

The Dalhousie GAZETTE

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THE FOOTBALL QUESTION

Last week the Dalhousie Athletic Board voted to keep Dal in the Atlantic Football Conference. This decision brings to an end many weeks of rumour and speculation that we would drop out of the A. section of the league and not have a varsity football team at all.

Reaction to the decision was mixed. Joel Jacobson, president of D. A. A. C., termed it "A bad mistake." Football coach Harry Wilson was less definite, he felt that it would be unfortunate for Dal to drop out of football for it might soon lead to the end of all varsity sports. However, he also said that something needs to be done immediately or we will have to give up football within two years.

During the course of discussion it was pointed out that three years ago, Merv Shaw, who was then head football coach, had warned the alumni of what was going to happen. Using St. Mary's as an illustration he contrasted the attitude of their administration and alumni to football with that here at Dal and he warned that within two years St. Mary's would beat Dalhousie quite easily.

Time has shown how right Coach Shaw was, and indeed how regrettable it is that no one at this university heeded his warning.

The question is not an easy one to answer be done now to remedy the situation. Should we drop out of intercollegiate sports or should we employ the recruiting practices now being used by other Maritime universities?

Th question is not an easy one to answer but it is one which should be the immediate concern of each and every one of us. For this reason the Gazette invites student comment on the issue in the hope that their opinion will act as a guide to those who must soon decide whether the Athletic Board made a good or bad decision.

THE GULLIBLE MASS

It had been the intention of the features department of The Gazette to print a section of 'lunatic fringe' right wing organizations and propaganda in the coming issue of the paper. As a prelude to this, an article was written for this week's issue in which several prominent campus figures and organizations were referred to in typical Birchite terms.

The article, which was intended as a satire on right wing extremists, caused considerable amusement to The Gazette staff. However, as a safety precaution, it was decided to test the article on an innocent member of the reading public to see whether it could possibly be taken seriously or not. To the amazement and indeed horror of the author, the young lady to which the article was read took it seriously, "although perhaps it is a little extreme".

Last week The Gazette congratulated William F. Buckley Jr., editor of the right wing U. S. magazine National Review, for condemning the lunatic fringe element of conservatism, and rejecting the "false counsels" of Robert Welch, founder and leader of the John Birch society.

This week we shudder at the thought that trash resembling that emanating from such an

organization as that led by Welch could be read in all seriousness by university students in Canada. True this was the opinion of one student, but we have reason to believe that the young lady was typical of many more students on this campus.

If this is indeed true, then the dangers facing the West are as great from the Right as from the Left. More so in fact, for people turn in reaction from 'Communist propaganda' to 'Rightist literature', and, in doing so, fail to see the peril of fascism until it is too late and the witchhunt is on. Perhaps the only reason there is not such a right wing organization at Dalhousie is merely because students are too apathetic to set about forming one. For if last week's experiment is any indication at all, it seems clear that such an organization would find supporters here on campus.

MAN

Man is a beast! He may be a gentleman, a scholar or a playboy by training, but by heredity he is a beast. And regardless of the superficial finery in which he wraps himself he will remain underneath it essentially a beast, ruthless and fierce. When we look at man we forget to see the hairy pig-eyed monster; he has become sophisticated. But civilization is a gloss varnish. It does not remedy grossness, merely hides it. How else are we to account for wars in the name of peace, tyrannies in the name of liberation, atrocities in the name of religion and wholesale hatred in the name of God?

Man is by nature selfish, cruel, contentious and cunning. So he has always been. And so he will remain. Sweet smelling body lotions and pious pulpit platitudes effectively cloud the issue. It is expedient that man hides himself from himself, for the really colossal crimes, the mass murders and social rapes, can only be performed under the proud colors of respectability. Independent and spontaneous inhumanities are petty; the foulest lecheries, and the most magnificent, require planned co-operative effort. Man has evolved from crude to efficient bestiality.

Our mystics and prophets are wrong; we'll never see that idyllic world of love and joy. The vision of peace is but another priestly robe on the great primitive beast. For years the world has been talking of disarming and proceeded to do otherwise. There have been schemes and leagues and utopian experiments. There have been wars to end wars, each worse than the one before. There have been maniacs with powers of oratory, and always there have been the opportunists, the fearful, the lazy and the stupid to cheer them on. There will always be the many who cringe, and the few who hold the whip.

Man is an animal. Ultimately he respects no authority but that of force. There is no use whining about human rights or prating about human dignity. It is vain to speak of freedom. It is naive to look for love. The best we can do is recheck our weapons and hope to keep the beast at bay.



"BUT, MISS FROST, WE MUST BE FAIR - IN HAWAII THEY SPEAK WITH THEIR HANDS."



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SATURDAY NIGHT