

DALHOUSIE Gazette

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SO WE LOST A HOCKEY GAME!

So we lost a hockey game—so we took a bad beating—so what? When the Dalhousie Tigers, varsity hockey team, returned from Newfoundland after suffering a sound trouncing there, the D.A.A.C. had a meeting to discuss whether Dalhousie should stay in intercollegiate hockey competition or not. It was with grave misgivings that the Athletic Club decided to let the team play.

Everyone at Dalhousie was surprised and happy when the Tigers, rated as underdogs by a considerable margin, defeated the vaunted St. Francis Xavier squad at Antigonish last Saturday. Everyone sang the praises of the gallant little band who, unsupported and looked upon with dismay, went up to St. F.X. and drubbed the big blue and white.

A great crowd was on hand at the Forum this Saturday when the two antagonists met in a return match, the first intercollegiate hockey game of the season in Halifax. Special trams took students to the rink, and many other spectators made their own devious way to the game. It was a large and eminently satisfactory audience for Dalhousie hockey hopefuls.

From the outset it was apparent that Dalhousie had a listless and disorganized team on the ice. Something was wrong, and although they almost held their own in the first two periods, they fell away and were roundly and soundly defeated. Dalhousians were greatly disappointed, which was natural. But since then the recriminations have started. Students were overheard saying:

"They weren't trying.

"They were hopeless; their win in Antigonish must have been a fluke.

"Some of the players were saving themselves for the party that night.

"The coaching was bad.

"The defence was weak."

Oh! yes. This was wrong, that was wrong. So and so was out of condition and the team was terrible.

So we lost a hockey game. Just one game, though. We are still tied with Acadia. Students who said after the game; "I'm not going to anyone more of these games"; might reconsider. Dalhousie students have a duty toward their team, and should go out and support them at every game, and some few do. But there are others who are fair weather fans. They don't go to the game to see Dalhousie play, and to cheer them on in their attempts to win—they only go to the game when they are certain Dalhousie will win. Too often, poor Dalhousie crowds have left the team with a feeling that they are poor relations and that students do not really care whether they win, lose, draw, or for that matter, even play.

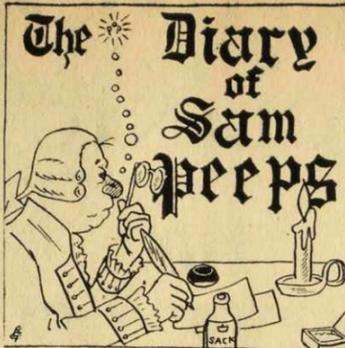
So we lost a hockey game—so we'll win the next game. Its a duty, you know!

ANOTHER PLAN FOR A RINK

The rink committee has held another meeting, and we are told that an excellent plan for joint-participation by uni- and students in obtaining the much-talked-about hockey and skating arena has been formulated. At its worst, the so-far unofficial plan can only fail—at its best it is an outstanding contribution to the long search at Dalhousie for an adequate rink.

A great deal of time and thought must have gone into the proposal, which should be announced soon, and much more will have to be done before it achieves success. The main thing about it, however, is that at last we have a concrete and sensible approach to the old, old problem. When University and student representatives meet to discuss the committee report, it is to be hoped that a sensible attitude, such as was portrayed in the matter of purchasing bleachers for the gymnasium, will prevail.

The university authorities have done much to convince students of their good will in the past month. If the proposal of the rink committee is a workable one, the university could contribute greatly to the happiness of the Dalhousie family by attempting to go at least, half way.



Sunday, Feb. 13 — A special entry for Newfoundlanders in Dalhousie and the Old Colony.

Have this day seen a copy of the Daily News in which a portion of my Diary of January 29 was printed, and have also received a letter signed by three gentlemen of St. John's, Nfld. Have also heard of letters sent to sundry other gentlemen of the community dealing with the article in question.

It is unfortunate that the Daily News did not see fit to print the article in its entirety with an explanation that the column in which it appeared was a feature of three years standing in the Dalhousie Gazette, aimed at poking harmless fun at individuals and institutions with no intention of causing any serious reflection on these individuals and institutions, and that it is written with "malice toward none."

However, in the light of the serious view taken of the article by citizens of Newfoundland both at home and here, it is only fair and just, both to them and to myself, to clarify the matter.

In the first place, the article was not intended to be taken seriously, any more than anything else in the column in the past three years was intended as a serious comment. There are editorials and letters to the editor for that purpose.

In the second place, the people of Newfoundland have a long standing heritage of being known as ranking among the best hosts in the world. It would be biting the hand that fed you to level a serious criticism at the good people of Buchans who went so far out of their way to make the visit of the Dalhousie hockey team there a most satisfactory and enjoyable one. The fact that the excellent Buchans hockey team defeated Dalhousie is one of the fortunes of sport. Certainly they had a superior team, and no Dalhousian, including myself, would ever seriously try to laugh off the sound drubbing they administered the Tigers by cheap evasion and malicious back-biting.

During 1941 and 1942 I was stationed in Newfoundland while in the services, and count many residents of Lewisport, Botwood, Bishop's Falls, Grand Falls and Saint John's as my very good friends. It is most unfortunate that the article and the intentions in writing it should have been so misconstrued as to lead people to believe that I am not grateful for, and ever mindful of, the fine qualities of the people of Newfoundland.

As hosts, and especially as sportsmen, they are without equals. Because of the bad impression caused by the article, the least I can do is offer my sincere apologies to these very fine people future citizens of Canada.

Trusting that the Daily News, which was only too eager to print the "black" side of the story, will find it within their editorial policy to print this, the other side of the story, I remain:

Sincerely,
Sam Peeps

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