

# DALHOUSIE Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST STUDENT PUBLICATION

Member Canadian University Press

Published twice a week by the Students' Council of Dalhousie University. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Students' Council. For subscriptions, write Business Manager, Dalhousie Gazette, Halifax, N. S.

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Assistant Business Manager: Alf Harris  
Photographers: E. Richter, Dan Soberman

Printed by McCurdy Print, 54 Argyle St., Halifax, N. S.

Vol. LXXXI

FEBRUARY 22, 1949

No. 31

## THE STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

"The legislative and administrative powers of the student body shall be vested in an Executive and Administrative Council hereinafter known as the Council of Students. Problems and matters affecting the student body as a whole shall be under the immediate jurisdiction of the Council of Students..."

Those are words taken from Article 1 of the Constitution of the Student Body of Dalhousie University. One week from today, on Tuesday, March 1, Dalhousie voters will go to the polls to select the students who will administer their affairs in the forthcoming school year.

One of the great traditions of the Western democracies, we are told, is that students administer their own affairs. That is, they are allowed to dream they are in charge of their own affairs, until such time as a serious situation arises, when they are brushed aside as being unable to deal with anything of importance. It is at these times that (at least at Dalhousie) the Senate, or the Board of Governors, act. Student Councils who have dared to think of autonomy have been warned, or rather reminded, that the Constitution they have been given them by the Board of Governors, and can be taken back at that group's discretion.

In some universities (not at Dalhousie) the student government has complete control of student affairs. And this status has only been reached through hard work and capable administration by the elected representatives of the student body. If we at Dalhousie are ever to reach this happy and democratic state of affairs, then the Council of the Students must give ample evidence to the authorities that it is a responsible and intelligent body. Hasty decisions, poor judgments, weak staff work, will do little to convince the university of the students' ability to handle their own affairs.

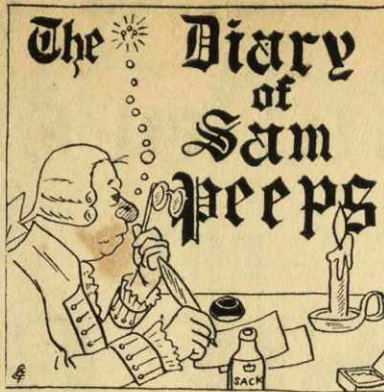
That is why students should go out and vote Tuesday, and why they should vote intelligently. There should be no selection of candidates for the Council on the basis of the group or clique they may represent. The voters' decision should be based entirely upon the merits of the individual candidate, not upon which society, or group, he represents. And the merits of the individual candidate are, after all, strength of character, knowledge of student affairs, and desire and ability to hold responsible office. In years past the student elections were referred to facetiously as "the popularity contests". Let us hope, one and all, that popularity will not be the deciding factor in the election of those persons who will handle our student council funds, administer our numerous important affairs and decide our policies and actions in case of emergency.

If the students of Dalhousie are to better their lot; if school spirit and a feeling of pride in the university are to return, then we must have a strong council of students. Next year will be a decisive one in the student history of Dalhousie. Registration will almost certainly be less—the last of the veterans will be leaving—and the golden years will be over. No longer will the council be able to count on almost unlimited funds for use in student organizations. The squeeze will start. There will be a tightening of belts, a cutting of budgets, and a general limitation of the scope of activities in which students will be able to engage.

The golden years, the era of plenty, are slowly fading and the crusade for betterment of facilities for use by students has been little furthered. True, we have a promise that bleachers are to be installed in the gymnasium, and that a new canteen will be built. But there is still no rink, no fence around the football field, no grandstands, no paid coaches. And there is a lack of many other things.

In the next few years there must be strong student government, student administrators who know what they are doing, know what the students want, and will fight for true freedom.

Only the students can ensure themselves of a capable administration, and that is why it is the duty of every Dalhousie student to go to the polls Tuesday, and vote for the candidates they think are best suited to hold council office.



**The Diary of Sam Peeps**

Saturday, Feb. 19 — Not in bed this morning, having caroused all the night after the dance held in the gymnasium by the Parliament of the students, and as a result do find my head aches mightily.

Off at an early hour to the baths, where many young athletes were disporting themselves, and I did perceive that many of those from the college on the hill were there but could only dog paddle which is a strange slow type of swimming, I see. Best of all the Dalhousie men was Harold's daughters who did jump off a board into the water most prettily. Al Scrubbin was mighty good too, I did see.

All this having disturbed me and caused some illness to me, I left. After great deviations did arrive at a party held by journalists where in a drunken state I did dance about tipsily with Jackanapes Loud, an accountant of nought. Also did have great fears of Howard Queer who did come mighty close to falling into a fireplace, he being bothered by the altitude, or remorse or something, as he had a bad night Friday night, with an attack of Chaperonitis.

Later to Noman's Land where John W. "Typhoon" McStrato-Cumulus did drink only coffee, he not trusting his digestion to anything like little clams cooked in steam. It was well he didn't for I do see they are bad for the stomach.

Finally, tired and happy, I to bed where my wife did call me a great sodden beast.

**Sunday (Lord's Day) Feb. 20** — Up later and to a certain house of Greeks where great altercations did take place with Gael Morelie coming out on top, over the protests of "Alkie" Beautiful, the French dandy.

Later, in conversation, did hear that Exclamation Genuflect was resolved to go back in the window he came out of a week ago.

Am resolved this day never to eat of steamed clams again, for I am in a sorry state, coupled with a great battle of wit with James Copeacres, the sliding enthusiast who calls me a knave. He knows not whereof he speaks, I think.

Today did see portraits of the Queens who are to be voted upon by the scholars and I see no good in them. Did say that Patty-Cake MyKeenOne should be queen for she is a sweet child withal.

Will wear a certain Son-of-a-Fergus' fine black suit at the ball Friday night, I think, if I can deceive him into thinking that I will not spill things on it, which I have a strange habit of doing.

Tired with talking to fools such as Petesdaughter, who is a temperance man and hates parties where cocktails are served, I home to bed.

**Monday, Feb. 21**—Great excitement over the announcement that Butt O'Vinegar will run for King of the Campus at the college on the hill. He is a most loathsome looking character, not one half the beauty that Pasha Deadwood is.

For the first time in many months the government are about to give me my small pittance before a big event. In the past I have noted they always pay just after the big dances.

Did hear that a group in a class of chemistry have formed a most ingenious scheme to get their problems done. They have a Chem. Problem Combine and do work out all the problems and rent out the results. Leading this group is one Hairfoot Comb, and Imbie Mc-QueerOne, and Waddie Cries.

If they are not careful, they will be found out and will have to work with the tools of ignorance.

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