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Table with staff names and titles: MICHEL GUTE (Editor in Chief), DAVID DAY (Associate Editor), PETER SHAPIRO (News Editor), MICHAEL WALTON (Features Editor), LIZ ALLPORT (Circulation), JAMIE RICHARDSON (Sports Editor), LES COHEN (CUP Editor), BOB CREIGHTON (Business Manager), DAVE MUNROE (Photo Editor)

On VicePresident Buntain

The Gazette feels that Council Vice-President Bill Buntain has failed to adequately represent his student constituents, and thus has failed in his elected responsibilities.

Here it is not significant that Vice-President Buntain last year earned recognition for his dedicated contribution to Dalhousie Athletics, (including a trophy from the Gazette), nor that he has proved himself a valuable asset to the medical school.

Rather the Gazette has considered his contribution to the general student body, as a Council executive member, Buntain was an important factor in President Herrndorf's election, and last year secured his own position at the polls by garnering a 70 per cent majority against candidate Dave Major.

Much of Buntain's support was due to an election promise to complete a detailed report on the Athletic Department. While refusing to comment on the progress of this report - (already two months late) - his attendance at Council meetings barely met the constitutional minimum require-

ments and his contribution to those few meetings was negligible.

We don't deny Buntain's competency within the present framework of Student Government, however, we suggest that as Vice-President, he has obviously and completely failed in his present position.

The Vice-Presidency must become essential on Council, with the Vice-President himself prepared to assume the responsibilities of President; in the past however, Council President Herrndorf, when absent, has given his authority to a two year Council member Eric Hillis.

The Gazette suggests that Vice-President Buntain is neither sufficiently aware of Council policy, nor prepared to find the time to carry out his duties, effectively.

Student government responsibility is to the student constituents and thus the Gazette feels justified in concluding that if Vice-President Buntain is not providing that representation, then in showing a similar dedication to the University as in past years, he must resign immediately, with a considered recommendation for his replacement.

Perhaps you might bend your IBM Card Just a Little

"There must be one interested student here," muses the professor, as he recites his hour of yellowed notes to two hundred yellowing faces.

"There must be more school spirit than this," grunts the indignant football fan, as he washes down another potato chip with cavalier slug of "Golden Glow".

"There must be something that'll shake them up," repeats the student leader, eagerly awaiting inspiration.

Without that panacea of failure, the all inclusive word "apathy", how else could so much boredom be acceptably explained.

We have no "school spirit" because we have no school. A university is no more than a collection of creative elements - and when a single component fails to regenerate then the whole is destroyed - and apathy becomes not the prelude of a poor university, but the result of a university's failure to create.

"Spirit" is more than wearing a black felt jacket, with a gaudy Bengal tiger pasted between padded shoulders - and more than cursing at a football referee. A university spirit is nothing but the intellectual imaginative and emotional expression of its minds.

We rightly deny the presence of this spirit - and thus we rightly admit the absence of this expression.

Dalhousie has become flabby and lethargic with students - not "investing" in the creation of expression of their intellect - but rather, investing in the world of tomorrows suburban houses and PTA dues.

It has become farical to describe Dalhousie as an opportunity for assimilation and experimentation - as an inspiration of creative freedom.

Kudos & Soggy Pretzels

(Ed. Note. The first in a series of evaluations of Council members. The Gazette invites all students to attend Council meetings, to see their own representatives, and make their own judgments, Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Rm 130 A & A).

PETER HERRNDORF Council President The Gazette has been accused of partisanship towards the Council President, of "feeding Herrndorf's egomania." We do not hesitate to state that our policy has been, and will continue to be, the support of what we believe to be the interests of Dalhousie students.

The Council President's responsibility is to provide communication between students and the Administration, to initiate new ideas, and to provide the most effective framework for student representation.

Herrndorf has emerged on the local student level as a competent, and politically acute representative of student views; on the student-Administration level, a respected communicator of these views; on a Maritime level, has made Dalhousie the most significant Atlantic University power.

Having created definite office hours, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., every afternoon, having instigated a delegations period for student complaints, and having communicated a definite philosophy of student government, Council has over the year improved from atrocious to bad, with occasional moments of enlightenment.

While being partly responsible for the expensive failure of Homecoming Weekend, Herrndorf also

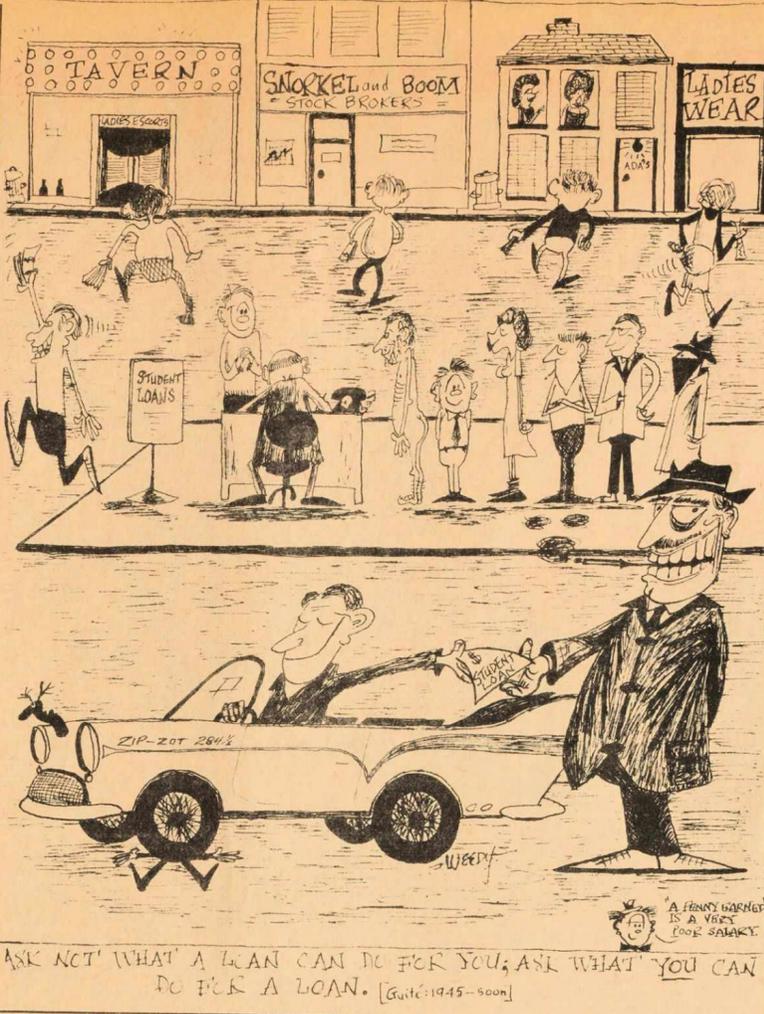
instigated the successful student Housing Plan, and took an active interest in the coming Winter Carnival; the Gazette continues to support these policies of more liberal spending, and maintains a respect for such original ideas.

While having been validly accused of "Daddyism", Herrndorf is the primary instigator of Constitutional Revisions Committee - a further development to leave a lasting impression on student government at Dalhousie.

Our communications with the Administration have been continually improving. The Board of Governors have at last, after fifty years, seriously considered student pleas for a Student Union Building, while both Senate sub-committees and the Alumni Board have called for student members.

On a regional level, Dalhousie has played a vital role in the formation of the Association of Maritime Students, with Herrndorf, as was shown at the recent regional conference, with easy access to its leadership. On a National level, Dalhousie has for the first time in several years been represented on the crucial five-man finance committee.

The Gazette then feels that significant improvements are being made at Dalhousie, perhaps only bringing student government and activity up to the level of other Canadian campuses, but still significant, even if long overdue. The Gazette then presently extends full support, to one of the four Council members who is properly, and responsibly, carrying out his duties to the students.



Cross Canada Editorial Opinion

thwarting student thieves

Editorials in Canadian campus newspapers this fall roundly criticized the Canada Student Loan Act or at least labelled it insufficient.

Hurried through Parliament in time for students this year the plan provides loans to the under-graduate at a maximum of \$1000 per year, and a total of \$5000 during his college career. Repayment begins 6 months after graduation at 5 1/2 percent.

Controversial comment on the loan plan began when the Varsity at the University of Toronto ran a story claiming that students were using federal loans for investments, or spending it on fur coats, sports cars and trips to Europe.

The survey followed a charge in the House of Commons by Alvin Hamilton (P. C. Qu'Appelle) that students were investing federal loans in bonds and intended repaying the government before interest charges began.

Varsity reporter Robert Block, who conducted a survey, attributed the student attitude toward government loans to an "indication of the growing belief that university education should be free."

Andrew Szende, a Varsity reporter, balked at the survey, calling charges of misuse of the loan plan "malicious slander. They not only accuse the students of fraud, but cast doubts on the integrity of the entire academic community," he said. He added he believed the number of people cheating represented less than one percent of the total granted loans.

Several campuses, however, reacted to the Varsity allegation with similar editorial comment. "University students are not to be trusted," said the University of Victoria's Martlet. "If they can cheat and get away with it they will."

"It seems this large amount of money, easily obtainable from the government, is too irresistible for enterprising students of Canada," stated the Ontario of the University of Guelph. Some editorials claimed the federal loans were an inadequate remedy for the financial problems of students, or that they discriminated against the neediest students.

The Gantlet at the University of Alberta, Calgary, called the program a "step in the right direction" but recommended a system of federal and provincial scholarships designed to completely remove the financial burden from all students qualified for university.

The Varsity referred to loan plan criticisms from a University of Toronto Students' Administrative Council brief: "Loans fail to encourage students from low-income families to attend university since such students are most likely to fear indebtedness."

"Loans force students to mortgage their future" and concentrate on a high paying job after graduation, emphasizing the economic aspects of university education at the expense of the more important aspects. "Since the loans should have

fairly little appeal to extremely low-income groups there seems little danger that a rich kid who doesn't need a loan will, by taking one, deprive a poor kid who does," he added.

The loan scheme was meant as a panacea, but it has succeeded mostly in underlining the fact that higher education is mostly reserved for the rich," said the Martlet.

An editorial in the University of British Columbia's Ubysses stated: "The federal loan plan is a start in getting better education in Canada. If somewhat misdirected. We still like to hold Prime Minister Pearson's election promise of 10,000 \$1,000 scholarships over his head."

The Ryersonian at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute said most foreign students are ineligible for aid under the federal loan plan, and suggested a program of financial assistance for foreign students not on an exchange program.

Two university newspapers expressed a preference for provincial loan schemes.

The Ontario pointed out that

nine provinces had student loan plans which were discontinued this year in favour of the federal loans, with a full year after graduation before repayments began and a four per cent interest rate, "and suggested the federal money should have been allotted instead to the universities.

The Varsity's Andrew Szende said the Ontario plan, supplemented by a similar loan plan by the university itself, was "successful" and that the federal loan scheme was, for the University of Toronto, "one step forward and three steps back."

One favourable comment came from the University of Waterloo newspaper, Coryphaeus, which claimed that increased cost of education and the academic load have "practically eliminated the idea of the self-made man who earned his way through college washing dishes."

"With the increasing rate of technological advancement society can ill afford to leave large segments of its population uneducated. Parliament has taken steps in the right direction. Now, it only the provincial government would see the light," it concluded.

a long view of the Chinese bomb

By PHILLIP ABELSON, Gazette Science Reporter

First official Washington comment on the significance of the recent Chinese detonation correctly indicated that new short term hazards have not greatly increased but it did not adequately recognize some longer term problems.

Only a few facts are available to help one in evaluating the significance of the Chinese detonation. The atomic energy commission has stated, "Additional evidence on the Chinese Communist test of October 16 indicates it was a fission device employing U-235..." and, "United States intelligence has always led us to estimate that the Chinese Communists were constructing both plutonium production reactors and gaseous diffusion isotope separation facilities."

Production of weapons grade uranium 235 as an impressive technological achievement indicative of considerable industrial capability.

Successful construction and operation of a gaseous diffusion plant capable of producing substantial quantities of weapons grade U-235 requires both material and skill. Such a plant contains more than a thousand individual units connected in series. Each unit must be constructed with precision - small imperfections can destroy their effectiveness. Moreover, special metallurgical techniques must be available.

After the units are assembled their performance must be monitored, controlled and integrated.

The author is editor of Science, a weekly publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, from which the accompanying article is reprinted. He is also a distinguished physicist, director of the geo-physical laboratory of the Carnegie Institute, Washington, D.C., consultant to the National Aeronautics, and space Administration and member of several advisory committees to the atomic energy commission, and other federal agencies. He has received the distinguished civilian service medal, and other national honours.

This required a great deal of electronic instrumentation.

A technically incompetent people could not have succeeded in producing weapons grade U-235 without massive help. The French, after six years, have not yet announced production of highly enriched uranium. Nevertheless, the accomplishment was not surprising to many United States scientists who have had contact with individuals of Chinese extraction and have known of their first class aptitude for science and technology.

When a nation builds a successful gaseous diffusion plant it gains great flexibility in nuclear technology. A plant which can produce weapons grade U-235 can be tapped to yield uranium having almost any U-235 content.

In the United States nuclear power reactors often utilize material containing U-235 in the range of 1.5 to 4 percent. The Chinese have the option of producing such uranium. Problems of constructing such a reactor are greatly simplified when enriched uranium is available.

When ordinary uranium is used together with graphite, great care must be taken to avoid loss of neutrons either to nuclear poisons or through escape from the reactor to the shielding. With enriched uranium, reactors may be smaller and a wider variety of construction materials can be used. Thus, with enriched uranium, the Chinese have available more options in designing reactors for efficient plutonium production or other purposes than they would otherwise have.

More serious is a greatly enhanced capability of producing tritium, a key constituent of thermonuclear bombs. Tritium is often produced by the reaction of neutrons with lithium 6. Introduction of lithium into an ordinary reactor tends to stop the chain reaction. This tendency can be overcome by introducing enriched uranium. If the Chinese do not now possess quantities of tritium they can now obtain it.

In view of the Chinese achievement thus far there is no basis for hoping that they will not achieve a hydrogen bomb perhaps in the latter part of this decade.

Another member has joined the nuclear club. He already has impressive credentials, and his long term potentialities should not be underestimated.



full time university pros and cons

By JOHN MacFARLAND Ottawa Correspondent

A variety of often conflicting facts and opinions on the year-round operation of universities was presented to an attentive audience of Canadian university administrators last week.

Members of a five-man panel each presented lengthy papers to the National Conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges. The papers were based on a variety of factual information and opinions both for and against the adoption of the system.

The question of year-round operation - that is, teaching a full schedule of lectures to full-time students for a minimum of 40 weeks a year - is one which has, for the most part, been discussed behind closed doors in Canada. But, with skyrocketing enrolments and financial problems, the year-round question has forced itself on the attention of universities - often meeting strong opposition.

Four speakers appeared to favor the year-round system, although only two would admit to their opinions. Edison Montgomery, vice-chancellor in charge of planning at the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. H.D.B. Wilson, chairman of a special presidential committee studying the system at the University of Manitoba, openly favored the year-round setup. Pittsburgh has been operating on a year-round basis since 1959.

Mr. Montgomery said the Pittsburgh system has worked and produced many advantages, one of the most important being a thorough re-examination of courses and curricula. Although such an examination was planned in any event, he said, the adoption of the trimester system forced the study which led to elimination of scores of courses and changing of others.

Mr. Montgomery said Pittsburgh's three terms of 15 weeks each have allowed fuller utilization of the physical plant and have started to change the university attendance patterns of students. A by-product of the change, was the elimination of about 50 percent of the final examinations as a means of grading students, he said. He reported increased use of term papers, essays and library facilities.

But, many of the opinions expressed or implied by the Pittsburgh representative were contested by Dr. B.A.W. Jackson, a McMaster University English professor and chairman of a Canadian Association of University Teachers' (CAUT) Committee which investigated year-round operations. Dr. Jackson's report, which sounded several warnings against the dangers of the system, came under fire from the other speakers. Dr. Jackson said the report was lacking in facts because few facts exist, although opinions are rife. He said the study revealed that while administrators from United States universities using the trimester system, he said, their opinions indicate an enlightened and informed concern for academic standards.

The strongest attack on Dr. Jackson's report came from D.C. Webb, director of research for the independently operated Canadian Foundation for Educational Development. After stating that he neither favored or disliked the year-round system, Dr. Webb said several misconceptions exist concerning year-round systems. They included the belief that summer schools and graduate summer work constitutes full-time operation, that faculty members would have to teach year-round and that students would be expected to attend full-time.

Dr. Webb said two extreme reactions to year-round plans must be rejected; emotional opposition based on a fear of the academic disadvantages, and the opposite view that it is more efficient and should be applied to all universities.

Dr. Webb said most of the mechanical problems of implementing the system can be overcome, particularly because the universities have on their staffs some of the most highly trained and competent people in the country. He countered the argument that students need the summer months to earn money by suggesting that student aid must be increased no matter what system is used. He said chaos will prevail by 1976 if an estimated half million university students descend on the labor market at one time.

A strong case for a year-round system was made by Dr. Wilson, although he criticized most of the existing plans. He said arguments that universities are not making efficient use of the physical plants weaken when it is known that the University of Manitoba uses its facilities 49 hours a week from September to May - 18 hours a week more than government agencies and 50 per cent more than public school systems.

Dr. Wilson said his committee rejected conventional plans for the U of M because they involved little financial gains, the possible reduction of courses offered and the existence of a student surplus.

But he stirred the interest of administrators by outlining a possible plan which would take into account Canadian conditions. He said the committee concluded that the present system used the teaching staff more efficiently and the year-round system uses the plant more efficiently, so a system was sought to combine the advantages of both.

The proposed system would provide three terms of 14 weeks each, accelerating students through a normal three-year course in two years. Noting arguments against acceleration, Dr. Wilson said students could attend for three terms, take a year off, and return for another three terms, completing a degree course in three years and allowing capital savings of 50 per cent. He said this plan is still being investigated.