

Dal's President Elect: Hon. H. D. Hicks

by IAN MacKENZIE

In 1936 a young man with an honors degree in chemistry arrived at Dalhousie to find out "more about the world of people and affairs than I had learned from studying chemistry."

Last week the same man, somewhat older, greyer and wiser in the ways of men, was appointed president of Dalhousie.

The intervening years had been kind to Henry Davies Hicks. A graduate of Mount Allison University, he spent a year at Dalhousie "studying very diversified subjects" ranging from Political Science to advanced physics, received his second bachelors degree and then left the New World for the Old to study law at Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship.

Although a student at university, Dr. Hicks says he didn't see in those days "the important part universities were to play in world affairs," and he admits he does not know when this realization came to him.

However, "I have firmly believed for many years now that the preservation of the Western Parliamentary Democracies is very closely bound up with a constantly improving system of education particularly at the university level," he says.

This concern for education was demonstrated when he became the first minister of education in Nova Scotia when the portfolio was created in 1949. This auspicious entry into politics followed a career in law, and he was to reach the height of his political power when he took office as leader of the provincial Liberal party and one of Canada's youngest premiers following in the death of Angus L. MacDonald in 1954. Premier for two years, Dr. Hicks finally quit the political scene after he lost his seat during the last provincial elections.

Considering his concern for education, Dr. Hicks feels "it was not an unnatural step to move from the public life of the province into

the university world," and he appreciates "very much" the way in which he has been received at Dalhousie by the faculty and students alike.

In an interview on the day on which his appointment was announced, Dr. Hicks said: "I am sensible of the great honor of being offered the appointment as the seventh President of Dalhousie and I know from experience with the university that the task will be interesting, extremely difficult and offering the highest challenge.

"I am anxious to undertake the task realizing that the most important components of the University are the faculty and the students and I am confident that with their co-operation Dalhousie will be able to maintain and indeed improve its position among the leading Canadian Universities."

Vice-president and Dean of Arts and Science for the past two years, Dr. Hicks has had time to observe the workings of the University in depth. He feels that there is a lack of cohesiveness in the University community. "The great need from the student point of view is certainly a student centre and this will be of the highest priority."

A keen sportsman, Dr. Hicks has the distinction of having been the only Canadian president of the Oxford University Boat Club—he was coxwain of the Oxford boat club while at the University and led his crew to victory over Cambridge in spite of being the heaviest coxwain at 128 pounds the crew had ever had.

Nor will the arts go unappreciated.

"I also believe that the provision of a decent auditorium and concert hall would provide the opportunity for University functions of a kind that haven't been common enough at Dalhousie," he says.

The future looks bright indeed for Dalhousie.



CUP COMMENTS

By Ed Schwartzberg — CUP Editor

Contraception is immoral and sex is a mess, says a London, Ont. church man.

Speaking to the Student Christian Movement at the University of Western Ontario, Father W. Ring told Students "It used to be felt that sex was in a mess because it was hushed up, but for the last 20 years it hasn't been hushed up, and it's still in a mess." Father Ring said the Roman Catholic church is not opposed to birth control as such, but is opposed to contraception.

Coming back after a disastrous road trip, the Tigers roared before and purpose of the sexual act," the churchman said. Every act contradicting nature is wrong, and contraception is evil because it is frustrating to nature's functions.

Father Ring said Christianity is the only religion which thoroughly approves of the body and that it glorifies marriage more than any other religion.

Man has a special dignity, a worth and a right to life, and the use of contraceptives reduces that dignity and worth, Father Ring said.

"What a lovely way to start a honeymoon—with a pocketful of contraceptives."

Since the obvious purpose of sex is the generation of offspring, and children need a stable, permanent, lasting society, sex belongs only in marriage, Father Ring said. The Roman Catholic church opposes fornication and divorce because they strike directly at the heart of marriage.

Drawing an analogy between the appetite for food and the appetite for sex, the speaker quoted C. S. Lewis as saying perversions of the food appetite are rare, but perversions of the sexual appetite are frequent. "If you went to a country where people sat to watch a cover being lifted slowly from a plate, to reveal, just before the lights went out, a mutton chop, you'd think there was something wrong with the appetite for food in that country," he said.

There must be something wrong for the appetite for sex in a country where people sit to watch a striptease show," Father Ring said.

U.B.C. EXPANSION

A report by the newly-appointed president of the University of B.C. has called for the establishment of eight colleges and another university in B.C. by the 1970's.

Cost of operating the increased educational facilities will be about \$111 million per year, the report says.

The report recommends a four-year college in Burnaby, about 25 miles from the present UBC campus, the creation of a new university at Victoria, and eight colleges scattered throughout the province.

Earlier this month, B.C. Premier A.W.A.C. Bennett announced plans to elevate Victoria College to university status.

The report is the first of its kind in recent years and limits the size of UBC to a student enrolment of 7,000.

Government reaction to the 119-page report is not yet known, but speculation is that it will be favorable.

SHEAF VS FACULTY

The University of Saskatchewan's colorful student newspaper, The Sheaf, has challenged the faculty of the university to have a go at producing a better newspaper, and has offered faculty members a full four pages, at no cost, with which to do it.

Comments such as "surely in 5,000 students there must be one who can write . . . and should go down to the Sheaf," and "Journalism is reserved for those with no talent, as can be seen by the Star-Phoenix (Saskatoon commercial daily) and its junior counter-part, the Sheaf," apparently spurred the Sheaf editors to issue the challenge.

"Your bluff is called," says the Sheaf. "May we hear from you?"

JEUNESSE MUSICALES REVIEW

By CHRIS STEVENSON

Once again I wish to emphasize the superior quality of the performances which reach Halifax under the auspices of the Jeunesses Musicales. An unusually mature performance was given on January 27th by the Canadian Trio, a group with wider experience and a somewhat more sophisticated manner than most young artists.

A brief introduction by pianist Pierre Hetu preceded the opening work, Locatelli's Sonata in G Major. This was a graceful, lyrical trio in which the brilliance of the oboe tone was particularly notable.

Simard's technique was especially outstanding in the Romance by Schumann and the Pastoral Fantasy by Bozza, both works for oboe and piano. While the Schumann served to demonstrate the oboists' consistently smooth, singing tone, the Bozza was an amusing and lively display of his technical virtuosity.

It was interesting to compare and contrast the Germanic baroque style of the Quantz Trio Sonata in D Major with the more lyrical Italian baroque style of Locatelli. A remarkable balance of tone was achieved by the flute, oboe and piano throughout the four movements.

Andre Prevost's Triptych displayed some rather infrequently used qualities of the instruments: notably the lack of vibrato in the oboe and the flutter tongue in the flute. Though harsh and strident, the melody in the first movement was not unpleasant; nor were the weird effects of the second movement and the hilarious runs of the third.

After Hetu's interesting commentary the flute's technical problems in the work, we heard Miss Grimstead in the Poulenc Sonata for flute and piano. She played well, sustaining a lovely tone although her musicianship seemed neither so sure nor so brilliant as the oboist's.

The program concluded with Two Interludes by Ibert. The audience was sufficiently impressed with the jocular quality of the Ibert and with the high level of musicianship evinced by the three members of the trio that they called for an encore. The Trio chose an arrangement of a wind quintet by Ibert, called "Three Short Pieces," a light hearted conclusion to an excellent concert.

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