

Council Meeting - Oct. 17

Council in Brief

By STEPHEN KIMBER

What Thursday October 17th's marathon five hour and thirty-two minute Student's Council meeting accomplished:

- President Smith reported that study on student housing is underway.
- \$200.00 Grant given to DalCom Journal
- Grants Committee given discretionary powers to give up to \$50.00 to Undergraduate Physics Society.
- Motion to check into the operations of the Alpha Gamma Delta Bookstore regarding return of unsold books. Passed.
- Student Union budget adopted with amendments and two estimates tabled.
- \$100.00 loan to operators of Dalhousie Rink Canteen. Passed.
- Dalhousie Student Union sponsoring Vietnam Day Seminar October 26, 1968.
- Gazette submissions referred to Committee on Gazette for further study.
- 3 Applications for Student Senator's Job. To be considered at a special meeting of Council.
- Student Council to sponsor Dr. Hicks in Miles for Millions March at a dollar a mile.

Council Sponsors Vietnam Seminar

"We can't speak of relevancy and then be afraid of soiling our hands," Science Rep Murray MacCutcheon told Council last week. Exhorting members to stop holding their "little, lily-white hands on a pedestal" he added that Council "should sponsor free and open discussions on the burning questions of the day." The comments came during discussion of a motion to have the Council act as a sponsor for the Vietnam Day seminar slated for October 26th. The seminar is being planned by a group of interested Dalhousie students called the "26th of October Committee" who among other things are also planning the Halifax segment of the International Day of Protest against the War in Vietnam.

Since it was a personal, political question with "overwhelming implications", Med Rep Peter Cook warned Council that it was "out of your jurisdiction". Neil Sharpam expressed concern over the motion as well, stating that Council's decision to sponsor the seminar could be construed as support for any stands taken at the meeting.

President Randall Smith urged Council to adopt the motion because "every thinking person has an opinion on it - it's simply a question of education. Are you afraid of education?"

Council adopted the motion by a vote of nine in favor, two opposed and there was one abstention.

Four Hours and Forty-One Minutes

... and not a penny CUT.

They came to talk "of dollars, cents and budgeting/ of deficits and things" - and talk they did around and around in circles for almost five hours but when it was all over, Council had failed to cut even a single cent from this year's proposed deficit budget. With the possible exceptions of Bell, Sharpam, and Woodhouse, Council seems to have ignored Randy Smith's call last week to study the budget and question its rationale and most were reticent to make any serious attempt to cut down the more than thousand dollar deficit.

When it was over, all they had been able to do was reallocate five hundred dollars and postpone final decision on two other budgetary estimates pending further investigations by Council.

The newly created office of Political Affairs Secretary, not yet appointed by Council received a five hundred dollar addition to his 68-69 Budget, through a corresponding reduction in the estimates for the Executive Fund. The move was termed by Engineering's Dave Bell as "the most important thing you could give money to". Bell failed, however, to convince Council to chop other budgets to further increase the amount available to the Political Affairs Secretary.

Both Delta Gamma, the campus women's organizations and the Dal yearbook, PHAROS, saw their budgets set aside when several members of Council questioned the value of these organizations on campus.

Dorothy Woodhouse questioned the concept of a women's organization on campus, feeling that they did not make a substantial contribution to campus life. Added Bruce Gillis: "I don't see anything of value in their budget". Council finally decided to hold off further discussion of Delta Gamma until a representative of the organization could be present.

The proposed deficit of over \$3,000 dollars for PHAROS also raised eyebrows on Council. Several members argued that the concept of a campus yearbook was outmoded and that the service wasn't worth the money it was costing the students, while others were inclined to raise the amount charged for PHAROS by one or two dollars. Said Bruce Gillis: "If you raise it a little at a time the public doesn't notice". Council finally agreed to postpone a final decision on the yearbook pending an investigation by Sarah Connor.

Dave Bell lost two attempts to reduce the I.S.A. budget, once when Council voted two maintain \$20.00 in their budget for refreshments, and again when his motion to have the organizations' dances run on a break even basis met defeat in Council Chambers.

And that's how it was when they came to talk of "dollars, cents, and budgeting/Of deficits and things".

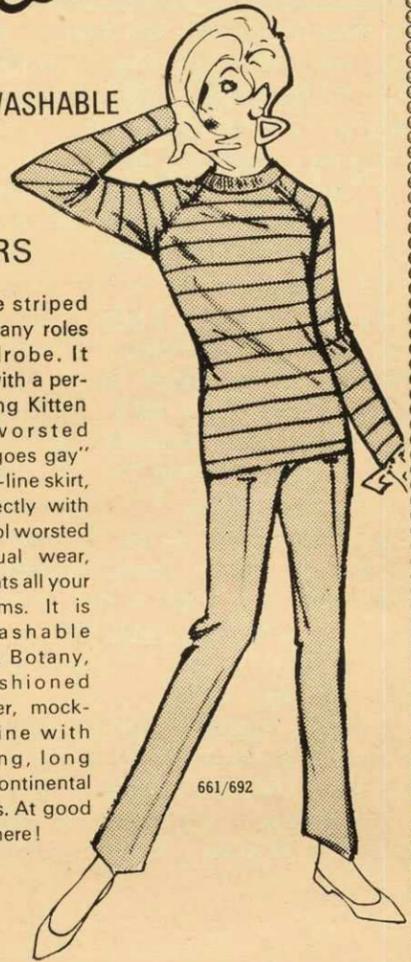
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