

# Dalhousie Gazette

Founded 1869 "THE OLDEST COLLEGE PAPER IN AMERICA"  
Editorial Room, Arts Bldg.: Phone 3-7098

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## EDUCATION AND NATIONAL SOLIDARITY

During a recent vacation in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, this writer became increasingly aware of the rivalry and misunderstanding which is slowly but surely destroying the myth of National Unity in Canada. The situation, which centres about the frictional relations of Anglo-Canadians with their French-speaking countrymen, extends far beyond political and religious altercations. Aggravated on all issues by mutual misunderstanding and disrespect, it is widening a breach which might well prove irreparable.

The term "Canadian" is an ironic one. It comprises two vitally different peoples, Anglo- and French-Canadians, with opposing characteristics — peoples who are geographically segregated but, technically, as "Canadians", subject to the dictates of a "national" government. The Quebecer (or French-Canadian), securely rooted to the soil of his homeland, has had no opportunity to appreciate the traditions and loyalties of the rest of Canada. Nor has the provincial-conscious Anglo-Canadian made any sincere effort to understand the traditions and loyalties of the Quebecer. Rather he has fanatically and ceaselessly criticized and abused him and has urged that he forget his religious and cultural ties for the "common good". Sounds all right . . . but he forgets, all along, that it is quite impossible to pull a camel through the eye of a needle.

There must, on the other hand, be a practical, workable solution to the situation without attacking the impregnable, age-old traditions of the French-Canadian.

The Province of Quebec, as the nucleus of French-Canada, is metaphorically bound by a strong chain of varied links including "religion", "culture", "history" and "education"—all of which restrict her absorption into the so-called national life of the Dominion as a whole. Education constitutes the weakest, most approachable link in this chain. Education, applied from within and from without, is the only means capable of breaking the chain of separation. It is education which we, as Canadians must employ practically and realistically to this end.

Those of us fortunate enough to attend university in wartime should grasp the seriousness of the situation. We must become conscious of the instability of a national life filled with prejudice and misunderstanding. We must endeavour to sacrifice "sectional" feeling in the interests of national unity. We must face the problems in an unbiased perspective, and we must educate ourselves and our fellow Canadians to the realization of national unanimity.

In our nation's future lies one of two things:—CHAOS or SOLIDARITY.

Which will it be . . . ?

## Dalhousie Delegates--

(Continued from page 1)

made subject to the same controls as other undergraduate organizations.

It also recommended the setting up of a standing committee on veterans' affairs in universities, to include members of the faculty, the student body, the veterans them-

selves, and the government department of Veterans Affairs.

### Discussion Deferred

It was felt that the question of military training on the campus was an extremely delicate one, and so, with selective service regulations, was referred back for further consideration to a committee, which will submit a report later in the year.

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## Ottawa Calling

("Inside" News from the Political Front)

A CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS FEATURE

By NEIL MacDONALD

### THE McNAUGHTON PUZZLE

The by-election in Grey North, called for February 5, is giving the political prophets of Ottawa some headaches. General McNaughton, the Minister of National Defence, is the Liberal candidate, nominated when the Liberal member resigned to open a seat for the General, who has to find himself a seat in order to remain a Cabinet Minister. McNaughton is opposed by a strong Progressive Conservative candidate, who retired from the mayoralty of Owen Sound in order to enter the Federal field. The Cooperative Commonwealth Federation has also indicated its intention of running a candidate.

One of the questions which is bothering the political prophets is how the Liberals are going to develop any campaign against Mr. Case, except to say that Liberals should vote for the Liberal candidate and that General McNaughton's election is necessary for the efficient prosecution of the war. In the last two municipal elections, Garfield Case has been made mayor by acclamation, and it is conceded that, by leaving the federal field, he could have run as a last minute candidate and defeated anyone else.

### DUBIOUS OF WIN

Some sources have gone so far as to say that the Liberals have unofficially become dubious about carrying Grey North. They point out that this constituency had a "Yes" vote on the plebiscite of almost 10 to 1, and that its enlistment record is very high. It is almost impossible to determine at this date which of the three parties will benefit by the three-way split of the vote.

If the government sees that it cannot win Grey North, there will be two choices open to it: it can sacrifice General McNaughton, perhaps replacing him by Colonel Ralston, or it can forestall the February 5 by-election by requesting the dissolution of parliament. A few more months of life might mean a great deal.

This writer's guess, for what it is worth, is that no one has yet decided what course is to be followed. The Prime Minister has a habit of surprising everyone, including his intimates, with a sudden decision, but that sudden decision is the ex-

### Staff Sketches

No. 1



Professor "Charlie" Walsley was born in Dunton, Lancashire, a long, long time ago. Receiving his education at Manchester Grammar School and Kings College, Cambridge. He came to Canada and Kings College in 1929 and a year later transferred to Dal, where he has been ever since. This year he is taking maths, classes 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7; as he says "most odd classes except two." His one great hobby is cricket and one at which he excels. He also takes a great delight in "finding most things amusing."

pendent outgrowth of a number of alternative possibilities, all of which have been developed up until the final moment of decision.

## ZDANIA POZYTECZNE

What I want to know is: Who selects the "Useful and Necessary Expressions" in foreign phrase-books? How shamefully neglected are the painstaking efforts of this unsung genius! How little appreciated is the infinite patience, the limitless experience he must have in order to provide the traveller with useful and necessary expressions for every conceivable situation!

An illustration: Among the "Idioms and Common Expressions" in one well-known foreign-language pocket dictionary, we find not only the foreign equivalents for such everyday phrases as, "What do you call that?" "What do you mean?" "Is it possible?" etc., phrases which even you or I might think of, but also these: "The ship draws too much water." "My blood boiled within me." "The horse fell with him." "I don't care a fig for him."

Under the heading, "Travel by Sea", the foreign-phrase-book writer reveals the full extent of his skill. The reader's heart is filled with grateful appreciation for the understanding soul who knows, perhaps from his own bitter experience, just what words are needed at such a time. Here the unfortunate traveller is taught appropriate equivalents for: "The sea is rough." "A gale is blowing." "The wind is against us." "So much the worse; we shall have a long passage." "I feel seasick." "Where is the W. C.?" He has vomited." "Call the stewardess." "Where is my cabin?" "I want to go down into the cabin." "Here we are arrived." "I feel a little better."

"At the Restaurant" the traveller is prepared to deal with all sorts of unpleasant situations. In Poland, he may complain, "This egg is hard." "I cannot cut with this blunt knife." "This pear is not good." "You have spilt the coffee on the tablecloth." Neither must he endure hard eggs and dull knives in Sweden, where he can say, "These eggs are hard." "The knife is blunt." "This butter is not fresh." "This water has not boiled," and "This cream is sour."

In Moscow he can order, "Call a drozhka" (if he knows what it is), and having got one, he can say either "Take me to the Intourist office" or, "Take me to the Society for Cultural Relations." If he does become confused, he can explain in the drozhka driver's own tongue, "I don't speak Russian," (a statement which must seem oddly contradictory to a Russian). In Madrid, if asked, "How is your health?" the thankful tourist can reply, "Pretty well, thank God."

At the French "chemist's" the ailing foreigner (in his light zephyr shirt and drawers) is taught how to ask "What can I take against (contre) a nervous headache?" "Give me a dose of antipyrine; of aspirine; of quinine." "Give me some purgative lemonade"; "Give me some ipecacuanha". "Give me a sinapism; some sinapized wadding; some oxygenated gauze; some cinchona; some arnica; some laudanum"; "Give me some borage; some camomile; some mint; some pectoral tea; some lime flowers". Best of all, "Give me a depurative infusion."

And so it goes. I hope I have given enough examples to illustrate the remarkable genius of the foreign-phrase-book writer. If you doubt it, I advise you to begin at once examining the nearest available foreign-language phrase books, and if you can find any possible situation not provided for in it, I should be very glad to hear from you as soon as possible.

H. F. A.



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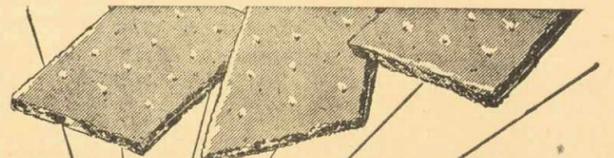
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