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the minor councillors

When a motion before the Council of Students comes to a vote the hand raised by the representative from Education has exactly the same weight as the hand raised by the President. Yet when it comes time to elect a new Council, it is almost always the case that even the members of the Education faculty (or any faculty for that matter) are more interested in the Presidential contest than in the election of their own representative. Indeed in the larger faculties it is always the case that the vast majority of the students are entirely unaware of the platforms and personalities of any other than the candidates for President and Vice-President.

That this is true becomes obvious after a brief glance at the "specific proposals" which the faculty candidates gave to the Gazette. In the vast majority of cases they are platitudinous . . . and in most cases they are utterly banal and foolish. The Editors refrain from giving examples only because we consider it fruitless to point out the worst of a bad lot.

We are more concerned with the reasons for the lot being so miserable. It is surely not because there are not any good people at this university who might serve on Council. It is not even because there are not any good people amongst those seeking election. Rather it is because it is clear to all, candidate and voter, that the Dalhousie electorate does not give a damn about the minor Council positions. Even those students who

are aware of the great value of student government are for the most part wrapped up in the race for President. They feel that they have done their duty to God and university if they manage to wade through the platform and biographies of the candidates for the top positions.

Yet the fact remains that on Council every members' vote is equal. Thus this lack of interest over the contest for faculty representative means that the Presidential platforms become almost totally meaningless. If a President is elected on a progressive platform at the same time as the majority of the Council members returned are arch-reactionaries, then he is helpless to implement those programs for which the electorate indicated a preference. Indeed he may find himself presiding over the initiation of measures which are totally opposed to the philosophy inherent in his platform. This is exactly the same situation that plagues our cities where the Mayor is often opposed by a majority of his aldermen.

Some people believe that the only solution to this problem is to bring a party system to the campus. The Gazette disagrees. We feel that it is quite possible for the electorate to create a like-minded Council if it becomes customary for candidates at all levels to issue platforms.

For this year it is the hope of the Gazette that every student (even those in the large faculties) will make an effort to become acquainted with all the candidates in their faculty.

black ball for the fraternities

All fraternities are invited to compete for a prize of one hundred blackballs to be awarded to the fraternity which has denied membership to the greatest number of qualified students over the past decade. There are indications that the contest will prove to be a close one. The superior students who inhabit fraternities have yet to tax the limits of their finite minds in inventing reasons for exclusion from their institutions.

Alpha Gamma Delta and Pi Delta Phi, the two female fraternities, submit the name of a pledge to an alumnus of a chapter located in the pledge's hometown. The alumnus investigates the community reputation of the pledge and sends a report to the Halifax chapter. The members of the local chapter then meet to discuss their personal impressions of the pledge as well as the alumnus report, and to conclude whether or not the pledge is to be classified as a social misfit. We wonder whether virginity is a basis for exclusion, not to mention creed, colour, or social status.

Sigma Chi created an ingenious scheme by which to exclude negroes. All applications for membership are submitted to the international headquarters located in the Southern United States. The application is required to state the racial origin of the applicant. Any member of the fraternity is empowered to blackball any other member in any other chapter in North America. The members of the Halifax chapter recognizing the futility of recommending negroes to their southern brothers; and so negroes are not invited to join.

Phi Delta Theta sleeps in the same bed as Sigma Chi. Ironically in the 1964 Pharos, the members of Phi Delta Theta are whiter than any other fraternal group that was photographed.

representation now!

The time has come for Dalhousie students to demand that the university authorities give us a voice in the affairs of this academic community. Specifically we must begin immediately to press for student representation on the executive committee of the Board of Governors.

Radical as this proposal might seem, it is absolutely necessary if we are to ensure that the concept of the university as a community of interests i.e. (faculty, alumni, students) is to become reality. If the brave talk of student leaders is to be something better than hollow mockery then the students must be represented on the governing body of the university. Officially that body is the Board of Governors; practically speaking it is the executive committee of that group.

It goes without saying that a university does not exist without students. By the same token a university does not exist as a community if one group (the students) is denied a viable role in the decision making apparatus of that university. If a university is not a community then it is a directed society dominated by one interest group, and as such is nothing more than a glorified high school.

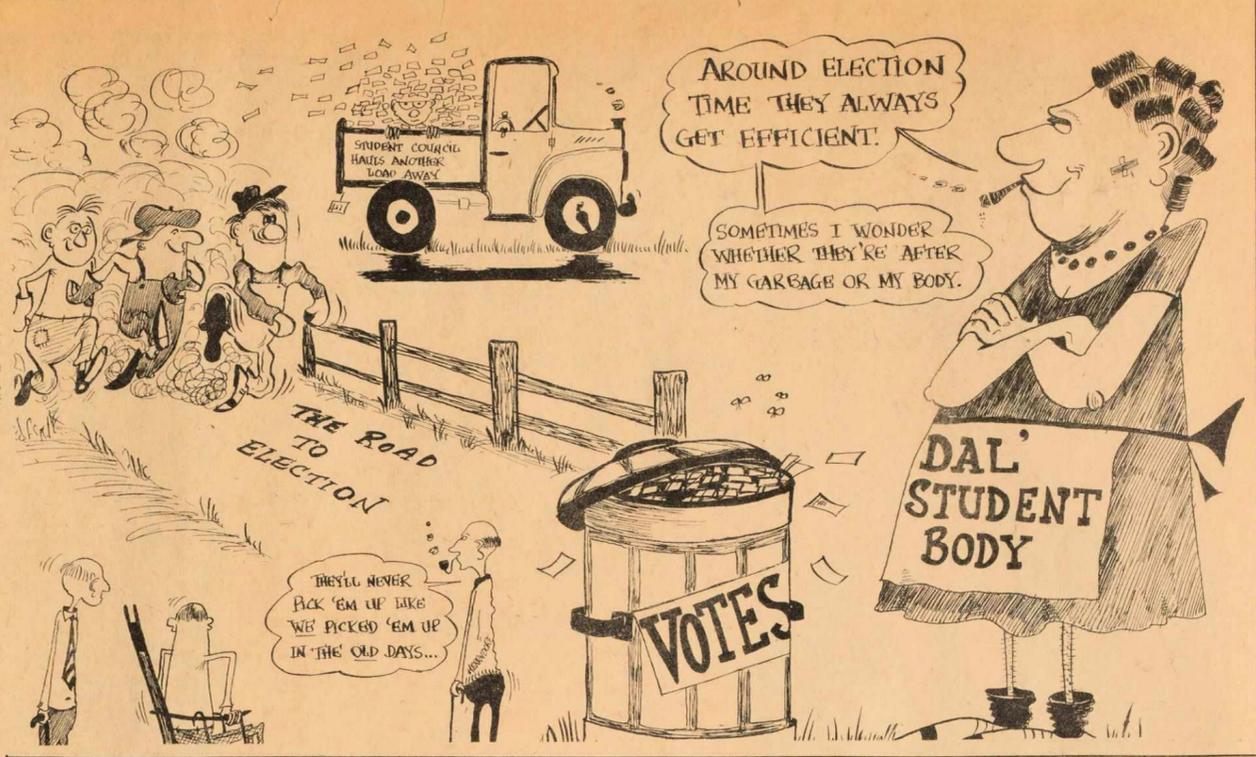
As well there are eminently practical reasons for placing a student representative on the executive committee of the Governing Body. As the university population continues to expand, and as the activities of the student union grow apace with it, then it becomes extremely useful for a liaison

person from the student body to be on this executive committee. Further if this liaison is to be effective the best political science principles indicate that it is imperative that the student be a full-fledged voting participant of this committee rather than a barely tolerated junior member who is sent out of the room when the bankers and lawyers present wish to discuss important matters.

Naturally these same arguments hold true for faculty representation on the executive committee and we look forward to the day when this will come about. At present it would seem more likely that since faculty members would likely be more "useful" to the committee they will undoubtedly become members of it sooner than will students. Nonetheless if the validity of the community concept is recognized then it becomes advantageous for the faculty to recognize that their fight for representation is essentially the same as the students' fight.

So far the students seem to have fumbled the battle. They have been content to leave it to the more radical members of the professorial staff. It is high time that we joined forces to convince the powers-that-be that the most sensible thing, from a conceptual and practical point of view, is to give representation to both faculty and students on the executive committee.

We trust that the incoming student council will put this matter high on their agenda.



ivory tower customers - who wins?

The next few years are likely to be crucial for the Canadian university community. As the cost of university education rises it becomes more and more urgent that this country find a new concept of higher education. If we are to avoid the obvious dangers of universities restricted to the wealthy then it is imperative that we put university education within the financial reach of everyone.

This means lowering the fees, that goes without saying, but it also means that an entirely new idea about university administration will emerge. Since it will no longer be possible to run the universities like business corporations then the influence of the financial magnates on Boards of Governors will be reduced with a corresponding increase in influence going to the professors. Already the Canadian Association of University Teachers is agitating for a greater administrative say and the trend seems to be in this direction. Certainly from the point of view of an academic community nothing but good can come from an increase in power for the academics. . . . i.e. the professors — and the students.

Surprised? It is not particularly common for North Americans to consider university students as academics — or indeed as anything other than over-sexed high school kids. However, if the necessary fundamental change is to take place in higher education in this country an essential prerequisite is that Canadian students mature to the point where they can take an active part in university affairs. This is essential if we are to achieve what Paul Goodman calls a "community of scholars" in which all parts of the university mesh together into a community structure . . . into a structure which by its very definition cannot permit one section of the university (the students) to be dictated to by any other section — administration OR faculty.

Of course, it has been argued, and argued well, that students cannot have a real voice in the policy direction of the university because they are too young to be able to make reasonable value judgements about that policy. The fear is that if the students were "running" the university the academic year would be mostly one big break for a continuous Winter Carnival. Students, it is said, are too immature to appreciate the necessity of their studies.

The problem here is that by not enabling the student to play a vital role in the university he is thus socially irresponsible and this irresponsibility hampers his education and may even hold over into "civilian" life when he is bewildered by the political process in the nation itself. After all, universities do not exist, even for those taking highly specialized natural sciences, as factories designed to impart countless numbers of facts to passive spectators. The learning process re-

quires participation and what is more it requires that each individual exercise a measure of responsibility in the community about him. People learn to think by being challenged; no one is challenged if he is being led around by the hand. Undoubtedly there are dangers in students exercising responsibility for university affairs; however, there are greater dangers if we lag behind other countries and refuse to change our concept of the university to that of an academic community.

Not that this implies that the students would be "running" the university, for this is patently absurd. Students are not equipped to administrate (nor are for that matter many of the faculty) and they haven't the experience to solely determine policy. But they can have a say in policy and for the good of the universities they should.

This means that the next decade must see very

dynamic student leadership across Canada. The right people must be found to serve on Student Councils. We are desperate for Council members who are capable of translating the aspirations of students into workable programs.

This week Dalhousie goes to the polls to elect a new Council. The immediate task of this Council will be to communicate to the administration by all reasonable means (including demonstrations like the one at Manitoba) the utter seriousness of "freezing the fees". The larger task of the Council will be to begin to logically work out the implications of the student community. It is imperative that all Council members, and particularly the President, be of the calibre to continue the professionalism which was the best part of student government this year.

On Friday we all have a responsibility to vote . . . to vote for greater responsibility.

Kings is for queens ...and princes

The Editor
Dalhousie Gazette
Dear Sir:

Concerning the editorial on King's of February 5, I would like to say that many of your observations are extremely valid, but that others are distortions, and overlook certain points.

First of all, I agree that the constitutional status of the student councils there is an archaic mess. It must be corrected. (At the same time I would remind you that measures are afoot to change things). There would be justification for the present method of choosing the Senior Student Council (President) if it resulted in better leadership. Having been on the King's student council a few years ago I know this is not the case. Furthermore, the Senior Student is placed in a difficult position because he is in part a representative of the university, thus compromising his responsibility to the students. Also, I am sure that the president of King's does not appreciate being thrust into such a awkward position as he now is by these antiquated electoral procedures.

Still, I must take issue with your conclusions. There would be danger of King's losing its identity and its student activities in any further amalgamation with Dalhousie. The students and the graduates of King's could not possibly consider amalgamation until this obstacle is overcome. Would Dalhousie be willing to maintain King's activities on their present scale? A more positive step to aid King's than amalgamation would be the elimination of the restrictions Dalhousie places on

King's whereby King's can register students only in the faculties of arts and science. Such a change would thus alter the fee-sharing arrangements between King's and Dalhousie, and would thus give King's a larger revenue, enabling it to improve its financial position, and ultimately might lead to needed improvements in the residence.

Your concluding statements, much to my regret, are rather biased. There is absolutely no basis for the fallacious assertion that King's students "tend to act like high school students", any more than there would be in making the same statement about Dalhousie students. Certainly, if the situation does exist it is by no means confined to King's. You state that King's students "seem unmoved by events that are shaking the university community", but it is rather absurd to put the Gazette in this category, as you do by implication. Furthermore, any King's student who wishes to "take a greater part in the corporate life of Dalhousie" (whatever that corporate life may be), can do so if they care to pay Dalhousie's council fees.

On the whole your editorial was much more objective than most Gazette editorials have been over the past few years. I am sorry that in the concluding paragraph you felt compelled to lower yourself with your banal and unfounded distortions. I trust you will be open-minded enough to print this letter.

Yours truly,
D. F. Chard

espionage student government

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE
By CARLTON STAFF WRITER GORDINI

P.H. stepped from the Air France, "Caravel" jet at Orleans Airport, just outside of Paris. Halfway through customs a tall striking blond wearing a customs uniform suddenly began fingering him in a most amiable fashion. Startled, P.H. boldly fingered her back.

As events transpired she was a Miss Leblanc, an operative working for the Committee on pro-De Gualist Terrorist Activities, code name ASPERGE.

But none of this was known to P.H. as he sat comfortably reclined in the passenger seat of the Gordini, his hand lovingly fondling her thigh. By dinner time neither P.H. nor the blond could take their eyes off each other; a crackling electro-magnetism had already made them one. She had suggested that they dine in the intimate seclusion of her uptown salon, but P.H. had preferred a quiet meal at the fashionable Parisian restaurant, Chop-Chops.

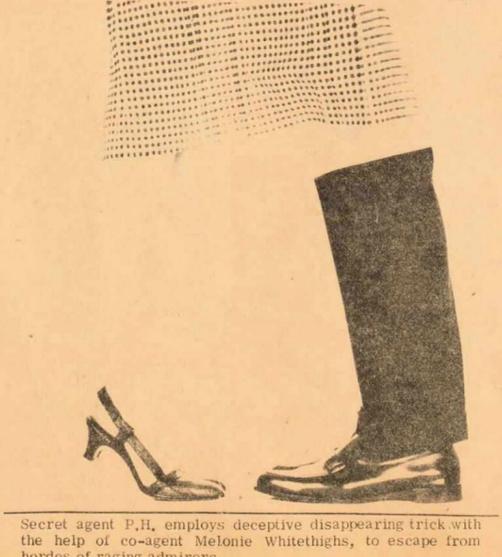
In a cloistered corner of the restaurant they sat masticating in quiet reverie, the candle-light glimmering on the highly polished arborite table-top. Halfway through the fourth course the blond knee moved imperceptibly beneath the table and slid knowingly between P.H.'s knees. There was a long moment of breathless expectation, it was like Prince Philip docking the Royal Yacht Britannia, then P.H. let his breath out in a long piercing sigh, "Oh Miss Leblanc" screeched his stifled faissetto.

At her apartment, P.H.'s pleasure began. While he watched, passion mounting in his breast, she put on a gigantic fur coat and slowly, tenderly, began to shower his quivering back with blows from a studded leather belt.

With the utmost delicacy and understanding she used her amorous skill to assist P.H. in his sexual pleasure. Wit agonizing deftness, she used dull kitchen scissors to remove his big toe. The cigarette butts that she laid against his solid thighs and buttocks, were laid with awe-inspiring tenderness. And finally, came the tempestuous consummation, as P.H. saw the bathroom ceiling dissolve to blackness, water bursting into his lungs, as she feverently held his head against the bottom of the over-flowing bathtub.

She smiled her broken smile, and began the fifth course, but was no sooner well under way when she let out a low piercing whistle, the sound of a whale breaking air, and slid to the floor. She was quite dead. Three inches of bamboo sharpened to a merciless point and fired with the force of a ten-pound sledge at the base of her spine had done the job.

"Dawn has been too hasty in coming," thought P.H., as he crawled weakly down the Champs-Elysee. But he was satiated, satisfied, crippled; it took one last final surge of reserve energy to get out the ringing cry: "TAXI!"



Secret agent P.H. employs deceptive disappearing trick with the help of co-agent Melonie Whitethighs, to escape from hordes of raging admirers.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Morleys article "We were wrong" offers the student body, pardon me, student union a positive opportunity which must not be lost. If the student council will not lead the students in protest over increased tuition fees, to the legislative buildings, then the Gazette is quite right in offering to step in and do the job that the "Herrndorf Herd" is failing to do, i.e. express the will of the students. The next move is up to the Council; let us hope they move instead of mull and meditate until the flood tide is past.

Yours truly,
Alan Dunlop.

Editor,
Dear Sir:

I would like very much to find out how the decision to abandon the Munro Day break was arrived at. It evidently was not done by student demand, and several Professors have expressed surprise and some dismay about it. Thus it seems that the decision to continue classes has been made solely by the Administration. There has not to my knowledge been any justification of this action which is at this time extremely unpopular with most of the student body. Is there a valid reason for dropping this valuable intermission, or is it another unwelcome example of the lack of communication between the students and Administration of Dalhousie University?

Yours in appreciation,
David W. English

