

# DALHOUSIE Gazette

AMERICA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

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## CONFESSIONS OF W.U.S.C.

W.U.S.C. at Dalhousie may look back upon the last twelve months with pride and with shame. Our record as a money-raising organization can, we think, be bettered by few, if any, groups on the campus. At the end of the year 1951-52 we had raised about nine hundred dollars, while this year over a thousand dollars profit was realized on the Indian Sale alone. This money is used for material relief to universities in South and Southeast Asia and to help a student on this campus who has come here from Europe. We believe that our efforts towards these ends were worthwhile, and we should like to thank all those who supported us. We believe also that "The Treasure Van of India at Dalhousie" gave us a glimpse of another country, and perhaps produced a small measure of understanding of its problems.

Yet we must confess that we have also failed miserably. What does W.U.S.C. mean to the majority of Dalhousie students? To many it is only a name, a new title for I.S.S. We admit that the most important function of W.U.S.C. in promoting among its members an understanding of world problems has been neglected. Only when through such knowledge the principles upon which aid should be given are established can W.U.S.C. render any valuable assistance.

At the W.U.S. Annual Conference in 1950, Dr. G. D. Parikh of the University of Bombay spoke as follows: "It is not the knowledge of the existent material needs of the university that makes us an important organization, nor again that we try to meet them. What is far more important from my point of view is the mode of satisfying these needs that we adopt, . . . the two aspects of the self-same principle, self-help and mutual service. Material help divorced from or not possessed of this significance can do little good . . . Let it (W.U.S.) render material assistance, so that the giver and the receiver experience their common humanity, their basic identity, and learn that concern for their fellow men is only an expression of their quality of being human; a function of life on a higher level of intelligence and emotion." Such a program as suggested above requires a real knowledge of world problems.

What has happened to interest in international affairs at Dalhousie? W.U.S. believes that only if an effort is made to promote such interest in the universities will Canada be able to send out worthy representatives into the international field.

We believe that it is W.U.S.C.'s task to arouse such interest. We ask those of you who are not interested in selling ivory elephants to come to discuss and to help us learn about world affairs. Whatever your faculty, whether law, arts, science, or engineering, W.U.S.C. is YOUR organization. We ask you to take advantage of it.

## THE NEW GENERATION IN YUGOSLAVIA

By NANCY CREIGHTON

The Croats were our first experience of the Slav people. Several weeks later we had passed from early Mass in Stepinac' former cathedral to the vibrant, monotonous of the Serbian popular singers, thence to the sad sevkalinkas of the Bosnians, the vitality of the Dalmatian coast of Croatia and the warm Italian gaiety of the Adriatic ballads, finally finding ourselves in the indifferent western atmosphere of Slovenia, still very much the Austrian province. As part of the W.U.S.C. (formerly I.S.S.) summer study plan we visited four of the six republics comprising, with two autonomous regions, the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia. From observation interviews with top officials, sight-seeing tours, and scanty private conversations we drew our conclusion about what the Yugoslavs are mostly doing and thinking.

A 'Sarajevo student expressed his view of the problem: "Most important is the struggle for peace. Some of us can dedicate ourselves to work. The basic question is where the youth of the world should cooperate." Their complete devotion to the god of progress inspired every one of these new workers. A glance at the situation of one of the fortunate groups in the country — the students — might make more clear what the Yugoslavs expect of us.

Their prestige is shared, of course, by other groups, but the students, with at least one fifth of their number party members, have an influence that will soon be felt as much deeper and more powerful. Technical students guide projects everywhere, new doctors and teachers meet peasants' and workers' families, the young mingle during their years in the army: the new religion will make itself felt, and with increasing force, in every home. For this our counterparts will be responsible. The priority in numbers and importance of engineers over other professions, also of veterinarians over other doctors, is a decision according to the standard by which all is governed; "the principles of a social democracy", or, in particular, that of the economic independence (NOT self-sufficiency) they hope finally to achieve.

The students are all automatically members of a national union which operates in the four universities, and is part of the larger "People's Youth" to which all belong. The non-student part of this body sponsors activities comparable to our scouts farm clubs, church social groups, YMCA, etc. The higher executive throughout the country are almost all party members or hopeful ones.

The requirements for party membership are three; the candidate must:

- (1) accept the teachings of Marx, Engels and most of Lenin.
- (2) pay a fee
- (3) possess outstanding qualities of character, attested by fellow students or workers, a point so emphasized that membership is a high honour and not easily won.

At the universities the party amounts to a fraternity of the intellectuals, who command most positions in clubs, etc., for which they are not paid unless they make a special request. In the southern, backward areas they help the peasants raise their "personal cultural level", which means giving hygiene lectures — how to build proper wells, that animals must not sleep in the cottages, etc. How the peasants respond to this treatment we were unable to discover.

A unique project of the Peoples Youth is the Reception Centres for foreign students, operated during the summer in all major towns. These centres, with their volunteer guides, directed from Belgrade, were our hosts, arranged anything we asked (postcards, medical aid, shoe repairs). Most local students do this some time during their free years. It improves their

chances of getting into the party, or, if they are known opposition, it insures their being left alone.

The big summer attraction is the youth Work Brigades, in practice the best way of fulfilling the third requirement for party membership. One month's work on a railroad, hydro project, university residence, etc., earns a free fortnight's vacation on the coast. We saw the railway express cars, covered with green boughs, carrying young, tanned people, singing their national songs. Students may win a resort vacation through their university: each faculty can send several students for a holiday. Here, and also travelling between home and college, they have a 90% reduction on the railways. Apparently none are denied college educations by financial troubles. The government pays all if they are orphaned. Others have a legal right, until graduation to the government bonus their parents receive per child, although we found that students from large families rarely claim this amount (household expenses are colossal high), preferring to request special aid, or receive some remuneration for party services.

Students apply to the Faculty they prefer, and if, according to "the Plan" there are surplus applications, they may apply to another faculty, or wait. All must take

the military science course, which exempts them from one year of the two-year program. There is apparently no compulsory political education course at university, although all "art" subjects are taught within the framework of their philosophical beliefs.

Our generation has known only its present heroes, those of the resistance movement, who have taken them from their Slav brothers in to a foreign camp. It welcomes them as a most desirable pawn in an international game, and challenges them with celluloid visions of jazz bands and gadget kitchens. Consequently they were most eager to show us first, their differences from the Russian "deviationists", and secondly, that they want recognition for themselves, as a nation with a unique culture that has been denied expression so often in their history of subjection and slaughter. Now, in their traditional pride, they refuse to engage foreign experts, which may prolong their misfortunes for decades. The young communists seem prepared to wait indefinitely, knowing that roads and bridges precede food and health, and that industrialization must increase much faster is even their present drab, defective products are to be produced efficiently. The people are often not so forgiving.

National feelings are so confused with the enthusiasm of the new religion that it is difficult to decide which exhorts them most. The most intelligent communist we met once remarked: "What if we do have to wait ten, twenty, or even fifty years. We were four hundred years under the Turks."

## WUSC 52-53 An Appeal For Ideas

By JOHN BROWN

The World University Service of Canada on the Dalhousie campus is nearing the end of another year of activities. On the national level, Guy MacLean, Sue Goring and Professor Berman attended the national conference last fall in Quebec City. Towards the end of February a Maritime conference is to be held at Mount Allison University. Dal's representatives at Sackville will be Laura Wiles and Don Young.

On the campus things got under way in the fall with the Black and Gold Revue, which featured Miss Audrey Farnell as guest artist, along with a group of student performers. This venture, an annual production is produced jointly by the Rink Rats and W.U.S.C.

W.U.S.C. sponsored the first dance in the gym after the new year. Proper international flavor was supplied by the flags of numerous countries and by signs which said welcome in many different languages.

New officers were elected in January to act till the end of the term. Sally Roper became president, John Brown, secretary, and Larry Jones, treasurer.

W.U.S.C.'s big enterprise of the year was the exhibit and sale of Indian handicraft.

For once the W.U.S.C. committee is making an appeal to the students of Dalhousie which is not for money. Of course money has always played an important part in the work of the W.U.S.C. and its fellow organizations, however merely giving financial assistance to those less fortunate students in Europe and Asia is not the sole or even the main purpose of W.U.S.C.

We should desire most to cooperate with students of other countries to promote mutual understanding, and exchange of ideas and culture. It is not just a case of the passing of material aid from our students to theirs. We too can be on the receiving end of a non-materialistic exchange.

The question now arises as to how this can be brought about. Some answers have been found. Seminars, lectures and international nights have been held in various Canadian universities. But what can we at Dalhousie do during the academic year to promote the aims of W.U.C. on the campus. We ask all those interested and who have ideas, to write to the W.U.S.C. committee here at Dal, telling us what you think can be done to advance our cause.

## Da Year

Da boids is singin' in da twees, (spring)  
 Da daffodils is smellin' nice  
 an' gone frum all our memories,  
 Is all do doity snow an' ice.

Th' wedder shore is gettin' hot, (summer)  
 for the mont' she is July;  
 I swelter N da heat, an' wish  
 An ice cream I could buy.

Twee leaves is blowin' pas' me face (fall)  
 An' I toss me football in da air,  
 An' as I turn me collar up,  
 I know dat fall is surely here.

Widder is upon us now (winter)  
 An I hab got a cod,  
 But Christmas is drawin' near,  
 Wid turkey, tough an' o'd.

J. D.

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