligence to dress neatly. We, in Canada, have not yet reached the blue jeans and blue suede shoes style which is prevalent in some Universities in the United States.

At Dalhousie, many students in the Professional Faculties do wear a shirt, tie and sport coat. There are a great number nevertheless who wear a sweater and shirt and gray flannels.

It is agreed that members of these Professional schools, who will be meeting and dealing with the public for the duration of their careers, should realize the importance of a smart appearance. The main stumbling block here is, of course, cost. We all know the price of clothes. Students, obviously many students, are not in a position to dress as they would wish.

Secondly, many courses entail work which could not be accomplished efficiently, economically or comfortably in shirt, tie and sport coat. Geologists and Engineers are prime examples.

Further, dress adds distinction to some groups in universities. Here again, Engineers can usually be recognized by their appearance. Surely there is little enough individuality at Dalhousie now.

Let us hope that University officials will continue their present policy in this matter.

Mushkat Memorial Essay Prize

Students registered for three or more classes in the Faculty of Arts and Science may submit essays in competition for this prize, the value of which is \$40.00.

Essays, which should be from 4,000 to 5,000 words in length, may be written on any subject of national or international importance. They may be handed in to the President's Office on or before April 22, 1957.

Attention is called to the fact that only Dalhousie students are eligible for this prize.

Let's Fly! To Europe?

Ottawa, Ontario,
 24th January, 1957.

Editor,
 The Dalhousie Gazette.

Dear Editor:
 May I, through your columns, appeal to all Canadian students and staff? Each year the NFCUS Travel Department arranges a number of special student flights to Europe. These, we think, are commendable in themselves, but this year they have added significance. The Federation has concluded an agreement with the Scottish Union of Students whereby this year's flights will be a joint venture, and groups of Scottish and other European students will come to Canada for their summer vacation.

Booking for the Scottish passengers on the back-leg flights of the two charters we have already announced in our travel brochure opened yesterday. I heard by telephone today that all the space at the disposal of the SUS had been taken and that in Glasgow and Edinburgh alone there was a waiting list of 100. The Scottish students naturally asked if there was any possibility of additional planes being used and I was of course obliged to say that this depended on the response of the Canadian students. And this is the principal point of my appeal.

Not merely will Canadian students and staff going to Europe do themselves a good turn if they fly NFCUS — the round trip fare at \$340.00 compares very favourably with the lowest shipping rates; the planes are four engined DC 4's; the company is one of Canada's foremost; and the service compares with that given on the regular trans-atlantic flights — they will also be guaranteeing the passage of a Scottish or other European student to Canada. It should, at this point, be explained that it is cheaper to fly four legs than two and that the NFCUS-SUS agreement thus benefits Canadians and Europeans equally.

In the circumstances I would urge that academic travellers to Europe use our charter flights. At the moment we have two planes and can, if the demand warrants it, arrange for more. The planes we have at present will be eastbound to Glasgow, London and Paris from Montreal on the 17th June and the 3rd July, and the return flights from Europe will be on the 15th August and 7th September. Bookings should be made as early as possible.

It remains merely to add that should any travellers attracted by this letter wish any further information we shall be happy to supply it. Should they also be interested in tours, they might find our Quality Tour, which visits eleven countries and includes Berlin, very much to their taste at \$840.00 (including trans-atlantic air travel).

With thanks for your co-operation,

Yours sincerely,
 (Signed) James Pickett,
 Travel Director, NFCUS.

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