

War IS ugly

by Stephen Wright

I went to the Cin - Sunday movie over the weekend and it started me thinking, which may, or may not be a good thing.

The film was the "Blue Max", a movie dealing with the action and lives of German fighter aces in the First World War. While being technically brilliant and flawlessly acted, the film sickened me. A lot of the spectators had come to see a good war movie, and that is exactly what they got - a good war movie full of blood and gore. One spectator, after gleefully watching the senseless slaughter of a battalion of men, came up with the original comment, "That was one hell of a war!" Does that mean to say that other wars are not hellish? What kind of statement is that? This is, of course, absolute . . . (insert any desired equivalent of hogwash, i.e. Bullshit, among others.)

The reaction of the public to war has changed over the centuries. Ever since man learned the art of war he has brought up his youth to revere those whom the state has pronounced heroes, that is, those who have killed more of the "enemy" than the average number. Through some warped form of logic, the murdering of fellow men became something good, something to be emulated. Wars were described in terms of heroes' actions. Efficient killers became legendary characters, and their exploits were recounted with reverence by succeeding generations. Wars were for the most part purely military affairs, and did not concern the

Minstrels replacing Sandy Bull

Dalhousie Student Union, whose In Concert '69-70 series began with a performance by the Harpers Bizarre last week, which was poorly rendered and sparsely attended, has had to find a substitute act for the second concert.

But the replacement for Sandy Bull, a super-rock guitarist who was forced to cancel his engagement, due to sickness, is no second string alternative. The New Christy Minstrels, the internationally known musical group, will play in Sandy Bull's place on the night of Sunday, Oct. 19, in the SUB.

Due to poor management, on behalf of the entertainment

civilian populace in any considerable way. This pattern was followed right down until about a hundred years ago, when people woke up to the realities of war. This is because the form of war was changing. Civilians were becoming directly involved, and more people saw the ugliness and inhumanity of war. World War One was the last great war in which individual heroes were prominent. From that time on, roughly coinciding with the perfection of photography and the development of cinematography people have become more aware of the true ugliness and bloodiness of war. "War is Hell!" Why glorify it?

Of course, the realities of war, no matter how gorily displayed, do not reach some people.

"I love his beautiful blue eyes." - comment of movie watcher

committee, outside the concert series, the Dubliners will play at the SUB on Nov. 18 and 19. The Dubliners, a highly successful and popular folk group, have appeared in concert, cabaret, on radio and television in nearly every major city in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, are just starting an extensive tour of Canada and the U.S., and will appear on the Ed Sullivan Show.

The series, the Students Union's first attempt into what is hoped to become an outstanding "pop" concert series, runs until mid-March. If this year's series is a success, which is doubtful, so far, the Student Union will aim for an expanded program in the future.

The remainder of the series is being opened to the public, one reason for which, says entertainment committee chairman Bob Underwood, is to give the general public an opportunity to see and hear talent they might not otherwise have been able to do.

Another reason is the poor attendance shown by Dal. students. Mr. Underwood said. "We expect a fine show from the New Christy Minstrels, as well as from the other groups engaged for the series."

A limited number of tickets for the balance of the series are still available at the SUB. (\$7 for students with I.D. cards and \$8 for non-students). Series ticket holders will be entitled to reduced rates for any special events arranged during the year.

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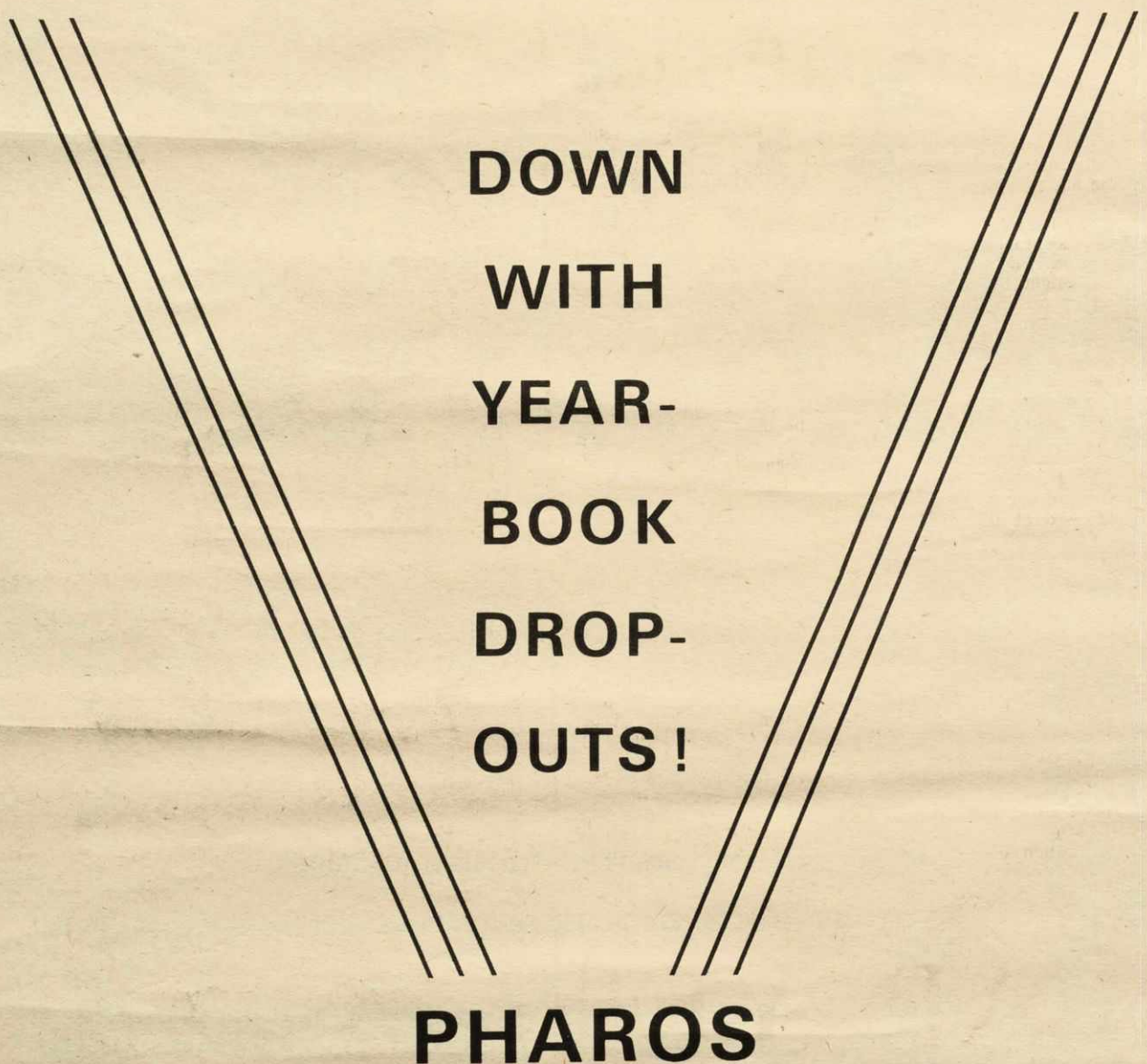

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