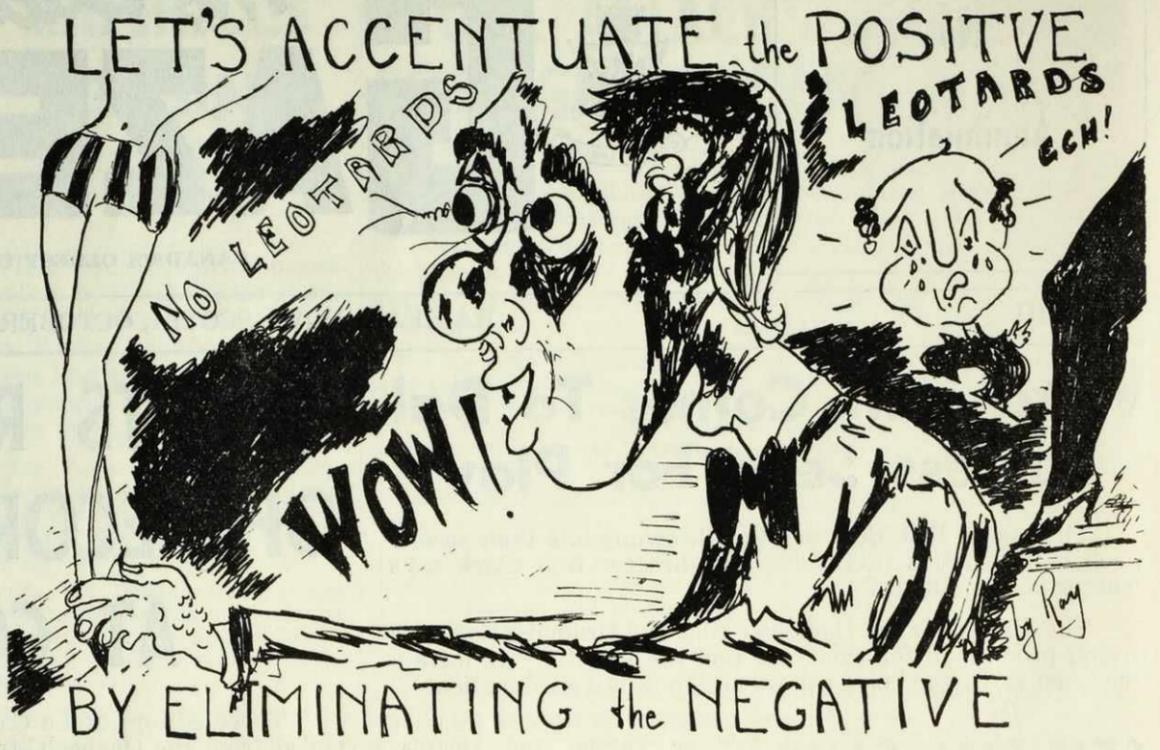




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Why Did The Professors Go?

Several members of the faculty have become, since the publication of our first editorial on this subject two weeks ago, more vocal in informing the Gazette of their feelings of discontent regarding administrative managerial policies. The need for a thorough review of the relations between faculty and administration is thus becoming increasingly apparent.

Accordingly, we maintain our stand of condemning what appears to be an intolerable situation.

The prospect of additional resignations, it may be pointed out here, has consequences extending well beyond the loss of staff members directly involved. For if it becomes known in academic circles throughout the

country, as it surely will if the present trend continues, that teaching and research conditions at Dalhousie are stifling, the administration will find the task of attracting competent instructors even more difficult than under normal conditions.

The best scholars, discouraged by the inferior academic atmosphere here, will look elsewhere for positions, and Dalhousie will be forced to accept less qualified applicants. The University's excellent academic reputation, already staggering under the blow of last year's resignations, would soon become a thing of the past.

Once again, therefore, we point to the urgency of this problem.

The Transistorized Muse

by CHARLES FANNING



Mr. Fanning, a senior honours student in English and well known among those literary groups at Dalhousie whose members have been as fluent as they have been uninfluential, decided the theme of Canadian literature was capable of less than serious enunciation.

Mr. Fanning is particularly noted for his unorthodoxy in arranging ocean travel, but can vouch enthusiastically for its effectiveness. He spent last year in Europe, mainly in Scotland, where he taught school in Glasgow.

We tend to speak about Canadian poetry defensively. We like to feel no longer culturally parasitic on Great Britain or the United States, that we have developed a distinctive culture of our own. It is this defensiveness and this cherishing of things Canadian that makes the writing of poetry in Canada today a most problematical occupation.

I had always believed that a genuine concern for such problems did not exist on the Dalhousie campus, except in a few solitary instances. I was therefore amazed to discover recently that a brand of poetry is being written by a group of Dalhousie students—a small group, it is true,—who seek to enlarge this provincial vision of poetry in a most distinctive way. They reason: Man can only be reached in poetry in terms of the things he most cherishes. Since the life of modern man, by his own choosing, is dominated by the scientific and the mechanical, let us therefore, they say, mediate between man and the machine. This is the true function of the modern poet. Let us show the dignity and worth of human life in our poetry, not by retreating from science and the machine, but by utilizing them.

My dry-eyed equanimity Was envied by all men. I'll need the circuit altered And search the files again."

Space, I am afraid, does not permit justice to be done to some of the best poems that have been written. However, one cannot help feeling that this creative activity among students, however "undergraduate" it may be branded, is to be wholly commended. It shows a genuine concern for the plight of Canadian poetry today. Even more, it perhaps indicates a way to heal the traditional breach between science and the arts.

LETTER

... grotesqueness ...

Sir: Your challenging lead editorial in the last issues of the Gazette entitled "Let's Haul Campus Politics Out of the Mud" together with the accompanying "cartoon" aroused a great deal of interest on Dalhousie Campus.

The grotesqueness and obscurity of the cartoon obliterated the rational approach to the subject attempted in the editorial. We feel that while several cogent points were made, there are some exaggerations and inaccuracies which require correction. These errors lessen the value of such an editorial.

We trust that the trite phrase concerning "the advocates of fun and games politicking" did not refer to the undersigned. We wish to make it quite clear that the Liberal and Conservative Clubs on the campus are aware of their responsibilities toward providing the students of Dalhousie with an opportunity to discuss and formulate ideas on current national problems. It is for this reason that both major parties intend to present throughout the year, by means of speakers, panel discussions, etc., a chance for students to hear and exchange views on Canadian affairs. It is through the efforts of these clubs that stu-

(continued on page five)

Administration Should Heed Council Suggestions

The Students' Council is presently approaching the administration with a proposal for a mid-term study-break during the second semester. We wish to offer our full support in this action, and urge the administration to give every consideration to the suggestion.

Glancing over the report submitted by the Council's Mid-Term Recess Committee, we find that Dalhousie is very much behind other Canadian universities in this respect. All 28 of the colleges quizzed on the subjects were found to have Easter vacations ranging from four to ten days, which, depending upon the length of the second term, were used as mid-term holidays or as pre-examination study periods.

All the universities writing mid-year examinations after Christmas had breaks between these examinations and the resumption of lectures, and all except three had pre-final-examination holidays lasting from three to fourteen days.

Three universities had mid-term lecture-breaks of the exact type proposed for Dalhousie and found them successful.

The advantages of a mid-term vacation, preferably around the first or second week in March, are obvious. All too often the end of Munro Day celebrations leaves students free from extra-curricular obligations, but swamped with essays, outside reading, and assignments. Thus pressed, they have no time to exercise a thorough review of their courses, and find themselves entering the examination room in late April equipped with a mass of disconnected and detailed information, but without any concept of their studies as a whole.

The Council's proposal, if implemented, would provide students with an opportunity

to catch up with their current assignments, leaving them time for comprehensive study during the weeks prior to the final examinations. It would also grant both students and professors a respite from the tedium of a much-too-long second term.

Women Our Mother Never Told Us About

It was with great regret that we noticed one chilly day last week that the women of Dalhousie are once again back to their old habits. Walking behind a group of girls as they strolled across the campus, our observer paled at the sight of a pair of purple legs clearly standing out among the properly attired ones. Having assured himself, after his initial fear, that the Martians had not landed, he went forward to investigate. There before him was that abominable article of female apparel—the leotard.

We weathered the storm of the sack and chemise only to find a worse fate in store for us. These were replaced by something far more hideous and horrible than man had ever dreamed. Today we think we can tell what is nature and what is chemistry, but at the same time this blessing is completely overshadowed by the almost terrifying appearance of colored legs.

It does pain us to see members of the fair sex going obviously out of their way to dress poorly. Like any mortal man, we only ask that women dress comfortably and look reasonably attractive. Surely they, like other women in Canada, can keep warm without going to such extremes.

Our mothers warned us about all kinds of evil women. But never did they say anything about females who would hide their shapely limbs under such detracting garments.

We are badly disillusioned young men and its the leotard what done it.