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Russian Exchange Gains Strength

Toronto, Montreal, McGill and UBC for Exchange Students

At a Student Society meeting held recently at McGill, almost five hundred students voted in favor of a proposal presented in the form of a motion—to institute an exchange of students between Canada and the USSR. There were only three dissenting votes.

The motion which supported Denis Lazure's proposal, read as follows: (Lazure is the former chairman of the International Activities Commission of NFCUS).

Whereas the Student Society of McGill University, reaffirming its total opposition to the aims and methods of Soviet Communism, and deploring particularly the current barriers which prevent the international exchange of persons, ideas, and publications, believes that the present tension between nations cannot be solved unless a realistic attempt to achieve mutual understanding is made by all people, particularly students, and

Whereas we believe that an exchange of student visits between Canada and the Soviet Union would contribute to this end both in itself and as an indication to the students of the world of our faith in democracy ideals and practice.

Therefore be it resolved:

(a) That the McGill Student Society expresses its profound regret that the National Federation of Canadian University Students decided in conference at London, Ont., not to ratify the proposed student exchange between Canada and the Soviet Union, and

(b) That we request the Federation to re-open the question of the exchange by means of a national referendum on all Canadian camps.

FORESTRY ASSOCIATION MEETS

At the last meeting of the Forestry Association, Nov. 19, the subject of Christmas cards was discussed and it was decided to make improvements both in the design and quality of paper formerly used. Pete Murphy was appointed to look after the printing of the cards.

Ideas were expressed for raising funds to furnish the meeting room. The two possibilities considered were donations from graduate foresters or present students.

Mr. Boulter, district forester for Hants County, Nova Scotia, spoke on that province's "Small Tree Act". He stated that the need for this act, still not too popular with some of the residents, sprang from the unsupervised cutting and clearing carried on by the early settlers while building farms. In order to rebuild large-tree forests the act prevents the cutting of certain tree species under a ten-inch diameter, on both Crown and private lands.

Mr. Boulter's interesting talk was followed by the awarding of prizes won at the Forestry Field Day.

Mrs. M. A. Ryan was the winner of the camera raffle.

Ratification of the Lazure plan for exchange with Russian students by the Universite de Montreal bring to three the number of student councils to indicate approval of the motion since it was defeated at the national Nifcus conference.

The A.G.E.U.M. (Association Generale des Etudiants de L'Universite de Montreal) Student Council at U of M voted unanimously to support the motion at a meeting held recently. Previously McGill had held a student council meeting which ratified the proposed plan, while UBC had agreed to an even more drastic scheme. The University of Toronto is currently taking a survey of student opinions in its various colleges, and the final result will be made public the last week in November.

The plan proposed by Dennis Lazure of U of M, was that 15 Russian students be invited to visit Canadian Camps. Lazure had tentatively suggested the plan while at an International Union of Students (Communist-dominated student group) conference held in Prague last summer.

The Soviet Delegation at that conference consulted with their national union of students and accepted the invitation. They also extended a reciprocal invitation to the Canadian students.

Returning to Canada, Lazure presented his plan as a motion of principle, to the national N.F.C.-U.S. conference held in London, Ont. last September. After much debate, the conference voted against it 12 to 6.

Radio Net in Operation

Progress continues in the formation of an amateur radio network linking Maritime universities. Stations in various colleges in the Maritime Provinces now operate a regular schedule on the 80 meter CW amateur radio band. The net operates each Tuesday evening on a frequency of 3608 kcs.

The most recent meeting was held on Tuesday evening November 20th when four stations were on the air representing Acadia, Mount Allison and U. N. B. The contact lasted for about an hour during the course of which messages were exchanged and arrangements made regarding the operation of the network. Stations participating in this net were Gerry Guptill, VE1OT at Acadia, Bill Cook, VE1WF at Mount A. with Don Dewey, VE1ZK and Bob Kavanagh, VE1YW at U. N. B.

A fifth station, VE1AAD, is known to exist at St. Joseph's and is expected to join the network at an early date. It is also hoped to interest Dalhousie and St. F. X. as soon as possible.

At present, the net is prevented from exchanging items of news between the different universities because of the question of the legality of such a scheme. However it is hoped that this problem will be cleared up soon and the news exchange commenced.

SCM Votes 26-14 for Exchange

BEHIND THE SCENES



Audrey Baird (l) and Nancy Corbett (r) apply makeup for Don Bell host(ess) in "If Men Played Cards as Women Do." (Photo by Mersereau)

One-Act Plays Well Received

The Dramatic Society's bill of one-act plays has been a great success in every respect, and all the members of the society agree that the presentation reached their highest hopes. But when considering such a production, one is liable to think of the actors, actresses and producers as being the main contributors to its success, for they are the ones in the spotlight at the performance. Although they do play one of the major roles, we should not overlook the work of the people indirectly connected with the presentation, without whom it would not have been so well received.

A month ago the city and campus saw the beginning of a dynamic publicity campaign that was soon to reach everyone in the city. Chairman David Vine overlooked no device to make everyone "one-act play" conscious, and in his campaign he received the help of many: Mr. Jack Fenety of CFNB, who contributed a great deal of time and interest; Ruth Nicholson, Hugh Thompson, Jack Foote and Phyllis Taylor, whose posters were seen everywhere; Stig Harvor, who designed the downtown window displays; Van's, Fleming's and McMurray's who contributed window space. The Gleaner and Mr. Robert McGowan of the Field Secretary's Office were responsible for the wide coverage in the press.

The properties committee (Dirk van der Meyden and Harry Fairburn) joined forces with Willie Schure, Al Trombley and Gordon Fenton, the stage crew, to begin a scavenger hunt that covered everything from poker chips to an old fashioned wood stove. This group also produced the sets and made sure the curtain appeared at the right time.

In the make-up department, Audrey Baird was assisted by Nancy Corbett and Joan Goodfellow. Their efficient work was especially noticed in "Overlaid". Ruth Nicholson, who also did an able job of planning the party in the Arts Centre, handled the costumes.

The number of people who assisted Joan Golding in the sale of tickets could go on indefinitely, but special thanks go to Jane Wright, who did such a good job at Teachers' College. And so the list grows as we consider the great number of people who did their bit to help. The business men and citizens of Fredericton, the students and the various departments Up The Hill. Whether you loaned a tea pot, served as usherette, or merely bought a ticket, the Dramatic Society thanks you and hopes to have the same kind of support for its major production, "An Inspector Calls", when it is produced next term.

Dr. Beal Addresses Students on Dominion Observatory

Last Tuesday the students of the university had the opportunity of listening to Dr. Beals of the Dominion Observatory of Canada speaking about his department and the opportunities for employment with it. Pointing out that the department has five divisions, Dr. Beals proceeded to discuss each in turn.

The first group is concerned with positional astronomy, the location of stars and the cataloguing of such information. It is this group too that determines the official time of Canada. This, Dr. Beals pointed out, is obtained through readings of the stars taken each and every night. All the knowledge gained by this body of scientists is not used solely by Canada, but rather poured into a

At the Sunday Open House of Student Christian Movement a standing vote of 26-14 was shown in favour of accepting the responsibility of forming a representative reception committee for the visit of a group of Russian exchange students.

Pros and Cons of the question were debated by Bill Reddin, Bob Scott, Douglas King and Stig Harvor. The latter two representing the affirmative. The affirmative felt that such an invitation would be a step, however slight, in improving the deteriorating relations between east and west. It would be a gesture of goodwill designed to break down the fear which separates the two sides. It would bring people into personal contact, thus a better understanding of each other would be gained. The example of the University of British Columbia Exchange Plan was cited, under which an exchange of Canadian and Russian students would take place.

The negative side stated that the trip might have an adverse effect on the thinking of Canadian Youth. Since the Russian delegation would in all probability be comprised of trained propagandists and that the average Canadian youth would be no match for them — it would be a one sided exchange of ideas.

ACADIA MAKES "TIME"

Wolfville—The Acadia Athenaeum and Dr. Watson Kirkconnell made the pages of Time magazine last week as the question of inviting 15 Soviet students to Canada reached new heights. Severely misquoting Dr. Kirkconnell the weekly news magazine stated "Loudest support for the federation's (NFCUS) decision came from Dr. Watson Kirkconnell, president of Acadia University, cried he: "Any student who would be willing to go from Canada would in any case be a rank fellow traveller."

Acadia's Athenaeum, the student newspaper, argued that there weren't any students at Acadia "intellectually" capable of discussing politics and economics with visiting Russians anyway.

In replying Dr. Kirkconnell explained that a "Student" delegation would almost certainly be picked members of the Soviet political police, with a subversial job to do in this country.

He points out the difficulty of finding young Canadians who spoke enough Russian to enter Soviet university life, who would be persona grata to the Soviet passport officials, and who would really want to go. He then adds that the type of student who would be keen to go would be a fellow traveller. (This is very different from saying that any student willing to go would be a fellow traveller.)

The Athenaeum editorial was also misinterpreted. While the editorial *Isolationism, NO!* in the Oct. 16 edition of this paper, stated that "most of us would not want to be pitted in a bull session against 15 Russian Propagandists." NO mention of the intellectual capabilities of Acadia's students was made. (Continued on Page 4 Column 2)

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