

Dalpseudo's campus library

Author's Note: the following article is purely fictitious. Any similarity to an existing situation is coincidental and was not intended by the author.

The scene is in the Dalpseudo University Library, a decaying stone structure where the only sounds are those of copulating pigeons and crumbling mortar. From the moment the student steps inside the door, he is aware of a prevailing atmosphere of reverent silence, not unlike that in a funeral parlor (although the latter is more stimulating.) The student feels the gaze of many eyes upon him as he makes his way to the desk of the librarian. It becomes clear to him that his motives for entering the building are under suspicion. Assuming what he hopes to be a sincere forthright expression, he approaches the least severe-looking of the ladies in charge.

Clearing his throat nervously, he croaks a greeting, which is met with stony silence. He smiles, and this overture is scrutinized with open hostility. Throwing caution to the winds, he asks for directions to the card file. The librarian thrusts a bony digit in the appropriate direction. In eager excitement at this unexpected response, he thanks her conversationally, but once again, there is no sign that he has been heard. Could it be possible, he speculates to himself, that the entire place is staffed by deaf-mutes?

Near the card file, he finds a convenient pencil (length 1/4") bolted to the table by a huge chain, similar to those used to secure ships in their berths. another female follows his every movement

carefully. He decides against stealing the pencil (which has no lead) for his chances of escaping with 200 pounds of chain clanking in his pocket are slim. He now has a catalogue number written on a scrap of paper, and rashly decides to attempt to find the book. He walks to the desk, and states his need. The librarians spring to life. He is pried with questions from all sides; does he have any form of identification? does he have proof that he is a registered student at Dalpseudo University? How is his credit rating? is his father employed steadily? does he realize what a great privilege it is to be allowed into the Holy of Holies (known as the Stacks in library jargon).

His admittance is cleared at last, although he has now missed two classes while waiting. However, he now feels that it must be worthwhile to receive an education if he must go to this much trouble to read just one book. He turns towards the stacks and there he sees signs on the wall saying: "We reserve the right to examine the contents of briefcases and any other receptacles upon leaving the stacks." He touches the doorknob and the inoffensive article comes to life in his hand; a resounding buzz fills the air. Somewhat dazed, he realizes that he has not set off the burglar alarm, but is holding the craftily-contrived electric doorknob in his hand, and is meant to turn the knob and push. The door swings shut behind him; once inside the sacred stacks, he has time to stop and think.

Obviously he is suspected of a great crime against the literary masterpieces of his day. And here we see a change come over this honest ethical young man. He who has never had any previous

record of petty larceny, is now plotting revenge against the system. He slinks stealthily up and down the aisles, amassing a great collection of light reading, useful reference volumes, and a variety of other interesting works. He conceals them carefully about his person. Upon leaving, he is asked by a librarian (male) to strip down to his underwear, and is thoroughly searched. He has been successful. The fourteen books concealed in his athletic support were overlooked. He leaves the mouldy air of the library in a mood of elation.

It is because of the frequency of such incidents which are doubtless the result of unwarranted and ludicrous measures of imposed prevention, that the students of Dalpseudo University wonder whether the recent reorganization of their library was undertaken solely for the benefit of the librarians themselves, who now have so many loftier pursuits to follow than the aiding of students in the use of this essential organ of university education.

**Join
the
Gazette
Staff**

Stag Shop

**the store for
Men**

**Latest Fashions
STUDENT DISCOUNTS
1674 Barrington St.**

**MIX AND MATCH
LADIES' SPORTS WEAR LTD.**

Quality Sports Wear

with the

Accent on Youth

10% Student Discount

**MIX AND MATCH
LADIES' SPORTS WEAR LTD.**

6281 Quinpool Road, Halifax
423-7600

Silver's Barber Shop

Oxford Theatre Building

catering to the
College Man

SPECIAL STUDENT RATES

RELIABLE TV

**AUTHORIZED
FLEETWOOD
DEALER**

**SALES ● SERVICE
● RENTALS**

Phone
423-8203
6257 Quinpool Road



Mahon's Stationery, Ltd.

**Student
Stationers
for over**

3 Generations

**A Complete Line of
Student Supplies**

5476 Spring Garden Road

and the

Halifax Shopping Centre