

There were, but the last one was killed not far from Corner Brook on April Fool's Day, 1949.

- Alaska is actually east of Canada?

If you travel due east of Halifax you will eventually reach Alaska.

- In France they *don't* kiss on Main Street?

Contrary to the assertion in Joni Mitchell's song, they don't kiss or do anything else on Main Street. In all of France there is not a single

road named "Main Street".

- Napoleon Bonaparte was not 'able ere he saw Elba'?

He'd had syphilis for years.

- Marx never said, "I am not a Marxist"?

He said, "Je ne suis pas une Marxiste".

- Any boy can grow up to become Prime Minister of Canada?

And any boy can grow up to become Queen of England.

- It only takes one Onanist to screw in a lightbulb? The catch is he has to find one big enough for him to fit inside.

- Shakespeare was the originator of the phrases, "If you catch my drift" and "Sweets for the sweet"? They're both in *Hamlet*. Look them up. Really.

- Moosehead Beer is a misnomer? At no stage in the brewing process is a moose's head ever used

in the production of Moosehead Beer. And I don't know if you've noticed, but Tenpenny Ale (made by the same deceivers who bring you Moosehead) is actually far more expensive than its name would lead you to believe.

- Cigarettes do not cause cancer? In and of themselves cigarettes are harmless. It's when you light them and smoke them that they become fatal.

- Andorra is not a collection of

grammatical conjunctions but a real live country?

- Stigma, zeugma and smegma are entirely unrelated words?

- There is no such thing as a Swiss Navy Knife?

- There is no such word as "Hoser"?

They made it up. And "take off" is a euphemism for "get lost".

- Women can't vote in Lichtenstein?

Didn't think you'd believe it.

## Letters

### President's okay

To the Editor:

To Dalhousie, especially to the incurably diseased:

There is a guy around here who was weaned on the milk of irreverence. I cannot begrudge him his irreverence, though it is a form of escapism. I do, however, begrudge the Oblomovs their form of escapism.

I too remember a highly principled and very idealistic guy whose company many would look forward to with great expectations and reverence. Fortunately for us, he is as highly principled and just as idealistic now that he is President of the Student Union. Peter Rans has a personal affliction, not a political disease - an affliction of self-sacrifice we could all do with a bit of. He has sold his soul, lost his health, and given his peace of mind, for something he believes(ed) in. He is giving his all for higher education and for the students that are a part of that. Now he is torn asunder, devastated by that for which he gave.

Take a look. Do you know what has been done? To him? To you?

Great sacrifices for small gain/no sacrifices for no gain. Look what we can do, from destroying that which had hope, or just getting around to it.

I only hope that incurables like Peter Rans (whether now changed, or for better or worse) will never be cured by some antiseptic drug or rubber room. May they decide for themselves 'what is to be done', whether for good or bad.

Others, too, distinguish themselves, others whose ideals and dedication shine in a particularly individual way. Prominent politicoes such as Peter Kavanagh, and especially others like Caroline Zayid, have orientated themselves in a particularly creative and productive way. Sure there's deadwood and bull-shit, but some have saved the silliness from committee rooms and doled it out laughingly in the form of Coles Notes to those foolish enough to listen in 'all seriousness'.

Truthfully,  
Martin Tomlinson

### Partisan or alma mater loyalty?

To the Editor:

Heather Roseveare, chairperson of the communications committee for the student union, the body responsible for "getting information about the march out to students", is also president of the Nova Scotia Progressive Conservative Campus Federation. The theme of the march "Wake up Terry" (Donahoe) was an open attack against the policies of the provincial tory government, and particularly Education Minister Terry Donahoe.

Some questions arise from this apparent paradox. Does Heather Roseveare know who "Terry" is? Does Heather know what she is? What is she anyway? And does she know what she is doing?

Yours sincerely,  
Anthony Allen

## Commentary

### Lebanon daytrip - one view of what happened

by Sharon Chisvin

In every dispute there exist at least two sides of contention, the one more justified than the other, depending on an individual's personal experience, political affiliation and emotions. The Arab-Israeli conflict is no exception.

The most recent manifestation of this struggle, Israel's incursion into Lebanon in early June to rout out PLO terrorists there, occupied the front pages of most newspapers for over four months. It is only in the last two weeks that the news from Israel and Lebanon has been relegated to the back pages.

Still, advocates of the separate sides continue to discuss and analyze the pertinent issues: Israel's justification for advancing into Lebanon, the expulsion of the PLO, the prospects for peace and a Palestinian homeland, the September massacre of Palestinians in two Lebanese refugee camps, and the unification of Lebanon under the presidency of Amin Gemayel.

Certainly, no consensus on these issues will be agreed upon by those who feel strongly towards either the PLO or Israel. But, those with ambivalent feelings or those attempting to formulate feelings for one side or the other must bear in mind that there are two sides to the conflict, both easily justified by its advocates.

One personal viewpoint of the conflict was discussed in detail at the Beth Israel Synagogue on Saturday, October 16. Moshe Ronen, national chairman of Network, an independent North American Jewish students' organization, spoke to a crowd of 50 people about what he witnessed on a day trip into

Lebanon on August 25.

Ronen drove from Nahariyah, Israel, a coastal tourist city which has been the target of repeated katyusha and terrorist attacks in the past, and crossed the border into Lebanon within 45 minutes. Following the single-lane coastal highway, Ronen made stops in Tsur, Tyre, Sidon, Damour and finally Beirut.

With the aid of slides and photographs, Ronen described what he saw in each town and city and what civilians in the various areas told him. Ronen explained that he always presented himself as "a Canadian on a fact-finding mission".

In Tyre and Sidon there were some signs of the war, Ronen said. Clearly, some buildings had been hit by Israeli aircraft, but life seemed to be continuing quite normally, he said.

In front of one devastated building a civilian told Ronen that the building had housed offices of the Lebanese government before 1975. The PLO had been using it as a headquarters since then, Ronen was told. Inside, the Israeli army had found caches of Russian-made artillery and maps detailing the location of PLO targets in Israel. The name of Kiryat Shmona, a northern Israeli development town, was clearly marked.

In Sidon, a Moslem Arab told Ronen that he was glad that the PLO had finally been forced to leave. They had killed his son, he explained.

Ronen's photographs of Damour did show a town completely devastated by the ravages of war. But,

Ronen said, everyone he spoke to from the area said that the town had been in that condition since the civil war or 1975-76. The Lebanese government had lacked the finances to rebuild the town, they explained. The debacle was not recent.

In one series of slides Ronen showed various buildings, parts of which had been targets of Israeli bombing. He showed how one building, photographed at a specific angle, could be used to support the accusation of "indiscriminate" Israeli bombing. But shown from another angle, the slide would reveal exactly how strategic and careful the Israeli's bombing had been. In another case, one half of a building was bombed. It had been used as a PLO headquarters. The second half of the building, housing civilians, was left untouched.

Ronen did not contest the fact that in some unfortunate incidents civilian buildings were hit. But in most instances, according to what he saw and what he was told, Israel attempted to avoid civilian casualties, often at great risk to their own men.

The civilian population of every center that came under Israeli attack were warned through leaflets of Israel's pending attack, Ronen said. As a result, Israel lost the element of surprise in every attack. The PLO had only to pick up one of the leaflets to find out when to expect the Israelis, he explained.

Ronen pointedly remarked that his was an "eye witness account". And the conditions and degree of destruction he perceived in Lebanon differed considerably from the newspaper and television

accounts he had been exposed to in the weeks prior to his trip.

Former CBS anchorman Walter Cronkite had had a similar experience, Ronen said. While visiting Lebanon in the midst of the crisis he had written to CBS asking for an explanation as to why their coverage of the events was so distorted.

Ronen's point was clear. No one party can be condemned as wrong or lauded as righteous by those

who do not experience the actual conflict. The media shows the public only what it wants to show, or perhaps only what it feels the public wants to see.

As a September 13 Newsweek article asked, "Did the media's vivid coverage of the siege of Beirut mislead the world about who was in the right?" Perhaps it did not. But perhaps it did. According to Ronen, who was there, it did.

### Dal M-L group responds to council executive

Through the pages of your newspaper, the "nervous" executive of the students' council has unscrupulously launched a surprise attack upon the programme, viewpoint, and organizational principles of Dalhousie Student Movement under the hoax that DSM is illegitimate because it allegedly fails to have a permit from them.

Furthermore, they state that DSM, which has been in continuous existence since 1969 - not 1979 - would have to satisfy this executive as to its programme. They demand our name be changed and even go so far as to propose a new name for our association. They threaten a public relations campaign including "seeking legal opinion" if DSM refuses to make the concessions they are demanding.

To any normal student, it is unbelievable and preposterous that the executive, at a time of massive educational and social cutbacks,

the liquidation of entire programmes, rising debts and grave financial burdens on the students, of deepening crisis in the economy, and when the world situation is tense and fraught with conflicts which endanger the peace and security of the people of the world, would consume itself in a drive against one small, but active, student association.

Taking this step, they seek to hit at and cause confusion about the work DSM is carrying to build the

people's movement against imperialist war preparations and the danger of imperialist war, the organization of pickets and the regular forums we have initiated such as "The Economics and Politics of the Imperialist War Preparations", the same target as "Thomas Stearns" in the letter to which you gave lead status. Similarly, in our bulletin, "Dalhousie Student", we

Continued on p. 7