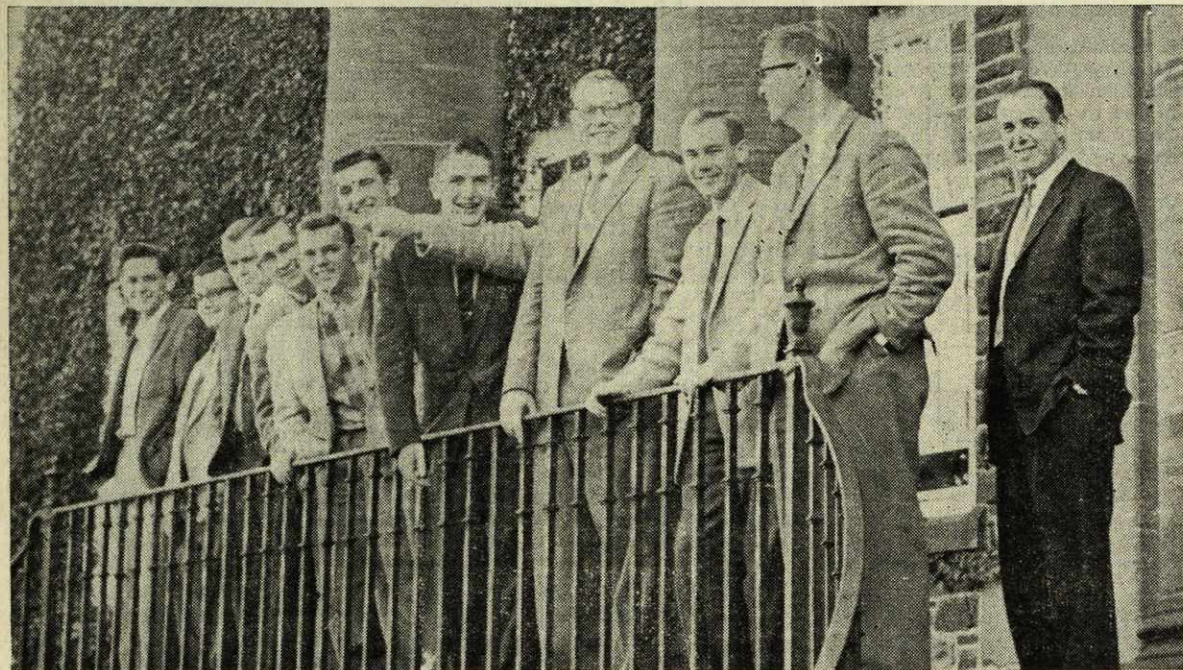


# OUR HALLOWED HALLS OF LEGAL LEARNING

by JIM HURLEY

When ordinary, undergraduate Dalhousians pass the Law School, it is not uncommon to see a few law students leaning over the iron rail at the top of the steps and smiling benignly as the rest of the campus goes by. As a result, one often regards the Law School as an ancient edifice made sacred through years of use, but this is wrong.



(Photo by Acker)

Although the chair of law was established at Dalhousie in 1883 with \$40,000 from George Munro, the building now occupied by the school was built in 1921, and the

lawyers-elect only entered it in 1952. The building has an office for the dean and seven offices for professors. In the basement there is a seminar room and a common room. How-

ever, there is only one class room in the building, the Moot Court Room, which is on the main floor. The Moot Court is an institution as old as the law school in which students get a little practical experience in conducting legal cases.

The entire top floor of the school is the law library. This is a bright room with a tall, vaulted ceiling that gives a feeling of airiness. The library includes 32,000 volumes, although some are stored in the basement of the Arts and Administration Building because of the lack of space. At the present time, the library is being reorganized with funds from Lady Dunn. This reorganization started on January 1, 1959, with the appointment of Miss Beeson as the first Sir James Dunn Librarian, at which time the regular staff was increased from one person to four. A new catalogue system is being composed to bring order to the books in the library.

On special occasions the library is turned into a lecture hall for a visiting dignitary. Also, each year, it is turned into a Mock Parliament so that the students might get some practice in the functioning of our parliamentary system of government. Dean Read of the Law School said that "Dalhousie has taught its men that a legal education fits them for public leadership and that they have a responsibility to use it for more than mere money making." A perfect example of the Mock Parliament training a student in the functioning of our government was R. B. Bennet, who was once Conservative Prime Minister in the Mock Parliament and later became the real thing.

The Dalhousie law school has always stressed that they want their graduates to be thinking men, and it is because of this that they can claim so many eminent Canadians as sons. Richard Chapman Weldon, the first dean of the Law School, said: "In our free government we all have political duties . . . and these duties will best be performed by those who have given them most thought." It is to encourage independent thought that the school has adopted its famous "intimate" atmosphere that allows the students to talk and have discussion with their professors.

To many people, Dalhousie is the Law School, and all Dalhousians have reason to be justly proud of it.

## Rink Staff Replies

# LACK OF EQUIPMENT HAMPERS WORK

"Heap big smoke and no fire"—these words seem quite applicable to the general trend of student affairs on our campus. We are willing to condemn this society for inactivity, and that society for lack of initiative, and at the same time, imploring, beseeching, and begging the student to do his share in the cause to abet this deplorable situation, commonly called apathy. It takes only one person of influential standing to criticize some form of student activity, and all of us make a mad rush to climb on the bandwagon. Do we stop to analyze both sides of the picture, or do we want to be the first to climb aboard?

One of the most pressing and controversial issues to date has been the Dalhousie Rink, its maintenance and management. We hear a person complain about the surface at a skating session, and in a very short time, everyone is finding fault with some phase or aspect of the rink control. Have we cause, are we justified in our condemnation? There are many factors involved in defence of the rink. Weigh them carefully before you join in with the "gang".

To the average skating enthusiast, ice is ice, whether it be for hockey, or figure skating. This is not so. The free-wheeling puckster prefers a hard, fast surface, enabling him to play the game as it should be played, as the world's fastest sport. On the other hand, it is a necessity for a figure skater to perform on soft ice in order to execute successfully his intricate manoeuvres.

To accommodate both groups is no easy task, and under present circumstances, conditions warrant no improvement, through no fault of the rink staff. Dry ice involves a process of lowering the temperature of the ice surface, while wet or soft ice demands a higher temperature. The equipment and machinery now available at the Dalhousie rink is not of sufficient power to raise and lower temperatures fast enough to suit the various groups who patronize the University's ice house.

As for the fog situation, any building scientist need not contemplate too much before realizing that a large difference between the temperature at ice surface and the warm air outside is enough to promote a good deal of fog. Sometimes there are enough "fans" (typical students) to suck out the fog, but lack of regular suction fans in the rink itself is the real pitfall of the whole fiasco. So . . . let's get fans. Installation and payment for said fans would come to over \$2,000. . . any more suggestions?

One more item requires attention, the rink staff. It seems to me that it's a pretty rash statement to say a Sunday School class is more competent, without taking into consideration the actual duties included. If any brave soul wishes to place nets before a game, he is free to do so, but let him be one or two inches off

centre and strike an ammonia pipe and the consequences are also free to fall on his shoulders. And the picture in the Gazette two weeks ago, well it has been said that the devil can quote scriptures for his own use . . . so, the photographer is guilty of the same crime for the snapshot was obviously taken at the entrance to the snow bin, and therefore it was quite a legal action on the part of the rink rats to be congregated there. These scrapers used by these boys are of a heavy, durable nature, and consequently are unable to clean the ice really effectively. However, past experience reveals that the lighter, more efficient plows are too easily broken by non-helpers who like the do it—yourself trend.

Here is a statistical analysis of the conditions, Saturday, January 16, for the Tech-Acadia game.

Skating —3:30 -5:30  
 Repair Ice Surface—5:30 -8:00  
 1—sweep boards  
 2—two hot water wipes  
 3—two cold water wipes  
 At 6 o'clock ice is 19°F; at 10 o'clock ice is 22°F.  
 At 6 o'clock slab is 18°F; at 10 o'clock slab is 20°F.  
 At 6 o'clock brine is 16-19°F; at 10 o'clock brine is 17-20°F.  
 At 6 o'clock temperature outside is 56°F; at 10 o'clock temperature is 56°F.  
 At 6 o'clock temperature in rink is 46°F; at 10 o'clock temperature is 52°F.  
 From 6-10, there was rain, 100% humidity.  
 A rash statement or cold facts; there are both sides of the story, and a controversial topic at that The decision is yours . . . have fun skating.

## Heart—

(continued from page two)  
 Donor Clinic is evidence of the faith that we have in our Dalhousie. Who cares if people bleed to death? If Russia were to drop an H-bomb between the Science Building and the Men's Residence the survivors would not even look to see what made the noise. Nobody gives a damn.

Dalhousie is failing in this respect. People leave here the way they entered, securely unaware of what goes on beyond that stone wall along Coburg Road. Probably next week there will be letters asking where Coburg Road is. The criterion of success here is to stick your head into the sand and leave it there prepared to vomit out on the exam paper what you have heard in the sand during the term. Dalhousie no longer graduates great men; she is too concerned with building a great physical university upon the broken spirits of her students. Dalhousie graduates

sheep; dogs who slink away with their diplomas between their teeth and their tails between their legs. What more can one expect from an institution that places No Smoking signs in the halls and along with them buckets of sand for those who pay no attention to the signs to throw their butts in and for those who obey the signs to stick their heads in.

Life requires a good bare-knuckle fighter for success, so let's start seeing beyond the ends of our noses. Let's get rid of the stagnant atmosphere that covers this campus. Let's not let Bob March be the last of a great tradition. For the benefit of those who don't know where Coburg Road is, Bob March is the Dal man who just won the Nova Scotia Rhodes Scholarship.

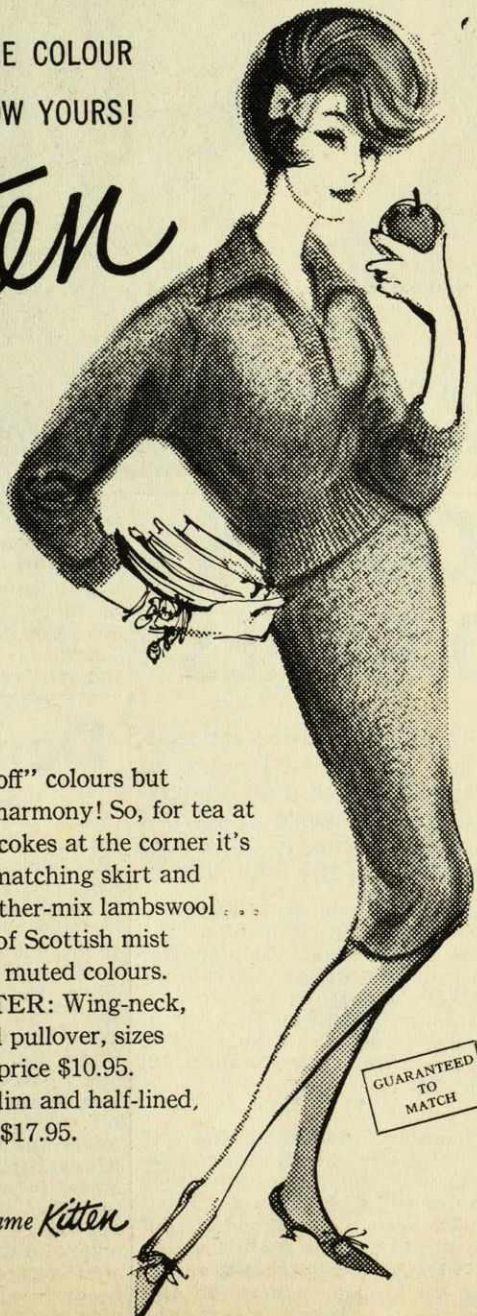
All hail to thee Dalhousie,  
 Our College by the Sea;  
 With heart and voice we praise thee,  
 Wherever we may be.

A Dalhousian.

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