



The Dalhousie GAZETTE

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Partial Solution

Last week Prime Minister St. Laurent announced the creation of a Canada Council. This news created no particular stir on university campuses across the country; not even at Dalhousie, which may stand to benefit the most, was there any great cheering.

The Council's purpose is to assist in the development of Canadian culture and scholarship. Its formation was recommended in the report of the Royal Commission on Arts, Letters, and Sciences — the oft-quoted Massey Commission — in 1951. Since that time many organizations in our dominion, including the National Conference of Canadian Universities and the National Federation of Canadian University Students, have been urging the federal government to implement the Commission's suggestions.

The fact that the Council has been born shortly before an election should not cast a false shadow upon it. The one hundred million dollars with which it has been endowed cannot come under the control of the parliamentarians in any way. The money, to be used for grants, scholarships, and university expansion, is in the hands of educators and other persons devoted to the welfare of our educational and cultural life as a nation — a council, formed by but independent of any part of government.

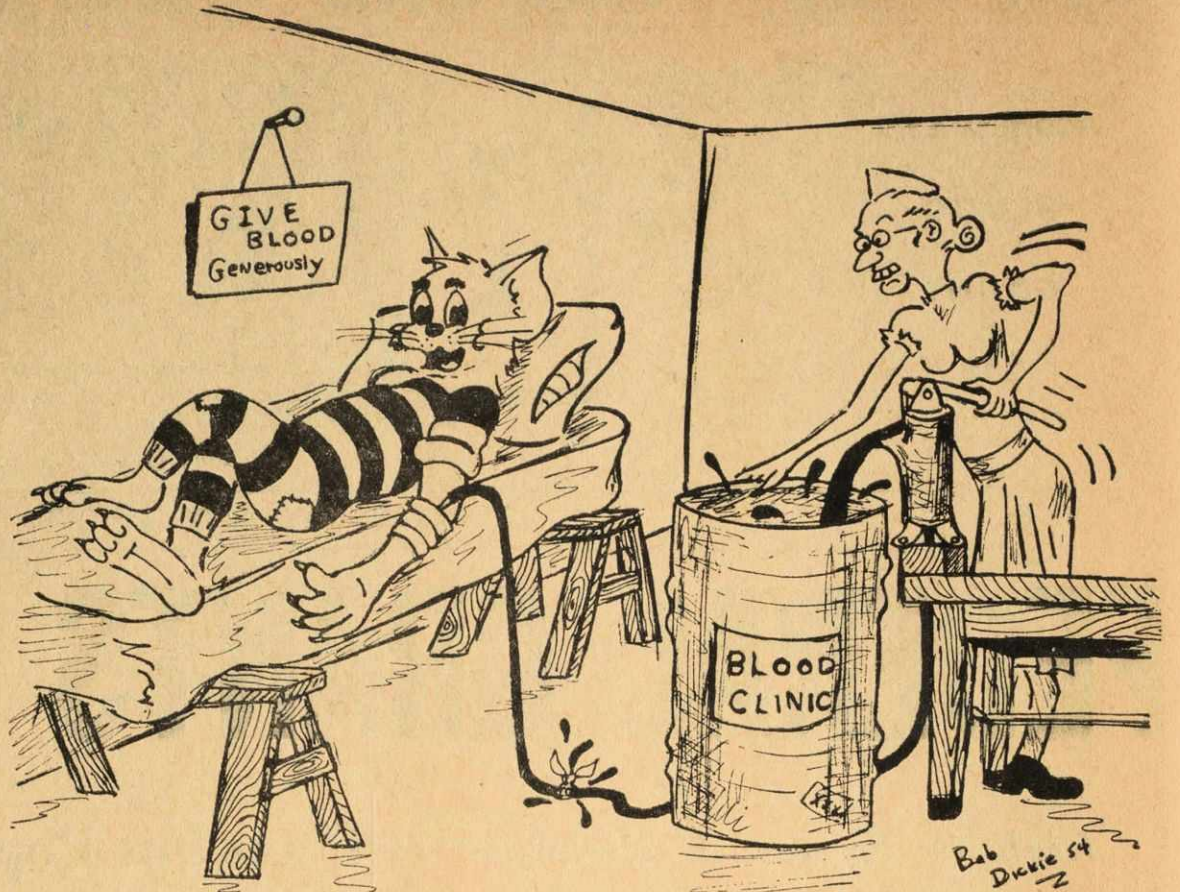
Why should spending large amounts of public money in this way give us a reason to rejoice? Because this is the first step, and a big one, along the road of educating Canada. There has been an immense amount of propaganda lately about how the free nations of the world are falling behind Russia in the training of engineers and scientists. We aren't turning out enough doctors and teachers to satisfy our needs. It is important that we keep up with the Joneses of the world, even if they happen to be the Ivanovs; trained people are necessary to any country.

But in our rush to preserve our heritage, we must remember just what we are trying to save for the future. If we mechanize ourselves to triumph in the contest, we have lost the reason for the contest. Culture is a misused word, but it is one well worth keeping around.

The culture we mean is not one where everywhere school-child quotes John Donne; nor is it one where university newspapers devote their front pages to the likes of Elvis Presley. What Canada needs is more maturity, more intellectual awareness, more individuality, more scope. These qualities will follow more education, if it is the right kind of education.

The Canada Council has been formed to help give Canada a better education. It is only a partial solution to the problem. Far from excluding the participation in education of other governments and private organizations, the federal government's action will encourage it. But we have to help too — perhaps only by realizing what the problem is.

O.K., MAN, AT THIS POINT YOU CAN QUIT!



How GENEROUS CAN YOU Get!!!

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

... And We Beef!!

(from the Xaverian Weely)

University students around the world are going through one of the most trying periods of their existence. The current international mess has involved them deeply and they are being pushed around in countries which have not as yet been drawn into the hot-cold war.

The most obvious and certainly the most appalling example is that of Hungary, whose students, in a move to rid their country of the yoke of oppression, were so treacherously betrayed by the Russian government. The whole affair was a scandalously vile fornication of political morals, but the point of the matter is driven home to us all the more when we remember that it was the college students, like ourselves, who spearheaded the fatal effort and who even now are suffering the fruits of their unsuccessful try for freedom.

Another trouble spot where students are being maltreated is South Africa. Under the virtual dictatorship of Prime Minister Strijdom, pressure is being put on the universities to exclude native Africans from their ranks. Strijdom's "apartheid" plan is being forced on liberal-minded educational institutions and though the colleges rebel and flaunt the government dictates, they are being faced with legislation aimed against

them in an effort to bend them to the will of the Prime Minister.

His principles are immoral, and it is heartwarming to see the fight that the students of the country are making against him. Let us hope that they will prevail until the government changes or until Strijdom sees the light.

When we consider the plight of our fellow students we might well reflect on some of the things that "get our goats", and wonder whether we are entirely justified in some of our petty beefs.

APPLICATIONS FOR EDITOR

Anyone wishing to apply for the position of editor of the proposed student literary publication must submit written application to Ken Mounce, Council President, by Friday, Nov. 23.

The editor will be responsible for further investigating the possibilities of financing the publication. If the Student Council decides to go ahead with the literary attempt, the editor will be responsible for it.

The Council feels that this publication could fill a definite need on the campus. No rewards have been specified for the editor yet, but the principal one will be the filling of this need.

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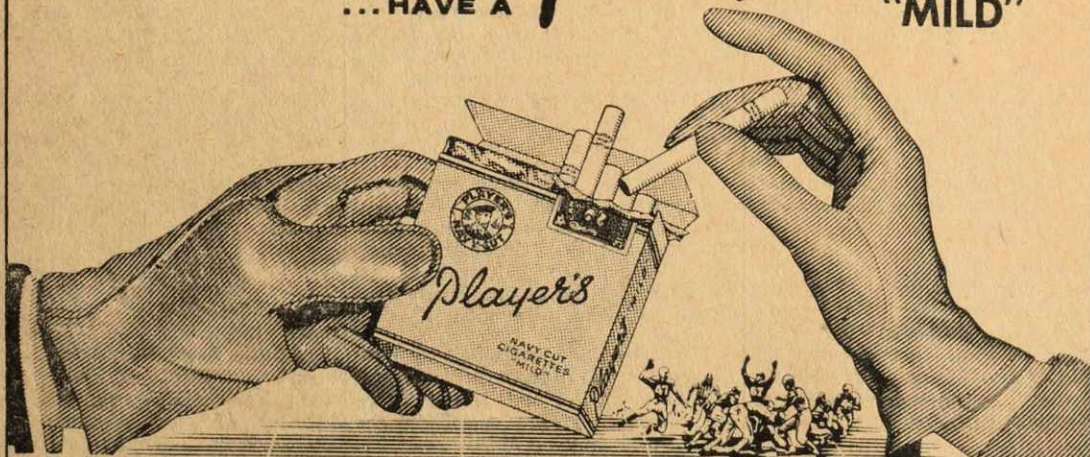
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