

President protects Dal's good name

Student Government History #59

Ever eager for controversy, university President Carleton W. Stanley issued a late January 1934 edict that hotel rooms could not be rented by Dalhousie students during dances and that Shirreff Hall girls had to be home from hotel dances by 2:00 a.m. Agreeing with Stanley for the first time, GAZETTE offered its support for this curbing of potential immorality and immoderateness. It was concerned both with public opinion and the danger to freshettes. A commentary compared this abandonment of laissez faire to Roosevelt's. A week later the paper was not so friendly after the "authorities" prohibited loitering and mixed badminton except on Saturday afternoons in the gymnasium. The front page featured a cartoon of women in shorts playing badminton with an inset of Carleton Stanley and a sub-caption "From the Motion Picture 'Dalhousie Scandals'".

The editors pointed out that prohibitory decrees "Smack of reform school methods which are anathema to university students - the latter being people who believe that good government rests in some measure on the consent and support of the governed." The author felt that the latest rule was neither defensible or possessing visible merit. Simultaneously the paper received criticism for its coverage of the dance rules. One writer felt that although undiplomatic Carleton Stanley did not deserve constant abuse from the students, especially when he was trying to protect the university's good name. It is interesting to note that unlike the situation during his first crises,

Stanley now dominated student's attention. There were no demands for Council action or for Committee of Nine involvement.

The Students' Council simply ignored the matter, dealing instead with the NFCUS cutbacks by re-committing Dalhousie to that organization. The year book staff reported that Pharos faced a \$1000 deficit but the Council said that is should continue since with the new low price all students would be able to buy it, and should take that opportunity after complaining about the price. It is in the letters columns of GAZETTE that one discovers the truth about the badminton controversy. It had been a student-Senate decision to enforce a prior student decision restricting badminton playing. In view of complaints the committees and Badminton Club had quietly agreed that badminton could be played at any time so long as badminton costume, not basketball costume, was worn.

As the League of Nations prepared to ignore the Ethiopian invasion over 150 students attended a forum on "Should Canada Pledge Herself To Maintain Peace By Force?" There was no vote and no evidence of a facile attitude towards the issue. Thinking ahead, the newspaper suggested that after 1933's nine hour extravaganza the Munro Day programme be shorter and permit people to come and go easily.

On February 25 Council heard that the yearbook situation was deteriorating. Two "opposition" members, John Fisher and Bob Stanfield, moved its abolition but lost by a six to five margin. Instead

Council decided that the senior class obligation would offset the loss and that the Munro Day programme would be mostly cancelled to lessen the financial blow. The good news was that loss of athletic equipment had slowed. Frightened by the Pharos news, Council made no grants in response to requests. DAAC was asked to make Badminton a major sport instead of tennis, since the season was longer. The newspaper instantly editorialized that regardless of anyone's desires the growing cost of Pharos would kill it within a few years.

Three days after that editorial, at a March 4 meeting that is not recorded in the minute book, Council voted seven to three in favour of abolishing Pharos. The book's Editor and Business Manager had stated that publication would be contrary to student interests. (All of the engraving and photographic work had been done by this time.) After Council had voted to save Pharos the university authorities and the Dental Students' Society had refused to support the year book, and apparently there was also a genuine ground swell of negative student opinion. Advertising sales had been poor. The 1934 Pharos would have been Dalhousie's eighth yearbook.

As the Pharos controversy raged elections were held in which, for the second consecutive year, there was little controversy and no close voting. The old Council relaxed and restored a full programme for Munro Day. An editorial concluded that Pharos had gone beyond the point of usefulness for its cost.

It was evident that much of the criticism had come from organiza-

tions who felt that their budgets were being swallowed up in the Pharos deficit.

Still vigilant to prevent waste, the outgoing Council spent much of March II trying Messrs. Barnsted and Kitz (Leonard) for taking football sweaters while a team photo was being taken downtown. There was reasonable doubt as to intent to "misappropriate" so Council merely warned all others of the dire penalties awaiting athletic equipment thieves. DAAC was censured for letting the Barnstead-Kitz incident happen through poor enforcement of instructions. Formal approval was then given to gym regulation through a Senate Advisory Committee and a Student Regulating Committee. The latter would represent DAAC, DGAC (Girls' Athletic Club), Sodales (debating), Glee and Dramatic Society, Council and Delta Gamma (women's social organization). The student committee would schedule events, with disagreements going to the Senate committee. Council also approved the committee memberships. It appears that Professor C. Mercer was a moving force behind the innovations.

Laurie Teasdale was chosen as 1934-35 president, the third consecutive Medical student. Audit of the 1932-33 Council revealed an \$800 loss. Despite Council urging the newspaper and year book staffs did not produce a graduation issue of GAZETTE. Concerned about favouritism rumours Council asked that choice of newspaper staff be subject to review. Horace Hanson lost to C.D. Rowlings for GAZETTE Business management. Hanson is now on the Board of Governors.



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Moshers *Cont'd from page 2*

Gazette as the editorial cartoonist. Since that time he has been the recipient of many awards for cartooning along with the distinction of being "Canadian Bartender of the Year."

Glen Allen notes in *MacLean's* that Moshers, "has no neatly packaged world view. In fact, his pen savaged right, left and centre alike."

His fine line, detailed drawings are "bracingly cruel" and "even-handedly malicious," writes Mordecai Richler in the introduction to the third collection of Moshers cartoons. Richler goes on to say that Moshers "is not only the most gifted cartoonist of his Canadian generation, but a man whose sense of outrage is informed by wit, style and commendable appetite."

Moshers's cartoons are both insightful and outrageous. He's the iconoclast who perceives the foibles of the high and mighty, the pretensions of those who possess fame and power. He protects the public interest with his pen, which is capable of ridiculing the best of them. He has drawn the Queen with pig's feet, Joey Smallwood sitting in a toilet, Ma Bell as a hooker, and Trudeau, "he's a slippery sonofabitch," as a fop. Moshers's work should not only be admired, but it should also be studied. Quite often, a Moshers cartoon will be a poignant commentary on society as well as being funny, savagely funny. Our noble Queen seems to think so.

This lecture/slide show will be the highlight of Communications Week at Dalhousie. For those interested in graphics, Moshers will also be conducting a workshop at the College of Art on Coburg Road at 1:00 on Thursday afternoon. A CBC special on cartooning will be aired on Sunday, January 18; it is Moshers's first national special.