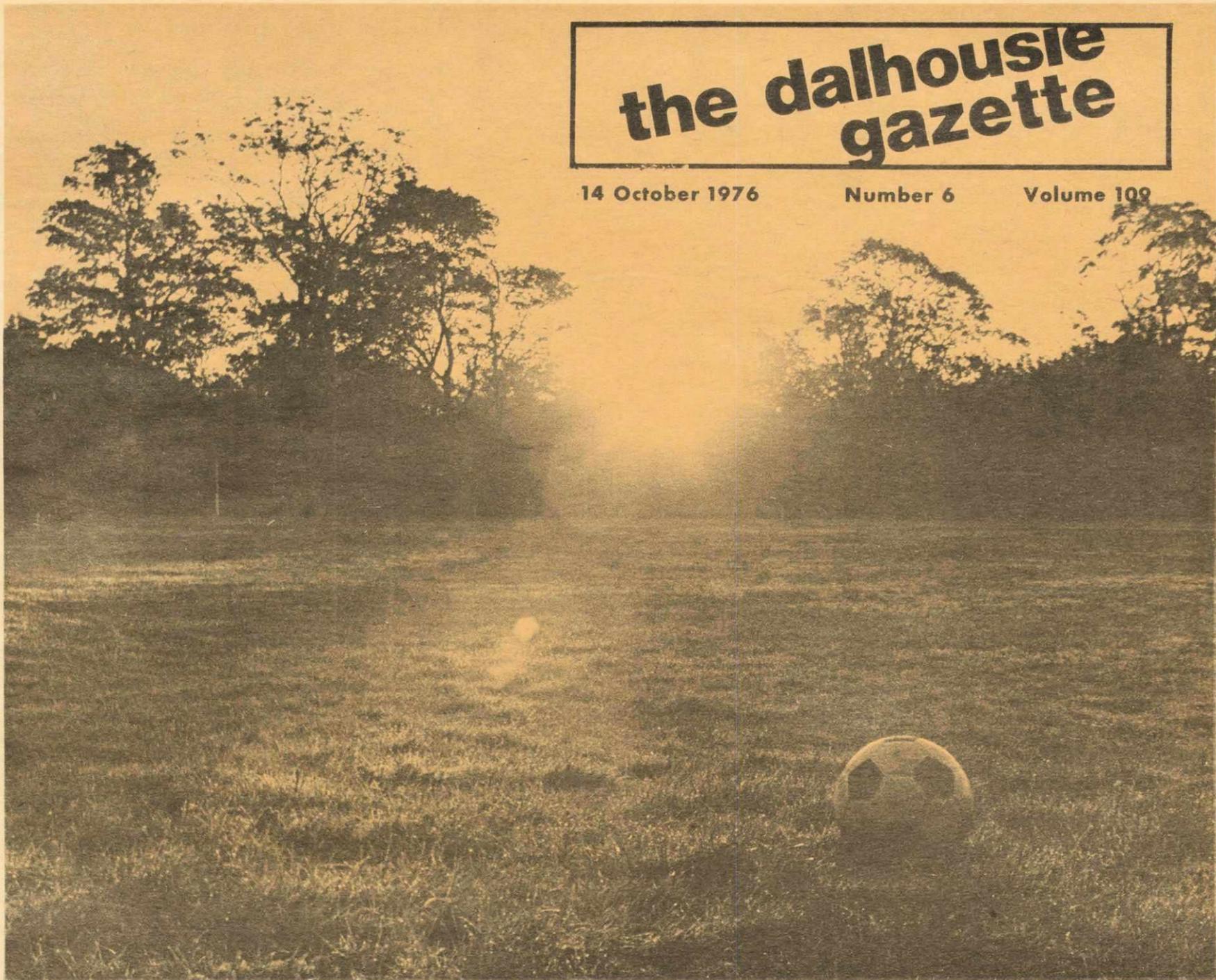


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Dal Photo / Potter

The sun has not risen on the Sports Complex yet. It has barely risen on the undeveloped site. As the new day dawns, perhaps Dalhousie will finish wrangling and begin construction.

Highschools get involved

by Allan Zdunich

Representatives from several Halifax area high schools announced the formation of the Metro Equal Education Opportunities Committee (MEEOC), Tuesday, October 12.

Originally formed to link the high schools to National Student Day, MEEOC will be examining the effects of government policy on the delivery of education at the high school level.

"The reason why this is so good for high schools is that we're looking above football games and dances — recreational activities — we are doing something that is going to be with the high schools so much longer. It won't be just immediate effects. This can be long lasting, far reaching — a continuation through the years", co-ordinator Jennifer Watts told *The Dalhousie Gazette*.

Representatives learned that Nova Scotia is the only province where students at the university level are working with students at the high school level to help them with information gathering for National Student Day. Don Soucy told representatives that committees similar to MEEOC will soon be formed in Sydney and Truro.

MEEOC will not concentrate its activities on November 9th, because it conflicts with student exam schedules. Representatives at the meeting stressed that they will be sending delegates to

the NSD events at the universities and colleges in metro. It was felt that National Student Day is an opportune time for students from the high schools to learn about Education and Educational policy.

We want to enlighten the student body and the government, to let them know we are here. That students don't just appear at the university level", Stephen Mollon stated, "We're gathering information to form a base from which we can move forward. Contacting people in all metro area high schools".

"The Metro Equal Education Opportunities Committee (MEEOC) is not just the student council's, it's all the students", student representative Mark Lee told *The Dalhousie Gazette*.

Representatives were optimistic about what could be accomplished, suggesting that the group was at the data gathering stage at present, but would act when they had the information.

Jennifer Watts stated "I think MEEOC can raise the general awareness of students as to what is open to them for university - grants, funding, - and general university and secondary school information that is not widely known."

J.L. Ilsey student John Lerette suggested "We have to be careful of youthful enthusiasm. This is just the beginning of a few people. We don't want to step ahead of ourselves. We have to deal

with the government on their level".

In the general discussion, students noted that there was a problem with the different level of facilities available to rural and urban students. Suburban schools have the latest equipment whereas downtown and rural schools do not.

"Suburban schools have the

facilities that rural schools lack, yet we're supposed to be taking the same course. It's not just a simple rural-urban difference. It's not just real costs to go to a suburban school, but there are hidden costs. You've got to have the \$50,000 or \$60,000 to live there", student representative Stephen Mollon pointed out.

Mark Lee added "Regional disparities are a direct line to economic disparities."

Impetus for the formation of MEEOC came from Nova Scotia College of Art and Design student Don Soucy and Dalhousie student

continued on page 2

Inside This Week

Dalorama

Workers on Campus

Nader's 'Raiders'

Coming Next Week

The Dalhousie
International

Student Aid Update



V.D.

