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Kibitzer's Corner:

STUDENT ELECTIONS ARE FAR FROM INTELLECTUAL

By BOB SCAMMELL

The Toronto Varsity last week dusted off a combination of headline type that few newspapers outside Saskatchewan ever get an opportunity to use.

When the seven letters were assembled, a big, black headline in The Varsity rejoined: "CCF WINS".

And they ran the pinks up the pole at Acadia last week also, when the Democratic Socialists eked out 19 of 40 seats in the Model Parliament elections.

Here at Dalhousie, the CCF won 15 seats in the Law Faculty Model Parliament election.

Now if national CCF dopesters are anything of the ilk of the old line party dopesters, they will look upon the victories at Acadia and Toronto as mandates given them by the educated youth of this country—a mandate allowing them to proclaim "there is a resurgence of interest in true liberal principles in Canada, manifested by a mass march to the far left by hundreds of prophetic university students."

And that would be too bad, because somehow I think there are other reasons for the Socialist upsets at Toronto and Acadia.

A small amount of research has brought to light the fact that every party except the CCF at Acadia was led by a woman. Without wishing to incur the ire of any females hereabouts, I will say only that a party led by a female will not do well at the polls.

Hugh Gibson, the CCF leader at Acadia, evidently put in an effective 11th hour blitz campaign. CUP reports out of Acadia attribute the CCF success to "the desire of the students for something new, and to the intensive personal campaign put on by Gibson."

At Toronto, much of the credit for the CCF win was also given to the Socialist leader, Jerry Caplan.

Apparently the Toronto CCF has been campaigning intensively all year, and the campaign was cleverly calculated to reach a fever pitch the week before the election.

Caplan, with typical Socialist candour, said: "The voters were impressed and attracted by our platform and felt it was the only one to come to grips with the basic problems confronting Canada today."

Sources with a different bias (defeated party leaders etc.) claim the CCF victory was a reaction against the PCs, who have been in power at Toronto since Diefenbaker was knee-high to a fire plug. As a matter of fact, some visionaries even went as far as to say that the CCF voters may have been revolted by the "follow John" campaign practices of the U of T Conservatives.

I would suggest that the reason the CCF went in is the same at Acadia and Toronto. At both universities the party waged a tremendous campaign, and was led by a dynamic individual.

Ostensibly, the fact that at Acadia the other parties were led by women, and that at Toronto the Conservatives had been in power so long and may have made some small contribution to the CCF wins.

make him the equivalent of a high school "big wheel".

What makes the system even more intolerable is that the distribution of points is incredibly unfair. It is possible at Dalhousie to take the lead in the Classics play, and be president of S.C.M., the Arts and Science Society, the Senior Class, and any language society, and not get a single point.

In short, the "D" System is not only thoroughly inadequate, but also hampers campus organizations that might otherwise flourish, organizations that would reflect the real interests of students.

So let's have no more "D" 's.

We're Awfully Tired of Tiger-Takers

Little meeces have been playing cat and mouse.

Again.

The N. S. Tech boys have stolen a Tiger.

Again.

And now they want the Apathy Trophy for fighting our apathy in the same old, repetitious, apathetic way.

Again.

The Gazette has no objection, in principle, to intercollegiate rivalry of this kind. An exchange of pranks, if they are original and harmless, can add much to campus excitement and atmosphere.

But this theft, for so it must be termed, was neither original nor harmless. Not original because it was a repeat of a similar performance last year. Last year, that performance was amusing. This year, it is obnoxious. Not harmless because the burden of the Tiger's cost does not fall on the Dalhousie Student Body as a whole. For, at the time of the theft, the animal was not a Dalhousie Pep-Cat. It was to be presented to the Students' Council last Tuesday by Dal Engineers whose expenses (amounting to \$65.00, split seven ways) would have been suitably reimbursed upon that occasion. But now, with no Tiger to show for it, our Council can hardly be expected to pay off. So seven spirited Engineers are left holding the bag.

If Tech had waited until after the presentation, their action, however tedious, would at least have been excusable. But as the situation now stands, they can hardly expect our friendly sanction despite the March of Dimes.

If little boys must play at kleptomania, there are plenty of interesting play-things around Dalhousie to steal. But let's not empty the pockets of individuals.

Don't Give Us a "D"

It is so easy to look up to the campus Organization Men—those paragons of collegiate virtue. Grey-suited, healthy and ever-so-vital, they are dynamically building a wonderfully nebulous campus society, the kind the average man can easily sink his teeth into. Note that word "easily".

In this elite group, the specific nature of an activity is quite immaterial; what really matters is that you believe and belong. Thorough participation is the key to the well rounded college man. It enables him to face the cold, hard world of reality with an intricate knowledge of its social processes and the wisdom to align himself with them.

But there are more things in heaven and earth than conforming to the group, and it seems to us a little odd to make presentations to students for doing what they like to do in their spare time.

A current misconception associated with "D" giving is that one should be rewarded for having participated in a large number of campus activities. The reasoning seems to be that there is moral virtue in taking part in a wide social life and that we should therefore be motivated to that end by the prospect of student awards. That such participation may, by providing both experience and personal pleasure, be its own reward is a point not considered.

There is a very strong tendency for the student to spread himself thinly among several organizations, thereby amassing large numbers of points without achieving anything, either for the organizations or for himself—except that great sign of success and prestige, the Silver or Gold "D". Besides, if an individual is really active in, say, the Gazette, D.G.D.S., and varsity football, we suggest that the academic side of our well rounded man is not as strong as it might be.

The most common and plausible argument in favour of the "D" System is that it provides an incentive to maintain the framework of our campus activities. But it is our feeling that the intrinsic worth of an organization should in itself be sufficient to attract members and supporters. If it is not, then it might well be better for the activity in question to die a natural death, for it is serving only to detract from more rewarding groups. Besides its executive's love of office, the only mortar holding it together is our point system.

The unfortunate tendency of that system, then, is to detract from the worth of other organizations. The effect on the new student, newly arrived from similar arrangements in high school, is deplorable. He will naturally be attracted to those activities which will

LETTERS

...An Open Letter...

To the Student Body:

Prior to Christmas, at a meeting of the Student Council, I was requested to draft a letter for publication in the Gazette outlining the function and aims of publicity and co-ordination on the campus and to clarify some apparent misconceptions concerning these activities.

1. The aim of co-ordination on the campus is to regulate the usage of rooms for meetings and activities so that two affairs will not occur at the same place and time. As coordinator my job is to act as a liaison between the student body and the university officials on the clearance of rooms for such activities.

2. However, I do not possess discriminatory powers in so far as giving one meeting priority over another. My primary concern lies in the allotment of rooms. I have virtually no power to prevent some other group from holding a meeting at the same time elsewhere on the campus.

3. Since coordination and publicity (the production of posters to publicize campus events) requires considerable time to be carried out I require one week's notice on all meetings. Otherwise it is impossible to guarantee publicity coverage, and in some instances to clear the room for the meeting.

4. I can be contacted at 2-2327 for business concerning publicity and coordination and will be glad to help you.

Thanks for your cooperation,

Jim Boutilier,
 Director of
 Coordination and Publicity.

... Shucks ...

Sir:
 I must compliment you on your last issue. The editorial was excellent and timely. The rest of the paper was interesting and entertaining.

However, in one place you let your readers down shamefully. A frustrated wail can be heard every where. Who is that darling body—er—girl whose silhouette graced page four?? Surely she isn't a Dal girl. It is pinned above my desk, and in anticipation of your future issues (in color perhaps?) I have cancelled my subscription to Playboy.

Yours truly,
 "Breathless"

Ed.: What do you mean, "surely she isn't a Dal girl"?

At any rate, I think the national headquarters would be making a mistake were they to hail the wins at Acadia and Toronto as harbingers of the good things to come for Socialism in Canada.

Were they to do so, they would be making the same mistake that the national and provincial Liberal and PC bodies make: thinking that model parliament elections are accurate barometers of the public

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WANTED

IDEAS FOR MUNRO DAY!

What ideas have you got to offer about:

- The Programme in General
- Visiting Hockey Teams
- The Ice Show
- The Dance
- The Revue
- The Presentation of the Queens
- Interfaculty Playoffs
- Awards and Presentations

and most important

A New Attraction

that can fill the best part of an afternoon

Don't hesitate—Donate. The Committee needs inspiration, and you can provide it. If you have a brainwave bring it posthaste to one of the following committee members:

Bill Wilson, Nancy Rice, Norma Elliot, Fraser Dewis, Al Marble and Greg Murray.