

Editorial

Religious segregation

On Thursday night the Council passed a resolution condemning the religious segregation in Halifax's school system, and the extension of this system into the soon-to-be annexed portion of Halifax County.

The Gazette is in complete agreement with the content of the resolution.

But again we must ask — what action will the Council take? A mere condemnation, by the Student's Council of one of this city's four universities, is not by itself worth the time spent in its discussion. Only when action is taken will the Council's stand become meaningful.

At the CUS Congress at Guelph, in a resolution voted for by Dalhousie as well as the majority of other delegations, local member unions obligated themselves to see that "...high school students be stimulated and encouraged to form their own Unions of Students, created and directed by students..."

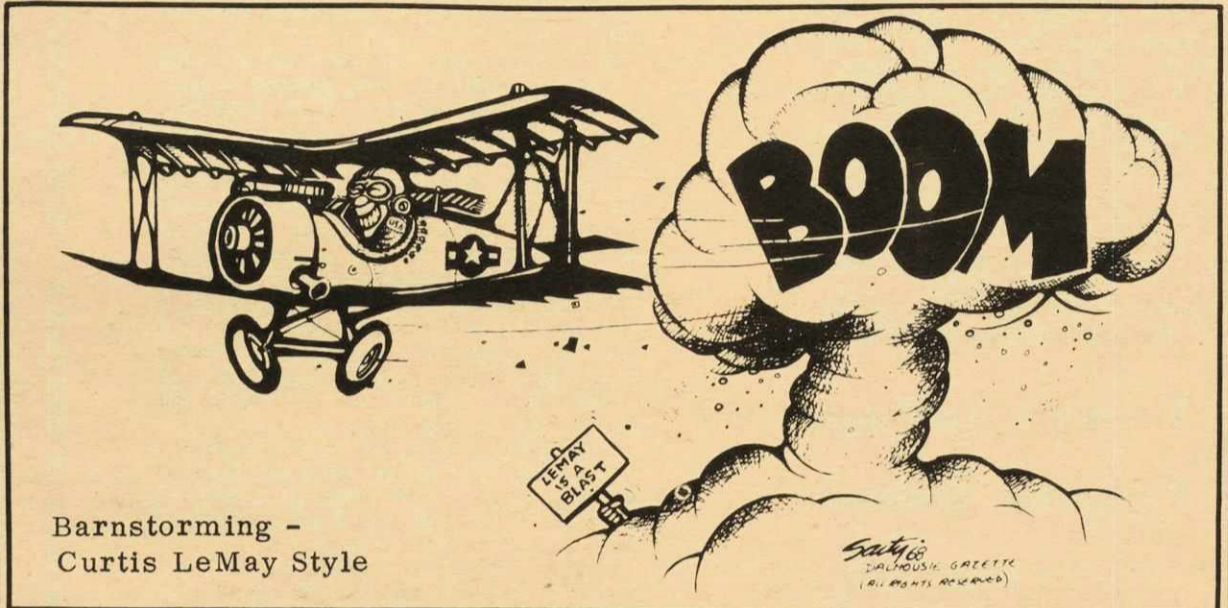
We would suggest that the proper time for implementation of the resolution is now. Under the present circumstances, local high school students will see their need for strong unions: the segregation is

easily recognized by students as affecting them adversely, and yet they have no voice in deciding their own future. It is in the face of this situation that they see their own powerlessness more clearly.

High School unions, dealing with social and political issues, are becoming increasingly necessary, especially in Nova

Scotia, where secondary and elementary school students are totally suppressed.

Unless those in office wish to reinforce their present image — that of actionless rhetoricians, they take effective action against the school system, and begin high school organizing immediately.



Barnstorming -
Curtis LeMay Style

From the Commerce News

C.U.S.: A Cause, or a Curse

EDITOR'S NOTE: No issue at Dal can be completely understood without consideration of the views of the Commerce News. Here, published for the general public for the first time, is the analysis of the editor of the News — Tom Carter, a newspaperboy who made good.

To certain writers for The Dalhousie Gazette "the burning issue" seems to be The Canadian Union of Students. (To many students, the issue to burn is the latest Gazette!) Perhaps the time has come to evaluate carefully the philosophy and usefulness of Dalhousie membership in this organization.

In theory C.U.S. exists to act as a spokesman for the majority of students in Canada. Thus it should present clear demands to society, governments and university administrations on behalf of students. It should also act with the consent and

support of the students.

In Canada, due to individual intelligence and tradition, we have developed a political system in which the general trend in public opinion becomes government policy. Admittedly, this idea sometimes becomes side-tracked under certain political leaders, but generally it works well.

Certainly, the basic idea of a national student union is excellent. But before C.U.S. sets out to reform and revolutionize society, let us have a few reforms in C.U.S. Dalhousie representatives to the Congress ought to be elected by the general student body on the basis of the issues to be debated by the next Congress. Personalities should be put aside, because certain radical types simply do not represent the average Dalhousie student.

Then the representatives should meet and set down clearly defined, concrete goals to improve the universities. There are sufficient short-comings within these institutions to provide the political activists with plenty of action. Leave society to struggle with its own conscience — we have enough "great new vision" and "just society" proponents in the old line political parties to satisfy the most

gluttonous appetite! The students of today want to be leaders of tomorrow. Then, let us clean our own house first. The greatly desirable product thus generated will naturally be irresistible to society.

The issues dealt with by the last Congress — political and for abstract — are representative of the opinions of C.U.S. They are not representative of the opinions of Dalhousie students. Therefore a referendum ought to be held as quickly as possible. The following alternatives could be presented: remain in C.U.S. and "cuss"; or "walk out" and become a founding member of the Society of Active Students — a body dedicated to concrete, realistic programs for the benefit of its members.

If our Student Union wants action, surely this is a road to sanity — a path along which Dalhousie students could march with pride.

Presently we can only watch C.U.S., with embarrassment, as it devours hard-earned student money in its apparently insatiable appetite, with a speed matched only by the press printing its ridiculous statements of student policy!

a letter to the editor:

Sir:

Since I have been recently appointed SUB Affairs Secretary, I feel I must comment on your recent editorial, "What's Gooob about SUBthing?"

Though I can sympathize with many of your expressed fears, I am afraid your underlying note of cynicism is premature, or, at the very least, ill-timed.

Your feeling that "Gooob will be nothing but a weekend orgy, and the SUB will function as a four million dollar canteen" is a gross misinterpretation of what those working on the opening are trying to accomplish.

I note that you base some of your beliefs on quotations from our promotional material. You seem to forget, because it is promotion, the style and content are over-simplified and exaggerated a little to get the message across with more impact.

Let me explain that I realize "it will take time, energy, planning, and a sense of purpose... to change anything basic on this campus," as you so aptly put it. As I form my plans for the SUB once it is open, I am trying to leave as many avenues of participation, action, and complaint open to anyone

who cares. For us, no suggestion or offer of help is too outlandish or trivial. Please don't hesitate to come in and talk with us.

I am trying, as much as one individual can, to impress upon those working with me that the prime function of the Opening Weekend is to show everyone just what the building is capable of doing. If you consider that an "orgy", fine, I don't. Why not come down Nov. 8 to 10 and then judge how successful we have been?

One final item, I wish publically to express my genuine appreciation for the understanding, efforts and co-operation of the "Gazette" editor, Ken Clare, and his staff have shown in regards to publishing information on the SUB and the Opening Weekend. I do hope this relationship can continue. I would like to suggest that the "Gazette" keep extremely close tabs on the operation of the SUB and do an in depth evaluation of us sometime in the middle or end of the second term. I trust you will not mince any words or feelings. Thank you.

Yours respectfully,
Jack Sommers,
SUB Affairs Secretary.

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