

# The Long Wait

Martha carefully applied her new lipstick and took a last, scrutinizing glance in the mirror. Yes, she looked very nice, hair curling perfectly for once, and her new dress was really sensational. Confident that she would do John credit at the big dance that night, she floated into the living room, and since it was only five to nine, turned on the radio and did a few practice turns to the strains of Guy Lombardo. Humming happily, she picked up a fashion magazine and rifled through it. But the styles did not hold her attention for long and her eyes again turned to the clock.

Good heavens, it was ten after nine. He should have been here ten minutes ago. Suddenly she heard a car door slam. She strained her ears for the sound of footsteps, and heard them—turning into the house next door. Then the street relaxed into silence, except for a few cars that raced by, with no hint of stopping.

Quarter past nine. Surely he must be coming. But he had always been prompt before, and usually even five minutes early. Maybe he was sick, or the car wouldn't start, or he forgot the tickets or— She jumped as the

telephone rang. Half joyous, half fearful she ran to answer it.

"Martha dear, sounded her grandmother's voice, "I thought you were going out this evening."

Oh, I am, but he hasn't come yet, she said in a small voice. No, I'm sorry Mother and Dad went to the movies. Thank goodness, they're not home, she mused as she hung up. I can just hear Dad teasing. But why am I worried? He's only twenty minutes late. Twenty minutes late!

She began to wring her hands in the manner of Lady MacBeth as she paced between the door and the window. It was hard to hold the tears back as she imagined what everyone would say when they heard that John had stood her up, after practically going steady with her. And she was going to miss the most important dance of the whole year.

The harsh buzz of the doorbell interrupted her, and she flew to answer it. Relief drove all thought of rebuke from her mind as she ushered him in, and John, in his innocence had no idea of giving an excuse for his tardiness. By someone's miscalculation, the living room clock was half an hour fast.

A three-day annual Winter Carnival that attracts up to 20,000 students, graduates and spectators shares the spotlight with a number of relatively poorly attended campus formal at McGill University, Montreal. The Junior Prom is held in November, Plumbers' Ball in January, Convocation Ball in May with expenses in all cases almost inevitably exceeding \$25.00. Doctors and Dentists hold formals attended primarily by students of their own faculties. A New Year's Eve Dance (dress optional) has been staged in recent years.

A winter festival and a formal sponsored by the Students' Society are two stand-outs on the social calendar at Laval University, Quebec City. The greater part of the student body takes part in both events with expenses at the Ball running to \$25.00; at the "Festival d'Hiver": \$5.00.

No one dance or other social event is considered the most outstanding at the University of Alberta where expenses at any major function run in the neighbourhood of \$10.00. Attendance is usually good at major events, The Gateway, student newspaper, reports.

Munro Day, second Tuesday in March, with athletic and social events climaxed by a dance is the highlight of the social year at Dalhousie University, Halifax. With attendance estimated at 1,000 the day's activities are sponsored by the Students' Council. Other campus events throughout the year, organized by faculties and other student groups are reported to possess less general appeal.

The escort's expenses are held as low as \$6.00 when he and his date head for the Junior Prom at Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B. Flowers are available at low costs through special arrangements with florists; tickets, normally costing \$3.00 are free to members of the junior class, and transportation need not enter into the picture since all students live in residence. The Prom is the finale to Junior Week on the campus and considerable effort is put into its organization by members of the Junior Class.

# Young Man From Pakistan

Syeb Bashir Ahmud finds that Canada is a prosperous and beautiful country in every respect but he feels that he must serve his own country as we should serve ours.

A young lawyer from Pakistan, he is resuming his studies at Dalhousie after ten years of practical experience in law and is now taking a course in legislation and legislative drafting. Later he plans to take a practical course in the latter in Ottawa.

Syeb undoubtedly noticed a great many differences in the customs of our people and the Moslems. His first impression was certainly not a good one; he landed in London in a blanket of fog and could not see anything but a mass of grey swirling cloud. However he was pleased with the rest of the trip. He was greatly impressed with our scenery, especially from Montreal to Halifax. Syeb considers Halifax the most charming city that he has ever encountered—even better than Montreal!

His first real shock was the way we drive cars! He was also introduced into the art of tipping waitresses. He enjoys the food and finds it comparatively mild contrasted to the spiced-filled dishes of the Orient. He is crazy about our music and told me that the younger people are being introduced to it through radio and movies.

**Social Customs of the Moslems**  
In Pakistan the people who are not highly educated or the ones who have an Oriental outlook stick to the ancient customs of marriage. This ceremony lasts for a full week and ends up with the "Nikah" which means the offerance and acceptance of the marriage contract. The woman and man involved in the ceremony must never see each other until they are married. Sometimes the young man may be extra lucky and manage to steal a picture of the bride-to-be in order that he may see if she is beautiful or disastrous. They never meet socially under any circumstances. They never dance or carry on to such an extent as we do. Drinking is prohibited. Women can not wander about unescorted; their husbands must always be there. Maybe this is a solution to the divorce problem that shatters at least one out of every seven families in America.

Syeb feels very strong towards the future of his country. He believes that countries that have a more developed civilization should help the countries that are just establishing a foundation for its people. Pakistan is only five years old and hasn't had any time to develop their natural resources. Everything is in the making. The conception of Nationalism is in short sense no force because primarily their religion is not international and therefore they must ask other countries for advice. A fault that some people may find with this plea is that if other countries begin helping lands of different culture their customs will change—they have to change—and then we shall have a separation of the people; those who cling to their own customs and those who are influenced by the other country. What is to become of Pakistan is difficult to say but we know that there is a terrible plague that we call communism and if these germs spread to Pakistan and try to kill the struggling state there will always be some country that will go to its aid.

## Music

*Brands sear the soul  
obliterate thought.  
A sense of pain that thrills, haunts,  
and in pain sings of sorrow  
so beautiful — filling the universe  
and dies as soon.  
Strange not to feel when not in pain  
all sense dissolves in black.  
Strange —  
it throbs, cries out in anguish  
falls as rain on autumn leaves,  
In pain to sing.  
Dreams drift in the world of the dead  
shadows haunt the dusky meadows  
spirits racked by hell's infernos  
a leaf twists in the wind.  
The rest is silence . . . —from The Manitoban*

# Collegians Cut Copious Capers

A Canadian University Press Feature by Don Allen, McGill Daily

Music of a dance orchestra drifts out from the bandstand over the heads of young couples in formal attire dancing or off to the side laughing and talking with groups of friends. For all, it's the big date of the college year.

The setting may be Ottawa's Chateau Laurier or a lavishly-decorated makeshift ballroom in some college gymnasium for on campuses from coast to coast are staged large-scale social undertakings that remain long in the mind of student and graduate as occasions to be remembered in under-graduate years.

A nation-wide survey of major campus social events was conducted for the Canadian University Press by the McGill Daily. Information supplied by CUP member papers representing twelve Canadian campuses was considered in the preparation of this article.

Although special mid-winter festivities are rated high on the social calendar at McGill and Laval Universities, large-scale formal dances overshadowed by far all other events on the other campuses concerned.

One or more campus-wide formals are staged each year at most universities with other formals of somewhat less general appeal being put on by member colleges or student groups.

The big event of the year comes in late fall, early spring, or as a climax to the final exams. It is sponsored by a class, faculty, college, or by the students' council of the university.

Expenses vary, estimates of escorts' overall expenditures range from six to over twenty-five dollars. A few hundred or several thousand are in attendance. Each dance has its characteristics; reflects the spirit of its organizing group; the personality of the campus at which it takes place.

The coronation of a Queen of the Ball is a highlight of the evening at the University College Ball, most important social event each year at the University of Western Ontario. The dance is sponsored by the Arts and Science Council. With ticket prices at \$4.50, attendance is in the neighbourhood of 2,200. Six other formals, run by faculty, college, denominational and military groups are held at

Western each year. The Co-ed Prom, sponsored by the Women's Council, and the Christmas Lit, part of the proceeds from which go to the International Student Service, are included in the U. W. O. social calendar.

Expenses are kept to an estimated \$7.00 per couple at two formals sponsored by the Social Committee of the Student Representative Council at the University of New Brunswick. Admission is free on the presentation of a student pass although a charge of \$3.00 is levied on outsiders at the event. The Fall Formal was last year staged to produce a French Cafe air; the "Con" or Spring Formal, now in its 78th year, is planned for the middle of March. Attendance is between 700 and 800 at both events.

No university-wide formal is attempted at the University of Toronto where federated arts colleges and other faculties stage events for their own members. Inter-collegiate athletic contests provide the main opportunity for manifestation of an overall Varsity spirit.

Four formals and a masquerade ball share the social lime-light at McMaster University, Hamilton. Tickets are \$3.00 for the formal but, except for the Mac Formal, sponsored by Seniors, where flowers and tails are the general rule, corsages are forbidden. Other formals are run by the lower years; an operetta and play are also put on by the student body.

The Science Formal, where expenses can amount to in excess of \$25.00, is the big event of the Queen's University year. Other formals, Faculty sponsored, are described as "less pretentious" with costs in the neighbourhood of \$15.00. The Queen's Journal comments that the city of Kingston is small and the student's supply most of their own entertainment at the University.

The Senior Prom, on the evening following graduation ceremonies, is the event at the top of the social calendar of St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N. S. Expenses average \$15.00 and virtually the entire graduating class plus about 100 under-graduates and an equal number of alumni are in attendance. The Mid-Year Prom and Engineer's Dance, both with somewhat greater attendance, are staged during the academic year.

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