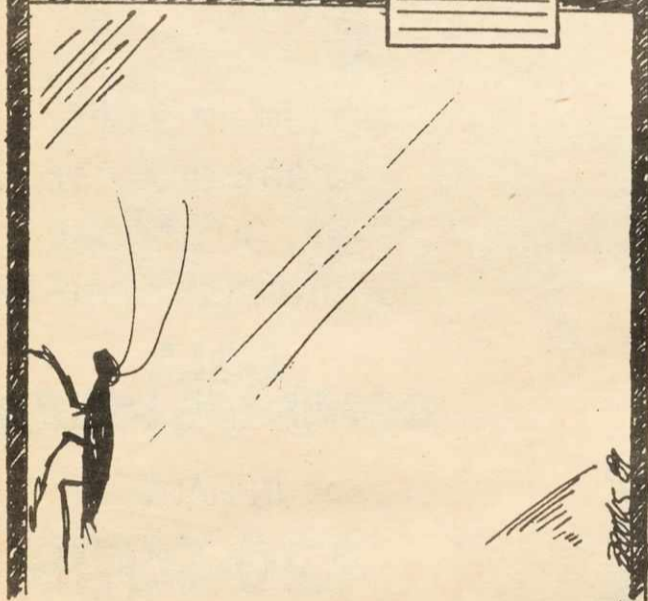


## DAL BOOK STORE

WE ACCEPT:  
 VISA  
 MASTERCARD  
 DINERS CLUB  
 AMERICAN EXPRESS  
 GOLD  
 SILVER  
 SAVINGS BONDS



## Groan about loan

Dear Editor:

It really distresses me to see the incredible injustice being done by our government with regard to student loan assistance. I am currently a university student and I rely heavily (if not solely) on my student loan to pay for my tuition and to help with personal purchases, such as rent, food or books. However, every year I end up being 'awarded' far less money than I need. I appeal and re-appeal to the government until finally I can pay tuition both first and second terms. I also work at two part time jobs during the school year so that I am able to buy my school books or personal hygiene items.

However, I know of at least 10 cases, and have heard about many others, where full student loan and full bursary have been awarded to students who certainly don't need them. I was under the impression that these loans were given out on the basis of need, but it would seem this is not the case. I know of people who live on their own with all of the expenses incurred, who wish to get an education and who have been denied student loans. I also know of other people who live at home with their well-off parents, don't have to pay rent, heat, power or any of these expenses and who do not have to

buy food, books, clothing, toothpaste or any such necessities. In short, students who have absolutely no expenses but have been given both full bursary and full loan! What do these people do with all of this money you may ask? They travel the world in the summer, they invest it, they party their lives away, they do basically whatever they please because they're rich. Thanks to the government.

It bothers me to see all of this money go to waste on people who have no expenses and can afford an education. It could be put to good use by awarding it to those of us who are less fortunate and not only want government assistance, but desperately need it! Without this money coming from our government, those of us who don't live with mommy and daddy can't get an education!

My suggestion is merely that the government do a little more investigation into people who check the box stating that they live at home across the street from the university before they decide to buy these students a new car or send them on a Caribbean cruise. It would greatly help those people who actually need money to get the education they desire.

Sincerely,  
 Karyn Bawn

## BOOK\$\$\$

Textbook costs are rising for students, and not just with the GST. Every year, it seems, a new edition of each required text emerges from the stacks in the bookstore, rendering all my old (and pricey) books useless.

The changes from edition to edition are mostly cosmetic -- rearranging chapters, changing the lettering and cover -- and it makes you wonder why they do it.

There's a neat chart on the bookstore wall from the federal gov-

ernment, explaining how six per cent of the book's cost pays the author, and seven per cent goes to taxes "which students get back in the form of loans and bursaries".

By now you're wondering where this is going. Simply put, if the authors got 10 per cent of the cost of the book, they wouldn't have to issue new editions each year to earn a buck.

With a copy of a book good for several years, students would be able to sell (and buy) their books

for a lot less. Which means they have more money for other things -- like food and heating bills.

As it is, we waste paper, student money, energy and effort making editions every year and charging students even more for their education, as a result of hefty government taxes which "we get back".

If someone asked you for \$10, then lent it back to you at high interest rates, you'd stare blankly at him before convulsing into uncontrollable laughter, right?

by Alistair Croll

## Frosh fun?

Dear Editor:

This year's fanatical frosh 1990 orientation ran from the 3rd to the 8th of September. The main objective of the frosh squad was to break the social barriers between the freshmen, as well as create a "welcome" atmosphere for the new students. At other universities, orientation is being planned as such. For example, Nicky Brink (an orientation organizer at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont.) said in an interview with the Mail-Star: "We're trying to provide a real welcome so that people don't feel intimidated or degraded." But is that so at Dalhousie?

"This year, hazing-harsh rituals ranging from humiliating tasks to corporal punishment imposed on junior students by seniors will be restricted." (The Canadian Press, via The Mail-Star Sept. 4, 1990). But is this so? Last week's daily schedule was filled with events ranging from compulsory steam-rolling (a game where the male freshmen are supposed to roll over each other at the expense of possible physical injury and at the excitement of the squad leaders to an unavoidable four hour walk conveniently arranged at 4:00 a.m. Is all this necessary in welcoming new students? Who organizes these rituals; and are these organizers really concerned about the freshmen's individual feelings and safety? How about the reports of school property damage? Do these contribute to the rising residence fees? And what about disturbing the peace? Should the population of Halifax be bound to "Welcoming" Dalhousie students at 4:00 a.m.?

It is obvious that the written objective is to welcome the frosh, but what is read between the lines? In London, a solution was reached. The University of Western Ontario created a contract which stated the manner in which all members of the frosh squad were to handle themselves during the orientation week. Included in this, was a list of restrictions dealing

with the variety of actions that will no longer occur at the school, for example: the leaders were prohibited from having sex with new students, and the leading of lewd cheers was banned. How has Dalhousie addressed the same problems?

At Dalhousie, it was made mandatory for the Residence dons to take an eight-day training program in order to make the possible problems between students personal problems more aware to these new leaders. This camp had had good intentions...did it work?

All in all, I guess tradition is tradition. At Dalhousie maybe the situation needs to be toned down to reasonable perspectives...But then, who will decide these new perspectives?

One last message: I bid a hardy "Good Luck" to this year's freshmen, for this step into university is a large one.

[Name withheld by request]

## Money again

Dear Gazette:

What the hell is the administration trying to prove by charging 12 bucks for a replacement student ID card?

Two weeks ago, some asshole helped him/herself to my wallet, as well as to all of my identification and the \$40 contained therein. So after time and expense I had replaced what I could, save personal items and photographs lost now forever, and my Dal card.

An hour off work and trip to Halifax later, I'm hit with this bullshit \$12 fee. Great! First some moron steals my wallet, then my school robs me of even more of my limited funds, not to mention rip-off tuition fees.

For crying out loud, it only cost me three bucks to replace my liquor ID, and that's actually vital. I appreciate that the cost of the replacement materials must be covered, but that sure isn't twelve clams. For that price, not only should I get a wallet-size ID, but also a complete portrait package, including an 8 x 10 for my grandmother!

Maybe I'm just not simple enough to understand the people running this place.

Sincerely,  
 Scott McCrossin

## Are you a starving artist?

Starve no more. The Gazette would like to cordially invite you to our Tuesday Night layouts. In return for your artistic abilities, you'll be wined and dined (okay, dined) in a manner fit for a king (okay, a student) for hours (okay, the pizza lasts about 5 minutes).

Put it this way. It's a great way to pass three hours or more with a zany bunch of people. Besides, who goes out on Tuesday nights anyway?

Gazette Layout.  
 Even better than Kraft Dinner.