

# The Dalhousie Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER



Published by the Dalhousie Students' Union  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, 429-1144. Printed by  
The Dartmouth Free Press, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office  
Dept., Ottawa, and for payment of postage in Cash.

## Where were your leaders?

On the weekend of March 8, the Nova Scotia Union of Students held the first general meeting since its foundation last year. All member schools were represented -- except Dalhousie. Because this was the first conference at which the union decided on a list of issues to be dealt with, it is especially unfortunate that Dalhousie was not represented at all.

A chief issue was the proposed foundation of a co-operative bookstore -- probably to be built in Halifax -- which could result in lower book prices for Nova Scotia students. Dalhousie Council has recently completed a study of the bookstore on campus, and the information about this study could have clarified issues for the benefit of all. As it was, the delegates were unsure whether or not such an enterprise would be financially feasible, and the project was dropped.

As the major Halifax university in the union, there is no doubt that Dalhousie should have a special interest in the social problems of the city. The question of slum conditions in Halifax and in particular the problem of slum landlords, was discussed at length. The result? St. Mary's has taken the leadership in study in this field. One must now wonder, unfortunately, whether Dalhousie will take any action on this at all.

When a union such as this is discussing finances, and particularly the per-student levy which the individual universities contribute, it seems that Dalhousie -- the biggest institution and thus a primary contributor -- should be present, at least to know what it is being committed to pay.

Dalhousie was not alone in its absence. The president - elect and the external vice-president-elect of the King's college union avoided the conference as much as possible. However, their absence was not as serious - King's was at least still represented by the old executive.

Whether the Dalhousie absence was caused by lack of interest or of responsibility, or, more probably, from inefficiency and poor communications, the new executive should see to it that such a failure does not occur again.

## Frozen feet not enough

Five hundred students marched on the Legislature chanting "Freeze the Fees!" but all they froze was their feet. Residence fees will be up about \$100 next year.

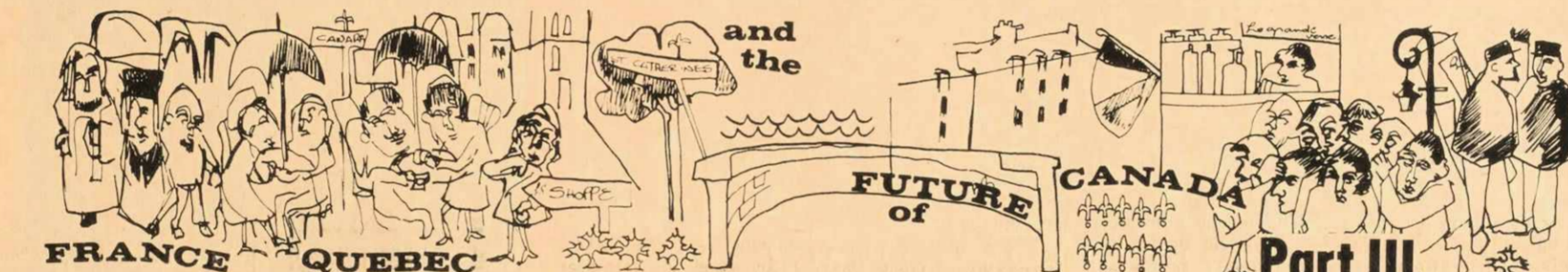
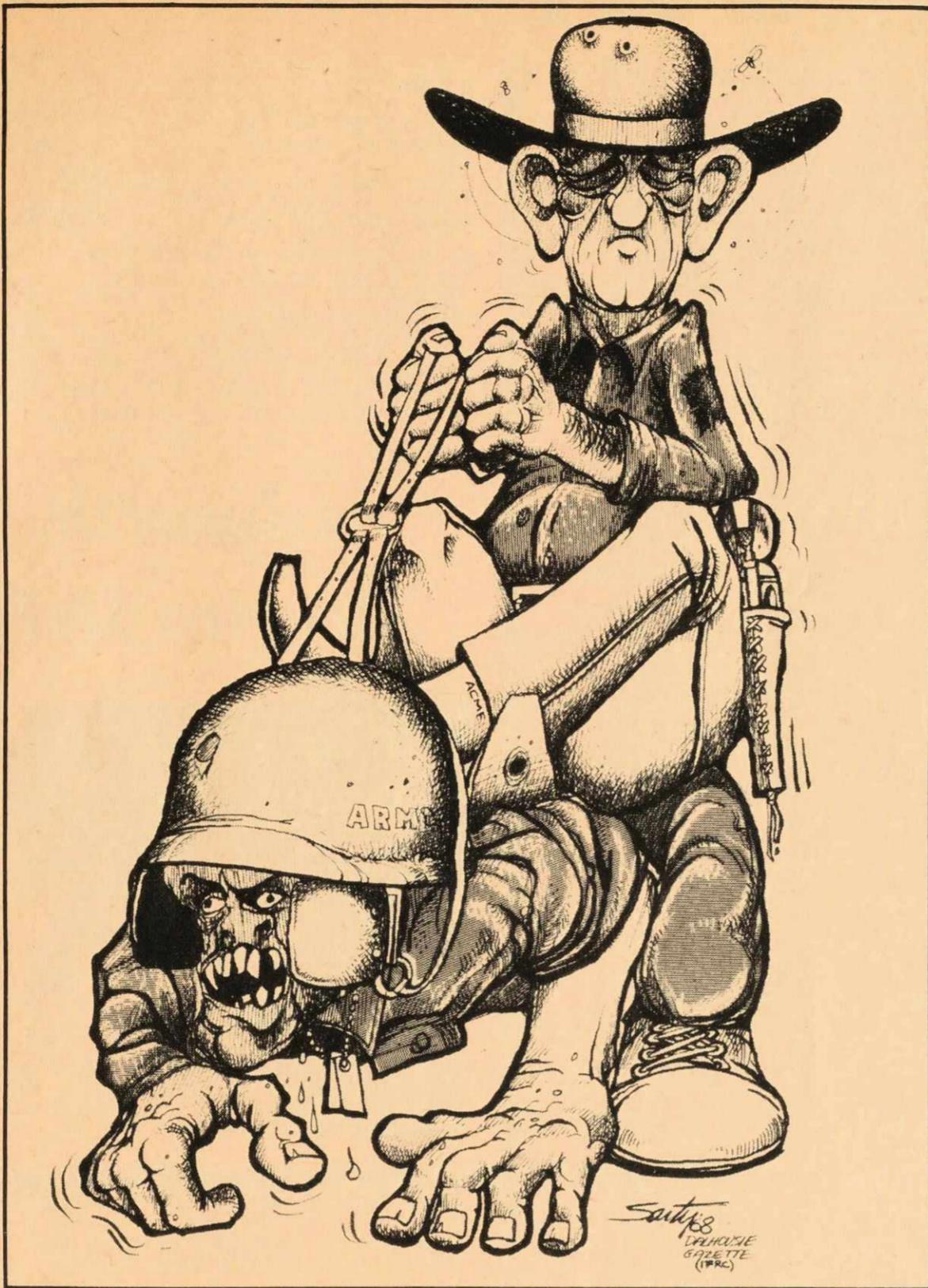
For most students living in Residence, this will mean tightening their belts and borrowing more money to meet next year's expenses. But for hundreds of students graduating from high schools in Nova Scotia this year, it may mean the difference between attending university, or ending their education at Grade XII.

This is especially true for students from outside the Halifax County area -- the majority of Nova Scotian students -- who come from regions with lower average income than the urban areas. They are under a double disadvantage: they are unable to save money by living at home, and most of them have relatively little chance of drawing on their parents' resources in order to go on from High School.

Thus the decision to raise residence fees is not only a disadvantage to all resident students. It also helps preserve university education as the privilege of the well-to-do, rather than making it accessible to all who are qualified to enter. Three quarters of all Nova Scotian students come from families in the upper half of the province's economic brackets.

There is little that Dalhousie -- or the other universities which are making similar fee boosts -- can do to help the individual student. If all qualified high school graduates are to have equal opportunities for attending university, the provincial and federal governments must take immediate steps, first, to remove the problems preventing almost all students from low-income families from entering college; second, to prevent financial problems from interfering with a student's education when he is already at university.

In the short run at least, marching and presenting a brief have not brought necessary government action. Unless the recently-opened student-government-university dialogue shows considerable results soon, Nova Scotia's students will have to seek more forceful ways of presenting their needs before the people and government of this province.



by ANDRE ROSSINGER CANADIAN DIMENSION

Canada consists of two nations within one Confederation. However, the word nation, in modern terms, means more than a common bond which history has forged on the basis of language, value systems, heritage and common suffering and expectations. It also means a transcending, intensive and genuine common concern for the social well-being and progress of every member of the nation. Therefore, it also means an increased effort to create public opinion within the nation in favour of political power as an economic lever for the required social transformation, a common endeavour to implement it and collective involvement in checking the result and the distribution of its benefits. Whoever accepts these two aspects of modern nationhood in theory but betrays their practical implementation is a false national leader.

Progressive concepts of nationalism mean a sense of national identity without self-centered exclusive attitudes. They are for genuine international co-operation but against becoming or remaining a direct or indirect appendix and tool of a power block. They are concerned not only with the cultural but also with the economic foundations of this national sense of identity. Progressive concepts of nationalism promote a high sense of belonging, participation and decision-making through political and economic democracy. They also promote peace by supporting any movement, at home or around the world, which weakens and finally eliminates the political, economic and military grip of power blocks, thus eliminating the main cause of cold wars and world wars, untold suffering and destruction, and social and moral degradation. Progressive concepts of nationalism are an integral part of our age's humanism. They uphold not only the dignity and rights of the individual but also the dignity and rights of the community of people freely formed, as a national, ethnic or social entity. Personal

freedom, collective self-determination and international co-operation are interlocked aspects of a more mature world.

A move in that direction has to start within every country and within every individual; this, of course, includes Canada and Canadians. All this calls for the creation of mature public opinion, the election of new decision-makers and a series of new decisions among French and English speaking Canadians for a new Canada.

Such a Canada would be more than a state but a true homeland for French and English speaking Canadians who together will succeed where separately they would have failed.

This demands an accelerated process of awakening among English and French speaking Canadians. In this regard a new constitution can act as a powerful stimulus. A Canada-wide discussion about a completely new type of constitution, new in character and content, would steer French and English-Canadian public opinion into serious thinking, re-evaluation and constructive self-criticism. In order to achieve this new consensus of public opinion and reach these new decisions the draft of the new constitution should not only be a legal documentation of a contemporary concept of rights and obligations but should also include a realistic vision of a new Canada with firm guide lines to be used in reaching this goal within the near future.

All this constructive work will lead to rearrangements of the political spectrum in Canada. The three leading parties of present day Canada, the Progressive Conservative, the Liberal and the Union Nationale Parties will be weakened because people will recognize that they are political fronts and instruments for hidden dictatorships by different sectors of the same power elite. Their aim is to preserve their rule by periodically adjusting their

## U.S. President

# Will Congress choose the next one ?

By BOB CHODOS  
Canadian University Press

BALTIMORE (CUPI) — In increasing numbers, Americans are looking nervously at their tattered copies of the United States Constitution to see what it really says about what happened when no candidate for the presidency gets an absolute majority of the votes in the Electoral College.

What it says is this: "... and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice."

Incredibly, one has to go back one hundred and forty-years to find an election in which no person had such a majority; in 1824 the House ignored an Electoral College plurality for Andrew Jackson and chose John Quincy Adams. Since then, the political inertia of the American people along with the built-in biases of the system have suffered to keep this anomalous provision from ever being used. Until recently, only political scientists had been more than dimly aware of its existence.

But now, no discussion of the upcoming election is complete without mention of the possibility of its being decided in the House of Representatives. Perhaps because even hardened observers of the American political scene find the prospect of a Lyndon Johnson - Richard Nixon - George Wallace campaign too depressing to write about, most of the major columnists have taken a look at it. What they have seen provides little consolation.

First, the section of the Twelfth Amendment quoted above is vague enough to make Paul Martin talking about Canada's policy toward China sound crystal clear. The main difficulty lies in the word 'immediately'. At the time the vote in the Electoral College will take place, in mid-December, the new House of Representatives will have been elected but not yet sworn in; members of the house elected in 1966 will still hold office. If 'immediately' is interpreted literally then the new President will be elected by that House. Common sense says that the House elected in 1968 should choose the President. The difference could be crucial if, as is far from unlikely, the Republicans capture control of the House in November. Who becomes President could then depend precisely on which House of Representatives made the decision; a Democratic outgoing House would be unlikely to decide on the basis of fairness and common sense to leave it to its newly-elected Republican successor.

## Letters to the editor

### "pause before we damn"

To the Editor:

I would like to speak to you and express the view of a graduate of your department who has been teaching for a number of years.

At the outset let me say that those of you who are critical of your courses are not unique. Your predecessors at Dalhousie, I being one of them, and your colleagues in those education departments with which I am familiar in Canada, the United States and Germany experience the same frustration as you are now experiencing.

I know it well. Here you are, having suffered through four successful years, or perhaps, as in my case, more than four semi-successful years, of high powered lectures; then this year in education. A year which seems at the time to involve a great deal of "Mickey Mouse work"; far below the level and the dignity of one who can now write B.A. or B.Sc. after his name.

Let's pause before we damn the course, the instructor, and the administration. We in education have chosen a unique career; one which will require every bit of maturity we have, or should have, developed through four years of undergraduate work. However, and this is my main point, we must now learn how to communicate with children; we must now learn the difference between lecturing and teaching. We will be helping young children develop concepts of counting, addition and multiplication; not lecturing to them on the differential equation. Yes, at least from one point of view, it is a come down from Middle English Chaucerian to the stories of King Arthur and the Round Table a la grade four. But, if you are an effective teacher the interest you engender through King Arthur will be much greater than that stirred up by your first reading of "The Prologue" in Middle English.

Yes. You are right. Only experience will enable you to become a great teacher. However, the year you spend in the education department doing what

then seemed to me and now seems to you to be "Mickey Mouse work" will provide you with the skills you must have to survive in the very tough world of the classroom long enough to accumulate that experience.

But this is only part of your course. Don't you wish that some of your high powered profs knew more about examination techniques, the proper use of audio-visual equipment, and the organization of lectures? I will guarantee that your pupils will appreciate your education course, if perhaps some of you at the moment do not.

How does your department stack up nationally? Dal's education degree is not only recognized but highly respected in every province in Canada. However, it is, like all other departments, not perfect. Part of being associated with the university as a student or professor is the duty of being critical of what we and our associates are doing. I have no doubt that Professor Mowat would welcome any positive suggestions on how the department's program could be improved. But, may I suggest that such criticism should keep in mind the prime purpose of this year in education, that is to bridge the gap between the ivory towers of the university and the teaching situation in the classroom.

After being exposed to a number of education departments and putting to the test in the classroom the methods in which Professor Mowat and his staff successfully instructed me, in spite of my resistance at the time, I am now both very grateful and proud to be a graduate of Professor Mowat's Department of Education, Dalhousie University.

May I close with the wish that you also will find teaching to be a rewarding and satisfying career.

Sincerely yours,  
John D. Connelly.

## Went over some person's head

To the Editor:

After reading, in the Gazette issue of February 22nd, the article of Andre Rossinger on France, Quebec and Canada, I wish to make two remarks

concerning: 1) the use of French in Canada, 2) the attitude of French Canada towards France. These remarks may be of interest to young Canadians concerned with the future of their country.

It is true that De Gaulle has in mind the building-up of a third block to counteract the influence of the United States, Russia and China. But this third block is essentially a language block, called "la francophonie", made up of French speaking countries that have strong cultural links with France; one of the strongest supporters of this block is a long-time friend of De Gaulle, President Senghor of Senegal. His last visit to Canada, in September 1966, to promote "la francophonie", met with little response, if any, from the Federal Authorities in Ottawa. However, the interest in French language is now growing rapidly; the political implications behind this growth illustrate De Gaulle's idea that the French language carries with itself a rich and penetrating cultural development. To be fertile, this cultural wealth must be put into favourable ground. Are the French Canadians willing to give up their "joual" and speak what they have consistently branded as "Parisian French", which is actually International French?

My second remark concerns the attitude of French Canada towards France. Mr. Rossinger points out that conservative elements in French Canada have, for a long time, shown an attitude of deep mistrust towards France. I should like to stress the irony of the present situation in Quebec, simply because this irony should make us, outside of la belle Province, stand a little aloof from the present honeymoon between De Gaulle and Quebec; that honeymoon has not always had, if I may say so, a taste of honey. In fact, if Mr. Rossinger thinks De Gaulle has, for a long time, been a "persona non grata" as far as English Canadian opinion is concerned, I suggest that the deep mistrust of Conservative French Canadians towards France was actually centered on De Gaulle himself. During World War II, two special envoys of De Gaulle to Canada, Elisabeth de Miribel and Admiral Thierry d'Argenlieu were all but welcome in Quebec. Had it not been for the financial and moral support of the late painter Percival Tudor-Hart in Quebec City, Admiral d'Argenlieu would not have been allowed, as De Gaulle's representative, to address the Institut Canadien in 1941. During and after World War II, the "persona grata" was, for many a French Canadian, the Head of the Vichy regime, Marshall Petain. Therefore, De Gaulle had many staunch enemies in French Canada. His visit to Quebec in 1966 was a far cry from that of 1966. De Gaulle must have been more than pleasantly surprised to see the drastic change in the two official receptions, six years apart. No wonder it went to his head; in fact, as we know, it also went to some other person's -- I say person's -- head, and even over it.

This development will affect the New Democratic Party as well. It will compel their leaders and members to make up their minds whether they want to be a virtual left wing of the Liberal Party or a consistent, courageous party of the people. If the latter is the case, they must bridge the gap between party program and action in many fields. They must clear their ranks of cold war mongers. They must act regarding the Canadianisation of two-thirds of the labour unions, industry and commerce.

To build a new Canada, a true homeland for the English and the French speaking Canadian, is indeed a multi-dimensional task. Petty politicians, in the big shoes of power, double dealers, those who feed public opinion with half truths, leaders who castrated the "quiet revolution" in Quebec and leaders of to-day's neo-Duplessism are all obstacles on the historic highway leading to a new Quebec and a new Canada.

The evolving consensus of public opinion among English and French speaking Canadians must simultaneously achieve two things: removal of the old decision-makers and their replacement by new ones. A democratic check, counter check and follow-up should guarantee that the power of the new decision-makers who act on behalf of the people will not be abused and that the path toward a new Quebec and new Canada will not be blocked.

Yours Sincerely,  
Dr. C. Treil.