

LITERARY

THE QUICK AND THE DEAD CAMPUS STRAWS

STRAWS

by "MAC"

In the history of modern Europe, the predominance of student groups in political disturbances is more than worthy of our notice in Canada. The Carlsbad Decrees of Metternich were provoked directly by the liberal activities of German students, and their Student's Union was vigorously suppressed. The degree of attention conferred upon the student population in political matters by kings and governments would be flattering were it not so disastrous.

Before the ruins of many universities in Europe such as Prague and Warsaw stand monuments to students who died defending their universities from political, intellectual domination. Consider Hitler's advances to the intellectual Jugend. Consider also the reckless heroism displayed in the anti-Nazi student revolt at Munich in 1942, at a time when the Nazi machines of oppression were at their greatest strength in the Fatherland.

In 1940, the occupying power in Holland forbade all Jewish professors to teach. There was a vigorous student protest. The students of the Technische Hoogschool at Delft struck, and as a result their world-famous institute was closed, occupied, and pillaged. In Leiden, the present Rector Magnificus, Professor Claveringa, made a violent speech before a large audience of students. Next day the heroic professor was arrested (for the rest of the war) and the University closed.

A few months later, punitive raids were made in class-rooms of universities which had not yet been closed, and about 600 students were imprisoned. All universities were then closed. Later again, an order announced the deportation to forced labor of all Dutch students. The opportunity was provided for students who wished to continue studying to sign an act of loyalty, by which the student agreed not to carry out any acts of offense to the Nazis. Less than fifteen percent signed. The rest "went under" and spent the remainder of the war in hiding, leading the resistance for which Holland became famous.

A description of the enormous fabric which constituted the underground machine would require volumes. When thousands of railway employees struck (it is against civil law in peace) the Germans cut off all their families from the meagre rations then available. The underground obtained by various means rations with which to keep them alive. The systems of communication were elaborate beyond belief, and used what was left of the telephone system under the very noses of the enemy. The Executive Secretary of the British Co-operating Committee, International Student Service, had himself smuggled into Holland via the ingenious underground transport system before the Liberation.

Here is a point to consider: this machinery is still in existence. Students still have sources of counterfeit money, ration coupons, passports. They still have it in their power to carry out most destructive measures against an aggressive power within the state.

Dutch students arranged a labour camp within Germany to aid reconstruction there - a noble gesture of the first magnitude. They invited Russian students to join others from many European countries. No reply came from Moscow, but a few weeks later an invitation arrived for Dutch students to come and assist with the reconstruction of Stalingrad. I asked the official in charge of student travel why no students were sent. He replied, "We knew that we would never see them again."

The Communist Party knows too well the advantages of courting the favour of students. The International Union of Students is an example. Its president and first secretary are prominent Communists. It held its conference at Prague this summer along with the so-called World Youth Festival, which was a Communist pow-wow and nothing else. At this conference the embryo National Students Association of the United States adopted the I.U.S. in preference to I.S.S. The American students who carried out this adoption boast that they did so on their own terms (the dollar again!) but I point out that they adopted it nevertheless. Some of us may remember Dr. McLure's remark about the brilliant technique the Communists have for anaesthesia.

Of the I. S. S. Secretariat in Geneva, at least three are avowed Communists. At the I. S. S. Conference in Denmark this summer there were ten French delegates. All but one were Communists, and that one was the only Roman Catholic among them—this indicates the political voice of France that we are allowed to hear in our student assemblies.

The I. S. S. is by constitution a non-political organization, and political prejudice is forbidden in any of its fields of activity. At present there is no need for fears or doubts regarding the political honesty of the organization, but we have much to fear in the future. We can combat it now by backing our Canadian Committee in money and effort. We can combat it in the future by some energetic political thinking and action.

To misquote: in the political scramble that is now inevitable, there is only room for "the quick and the dead."

Let's get moving.

G. B. Payzant

Thoughts On English 2

by CAIN

When Milton by his wife was bossed
He wrote his epic *Paradise Lost*;
But when a widower he reigned,
Began on *Paradise Regained*.

NOTICE

The Gazette Sport pages offer opportunities to any aspiring sports writers. Some one capable of taking over the editorship of one of these pages is in demand, and the competition is on. If you want a position with a future on the Gazette drop in and be put to work.

CO-ED NEWS AND VIEWS

To look at the issues of the GAZETTE already published this year, one might think that co-ed activities were among the missing. Fortunately enough, ce n'est pas vrai. If the truth must come out, yours truly has been slow on the uptake, and must take the blame for this silence. (Which you will probably be wishing you had back).

Delta Gamma started officially last Tuesday Oct. 7, with president Elsie Cruickshank conducting the first general meeting of the year. It was difficult to get an accurate idea of the number present, what with people crawling all over the floor, but it looked like quite a bunch to us, which is always a welcome sign.

If you're looking for a really snifty pin, sign up on the Delta Gamma list in the Common Room of the Arts Building, and soon after you've made a slight deposit, to cover the cost of mailing, handling etc. etc., you too can be a proud owner of a Delta Gamma "D".

Thanksgiving weekend was spent in the usual weekend way by most of the femmes, more than half of the Hall girls remaining in residence.

No news on the meal business at the Hall. The petition has been presented to Miss Mowat, and a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday night, at which the co-eds will present their argument.

'Nuff said for this week. We'll give it to you in small doses. Fond adieux, or words to that effect.

OPENING TO SWING TO FASHION

Thanksgiving Day saw the opening of the much publicized "Swing To Fashion" at the Nova Scotian ballroom, sponsored by the Halifax Chronicle and Halifax Daily Star. Halifax women were introduced to the long hemline, with new fashions modelled by seven Montreal models and Dalhousie Freshette Margaret Eustace. Mrs. Abbie Lane, women's editor of the Halifax Chronicle and Halifax Daily Star, ably handled the commentaries.

Don Warner and the original sextet with Maynard Taylor on the vocals, are supplying the musical background for the week-long show, giving forth with their usual "solidness". Don features a score of songs, including several of his popular "seat" songs.

Freshette Margie Eustace exhibits outstanding poise and charm in her modelling of the latest in teen-age fashions. This is a show that no one should miss. All clothes modeled are on sale at leading Halifax stores.

The Curse Of A Softened Heart

I gazed into her wide-set eyes
That sadly begged expressively,
And seemed to say, "Oh, please, don't go — — —
Oh please do not abandon me."
I faltered, softened by her gaze,
My thoughts were twisted in dismay;
It happens every time, I thought,
That I decide to go away.
I must be firm — I'll go at once — — —
But no — those eyes destroy my will.
"Oh, please, don't stare at me like that.
Why must you use such utter skill?"
I turned from her to leave, but then
Again I was compelled to pause — — —
"Oh, all right then — come on along."
So on she came — on all four paws.

One of the straws in the wind this week is the project afoot to bring McGill's Intermediate Team down. The game is planned at Studley so far. More fuel to our fire of enthusiasm. I heard some ambitious type say "Why not McGill's Varsity team?" Do I hear any "Well, why not" 's?

I've got a free afternoon today and the problem of what to do with such a tremendous expanse of time hangs heavy on my hands.

Y'know, I figure the year's really agoin' now. I can remember all my classes without even looking at my timetable. Oh, well, we aren't all endowed with superior mentality. Yipe!

Think I'll go down to Joe's for a coke or something.

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