

# Political Lollipop?

According to Gazette informats, newly elected Student Union President Bruce Gillis will name his Treasurer from among the ranks of his campaign camp followers; on the basis of political support rather than fiscal competence. The Gazette deplores any such move to make the Treasurer's office a political lollipop to be dangled in front of the faces of eager campaign workers and which would, in effect, reduce the Treasurer to playing the role of Presidential puppet.

The Student Union's Chief financial officer is responsible for the disbursement of more than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars which goes to support organizations of every political stripe from the Drinking Gourd Club to the Dalhousie Glee and Dramatics Society. This is certainly not the kind of power a political appointee should be able to arbitrarily exercise!

In seeking incumbent A. William Smyth's successor, Mr. Gillis should give priority to integrity

and bookkeeping ability rather than the applicant's political ties.

If he is to come from Mr. Gillis's flock, then it is only reasonable to assume that the Treasurer would owe his fealty to his benefactor rather than to the students whose interests he is to safeguard. He would lose any semblance of independence, possibly resulting in irreparable harm to the union.

In past years, the Treasurer has been nominated by his predecessor and automatically endorsed by the new President. Under such a system he need not be a mouthpiece for his chief executive; he can retain his political "virginity" - all that is necessary is that he be competent.

While the Gazette has had numerous disagreements with the present Treasurer, we have never had occasion to doubt his integrity. We hope that the same can be said for the new Treasurer.

# Editorial



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