

Slowpoke Reactor safe

by Donalee Moulton

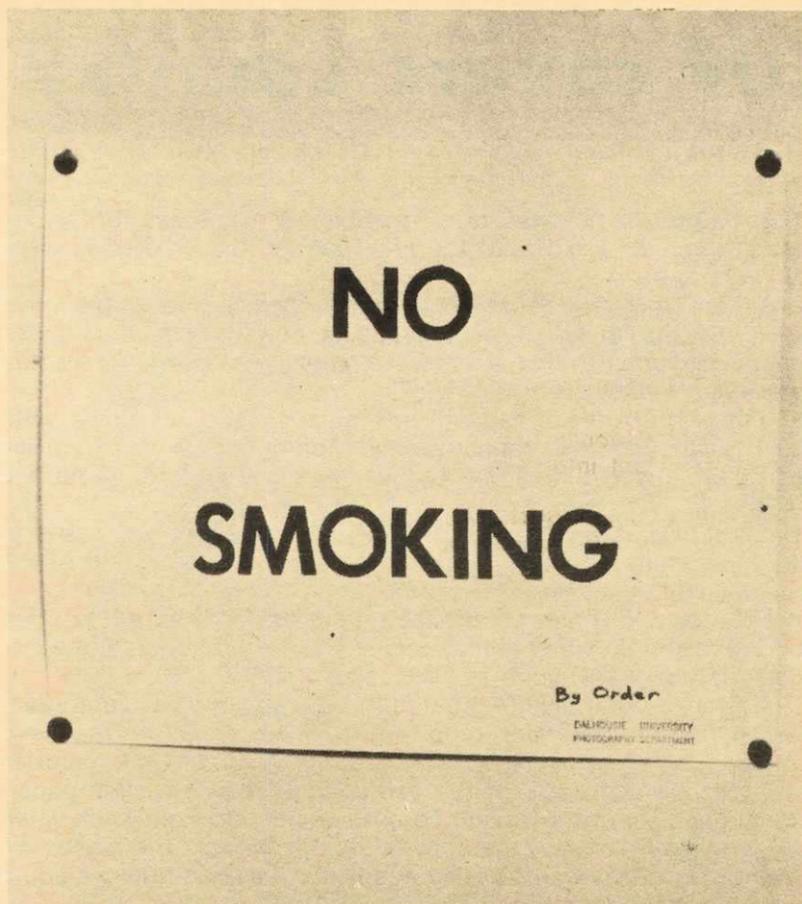
Last July 8th Dalhousie's nuclear reactor became operative. Beneath 15 feet of bedrock lies the nuclear core - a core which measures between one and one and a half feet. Aside from the manner in which the administration informed faculty of Slowpoke the greatest cause of concern was, according to Dr. Stuart, researcher involved with Slowpoke, there is no danger to the public from the radiation.

The highest level of radiation is directly over the core which is covered by a thirty inch concrete shield. A gieger counter when placed on this concrete slab recorded no significant change from what it normally registers when placed in a room with brick walls. The closest any unauthorized person can come to the core of the reactor is two stories up on the lawn in front of the psychology building. Radiation levels were measured here and read .015mR. After installation with the reactor working at maximum power radiation levels were again recorded and read .013mR. The decrease may be attributed to a factor such as weather, for obviously Dr. Stuart says if you install a highly radioactive device some radiation must be given off. The amount would not

decrease. The importance of the readings lie in the fact that they show the amount of radiation given off to be infinitesimally small.

All those who work with the reactor wear radiation badges which record the amount of radiation received. Dr. Stuart, who works most closely with Slowpoke, has, to date, no measurable radiation increase. A radiation worker is allowed to accumulate 5000mR per year. For Dr. Stuart this means in his seven years of radioactive research he healthily could receive 35,000mR. He has received 53.

The concern over the safety of Slowpoke is one that must be allayed by circulating more information and more public explanations. However there is another facet of Slowpoke which has been continuously ignored and that is its purpose. The reactor is run by TARC - Trace Analysis Research Centre. The object of a nuclear reactor is to make things radioactive. Once in this state it is possible to separate and determine all the elements contained in the sample. This information is useful in such fields as medicine. For example, trace analysis informs the researcher as to what elements are contained in a blood sample. One of



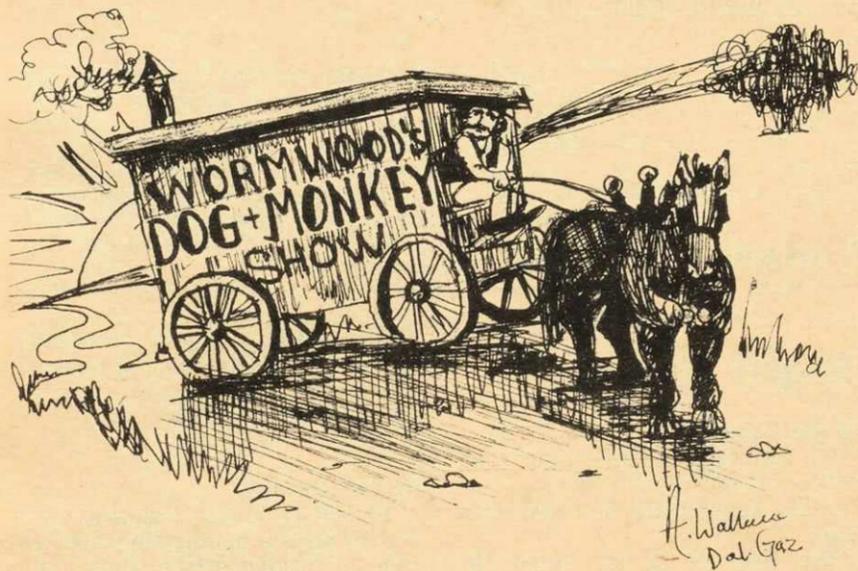
The decision to ban smoking in classrooms has met with relief from Non-smokers.

these elements may be a pollutant.

One of the major projects presently underway deals with Multiple Sclerosis - a disease with definite symptoms but unknown causes. The suspicion exists that it is caused by too much or a lack of trace elements, such as copper.

Trace analysis is also important to analytical chemists and oceanographers. As for students, plans are underway to arrange for courses which would include use of and involvement with the nuclear reactor.

Wormwood's film series



Gazette not apologizing

On Sunday 3 October the Dalhousie Student Council voted to bar Halifax Life from the Student Union Building. Council also voted to urge the university administration to not allow distribution rights on the campus.

Halifax Life will be distributed on the Dalhousie campus, but not in the Student Union Building.

Last Friday Vice President Andy MacKay wrote a letter to Halifax Life publisher Nick Fillmore informing him that 2475 copies of his publication could be distributed at several locations on the campus.

After first being refused distribution rights in the SUB, two weeks ago, Fillmore approached the university administration. In a letter

dated October 1st, MacKay outlined the conditions for delivery of the N. I. F. publication.

Also on that same day (October 1), Fillmore's lawyer Art Donohoe sent a solicitor's letter to John Graham the General Manager of the Student Union suggesting legal action if a series of conditions were not met. Donohoe's letter suggested that the 30 September issue of the Dalhousie Gazette contained material libellous of Fillmore, but the letter did not specify what was libellous.

Gazette Editor Allan Zdunich contends that the material printed in the Gazette was simply fact, "No one should be apologizing for the truth."

by Christine McLean

Every Friday evening at 7 and 9:30, at the National Film Board Theatre (just across from the Paramount) screen-buffs may view important but seldom-seen films presented by the new Wormwoods Repertory Theatre. \$5.00 membership for a month of weekly movies is charged by the Atlantic Filmmaker's Co-op which sponsors the cinema.

Co-ordinator Gordon Parsons, a member of the Co-op, concentrating on recent foreign works, seeks to provide for the public, movie enthusiasts, and particularly those involved in the local filmmaking industry, an opportunity to view artistic films of some international distinction. The Cinema, in existence since March takes its name from a turn-of-the-century Nova Scotian 'vaudevillian' travelling show, "Wormwood's Dog and Monkey Show", which included the significant pioneering film work of Edwin S. Porter. The new Wormwood's has enjoyed a growing response, drawing largely upon the Halifax student population for support. Often, as with the provocative Bergman film, "The Passion of Anna", shown last Friday, both screenings are sold out before showtime.

Previous to the establishment of Wormwood's, no non-university theatre dealing exclusively with these types of films has existed. This situation, according to Torontonian Parsons, is an unusual one in a city with such large student and professional sectors. He is looking forward to the possibility of setting up a permanent cinema operation in Halifax, but the costs incurred transporting films from central Canadian suppliers necessitates an expanded financial backing, before this past-neglected entertainment area can be given sufficient atten-

tion.

The knowledgeable Parsons has strong feelings concerning the role of cinema in Canada. He sees a national reaction to overexposure to American film and television taking the form of a "counter-consciousness." Highly critical of the excess of violence in American films and the general commerciality of the U.S. entertainment industry, he feels that Canadian audiences are more receptive to intellectual content and sensitivity to social issues in film.

Wormwood's repertoire is comprehensive enough so at least two of their monthly films should appeal to your tastes. For those who have yet to be pleasantly surprised, I can assure you of a cozy theatre, a receptive audience, and some of the best 'shorts' available. For October's selections Truffaut's "The Wild Child" (15th), and the black comedy "Deep End" (22nd), promise to be outstanding.

EAR VISITS JAPAN

Theatre of the Ear visits Japan

Theatre of the Ear returns tonight with its second show of their new fall season 'The Monsterous Spider' a Japanese Kabuki play written in the 18th century.

Written in the traditional Kabuki style the play deals with the attempt to overthrow the empire of Raiko by the evil priest Chichu, who in reality is the monstrous spider. Full of suspense, violence and intrigue the play should provide a delightful evening of aural gratification on CKDU.

Listen as the Monsterous Spider weaves his evil web! Thrill to the action as Sakata no Kintoki, Watanabe no Tsuna, Urabe no Suetake and Usui no Sadamitsu, under the fearless lead of Yasumasa, attack the horrible menace! Delight as Kocho soothes her tired lover!

All this and much much more, Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on CKDU. Don't let a good ear go to waste.