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far from home

There are over eighty foreign students on the campus. Their native lands are thousands of miles away; their homes, either mere memories or, perhaps, non-existent. They live and study in a strange country where odd customs and social relationships prevail. Especially, they live in an area of Canada where it has never been the practice of people to be overly forward in making new acquaintances. They will spend Christmas in their boarding houses or in their rooms in the men's residence, while we enjoy the holiday in the glowing comfort of close family ties.

Several years ago in the American mid-west a unique group was formed to increase international understanding, to advertise the American way of life and to give Americans a broader view of other countries by introducing foreign university students studying in the United States into the core of American democracy and friendliness—the home. The time the group chose as most advantageous was Christmas; the means were invitations from fellow students on the campus whose homes were close by the university they attended. It was tremendously successful.

It is now time that Canadian university students in general and Dalhousie students in particular undertake a similar project. A first step is being taken by the local council of the Friendly Relations with Overseas Students (FROS) which was formed in Halifax by local universities last Spring. The Gazette and other campus advertising media are being employed for the purpose of finding students who would like to invite a Dal student from another country to their homes for Christmas, whether for Christmas dinner only, for Christmas day or for the duration of the holiday.

There are valid reasons why we ought to support FROS and this project.

Firstly, as Canadians, we are often too close to national smugness while ignoring the true state of things in the modern world. Nations are on the march; nationalism is making demands for independence and prosperity. Canadians have an urgent stake in this process for, though in advance of other new countries, we are still groping towards a national consciousness of our own. At the same time, Canada's voice has been a respected one in the highest councils of world diplomacy. What an opportunity for us to meet intelligent and educated people from developing countries! What an opportunity for us as both Dalhousians and Canadians to introduce those who undoubtedly will be the future leaders of those countries to the real Canadian spirit and way of life and to our guiding principals of democracy and freedom.

Secondly, there is the personal advantage of meeting new people especially those from other countries (how many go abroad as tourists each year to achieve the same purpose?) in order to broaden our own outlook.

Thirdly, there is the spirit of generosity. This is the spirit that says: it is better to give than receive. It is the sentimental warmth a person feels from doing something—no matter how small—for another human being. It is the feeling you and your family will get from bringing a stranger into your home at Christmas to share with him your God-given peaceful life, earthly goods and human kindness.

Finally, there is your Christian compassion and love for other people who need your understanding and friendship while far from home at Christmas-time.

one world

A YEAR ago, this world was just regaining its balance after it had tottered on the brink of disaster. The flames of war had briefly lashed out across the sky and then died down again. They reminded us of the precarious peace in which this world exists. Hundreds had died, and thousands had been left homeless by the brief outbreak of violence. Many came to

our shores to find protection and a new home. They remind us who live in comfort and peace that we live in uncertain times.

THE past few months have stirred us by two particular incidents. We were wakened with uneasy feelings by the news of trouble in the southern United States, where violence raged briefly over the integration problem. And then one

week-end, we were shocked to hear that circling above us, around the world is a man-made object called the "Sputnik," the Russian-made Earth satellite.

THESE events have radically changed our outlook and ought to have shaken us who live in the relative security of Canada. As students it ought to have made us realize that we are dependent on the whole world. We live in ONE WORLD. There can be no irresponsible creeping into the corner and remaining hidden from the stress and strain of the time. We cannot come to this college and think only of training ourselves with the selfish view to a good job and a comfortable home. We are in one world and we share in the responsibility for this world. Perhaps we need to be reminded that we are surrounded by four world powers. To the north lies Russia; to the south, the United States; to the east, Great Britain and to the west, China.

WE are drawing close to the Christmas season and once again we hear about Peace, Hope and Joy. But Peace, Hope and Joy do not come by closing out minds and forgetting. The Christmas message, that Christ has come into this world has done some startling things to men. The first people who realized that they were confronted by Christ, those whom we call the Disciples, stopped to reconsider the purpose of their life. Christmas comes and confronts us with the same Christ as it did two thousand years ago. As students preparing to take our place in the world, we need to stop and consider the place we have chosen. May the warnings of our times and the message of Christ wake us to responsibility for this ONE WORLD.

letters to the editor

Dear Sir:

The problem of a new men's residence has come to the fore and we, the students of Dalhousie University, are anxiously waiting to hear of the administration's plans. But the fact remains that until a new building is erected and available for students' use, the present residence will remain the center of the Male populace on campus.

I would like for you to enter the men's residence in the near future and proceed to investigate the laboratory facilities on the ground gusted, alarmed, and nauseous, as floor. I'm sure you will feel as dis-I was. At the time, the first thing to enter my mind was, "Is this Dalhousie University? We should be proud of building inspectors and caretakers for the efficiency they show on our campus." If I was a potential contributor to a new Dalhousie Men's Residence and was approached by a solicitor for funds, my suggestion would be that the students be given a pig sty, as it may better fit their needs.

I would like to point out some of the deficiencies (to use a more polite word) that are present.

1) The odor of urine far exceeds a critical concentration and could be done away with by placing deodorizers on the ceiling or high up on the walls where the students can't get at them.

2) One of the two urinals is worthless as its many gaping cracks are a wonderful soil for bacterial growth. Don't patch it, replace it!

3) Let us investigate the so-called inner sanctum. As one enters via the mutilated door whose lock has been torn off, the artistic works of our weaker minded ones comes into view. I don't believe that some of this material would be incorporated in "Best Sellers" of our present day. Of course, no matter what is done to those walls, the etchings will always be present. My suggestion is — paint those walls every wee kif necessary, or else give the students something they will respect as being clean and proper (i.e. good facilities). Dispensing equipment is available and there is no reason for having to pick up a roll of toilet paper off the floor to use.

4) Having used the facilities, one now wishes to wash his hands. I suppose we should be thankful that at least there is water, but without soap it is useless. And, of course, when the "rusted" towel dispenser has paper you can dry your cold uncleansed hands. Green soap solu-

tion is perhaps the best bactericidal agent here, and combined with hot water and proper drying apparatus the individual will leave "cleansed."

5) The floor and walls are filthy. Try paint and regular scrubbing—said to work wonders!

Yes, Bruce, the men's residence is still with us, and I feel that perhaps it should remain with us, until such time as we can prove ourselves worthy of something better. Let action be our guide, not words.

Mitchell Levine,
DENTISTRY 2.

* * *

nuts

Dear Sir:

On the article in the Gazette about C. D. Howe and his appointment as Chancellor, I have but one comment, and that is to quote C. D. Howe: "Nuts."

I was led to believe that architects create. The "Architect of Modern Canada" became the "Architect of Modern Canada" by destroying parliamentary procedure.

Garth Trider,
Engineering I

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To Leadership Convention

The Law School Liberal Club met Thursday to elect delegates to the national leadership convention in Ottawa, beginning January 14. Chosen were Dan MacLennan (first year), and Don Hall (third year). Club president Bill Lewis will also be a delegate. Other law students also attending are Tom MacQuarrie, as representative of the Nova Scotia Young Liberals Association and George LeVatte as president of the Canadian University Liberal Federation.