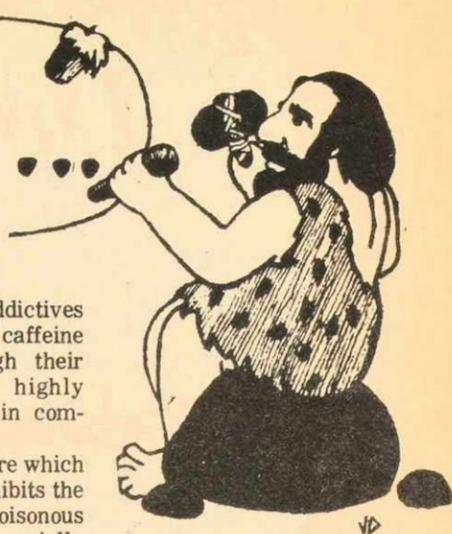


# WORDS FROM THE WISE ...



**To the GAZETTE:**

Destruction of housing is not a proper function of the university. Destruction of desperately needed housing is not the proper function of anyone.

How would Senator Hicks like it if some students unilaterally destroyed some of Dal's administrative offices?

Yet Dr. Hicks intends to demolish four perfectly sound houses on South Street between LeMarchant and the Rink. His excuse is that Dal plans a Phys Ed complex on the site. Yet there are currently no funds available for the project. Furthermore Dal doesn't own one of the lots required.

It is just a hypocritical excuse for turning the land into parking

lots, an economically motivated decision. In the process, three youth projects are being evicted: Earth Household, Camelot House, and the Halifax South Open School.

Family housing is difficult to come by in Halifax, yet Dalhousie has consistently bought up houses (or gotten them as bequests), turned them first into student rentals and then offices, and finally torn them down for parking areas and other financial exploitation.

The houses being threatened on South Street (numbers 6165 to 6179) are ideally suited for residential service projects. Two innovative ones which the city desperately needs are a Medical Education Centre and a

Detoxification Centre.

The medical profession has the highest average earnings of Canadian occupations because people are encouraged to mistreat themselves, and are ignorant of health care. Advertising for a host of useless and dangerous products reinforces this condition.

A Medical Education Centre would teach the general population of all ages how to live a healthy, enjoyable, and economical life without being victimized by the medical and other professions.

No Detoxification Centre exists in the Maritimes, and such places are rare anywhere. Furthermore, most such centres take a dishonest view

toward drugs. Legal addictives such as tobacco and caffeine are accepted, although their effect on health is highly damaging, alone and in combination.

A Detoxification Centre which has open doors yet prohibits the bringing in of all poisonous substances (whether socially acceptable or not) would help anyone who needs a place to stay where the air isn't filled with fumes and where people aren't being constantly offered dangerous substances.

These two types of centres are just some of the possibilities for uses of the South Street houses. Their demolition would be criminal. And Dal's refusal to support such worthwhile,

urgently needed projects would reveal the truly insidious nature of the university institution.

A lack of response from President Hicks would be sufficient reason for demanding his immediate dismissal on the grounds of gross incompetence and callousness. The next few days are the time for a public announcement — if he gets back from his Cuban jaunt, that is.

Walter Plant

**To the Gazette:**

Those of an historical bent will find numerous parallels between Dalhousie's Student Union Building and Rome in its decline. In both, "bread and circuses" has been the order of the day. But closer examination will show Imperial Rome to have been in many ways kinder than 'democratic' Dalhousie, for while the sacrifices exacted in its amphitheatre were limited to the few, our 'enlightened' society with its modern technology ensures that every spectator is a victim as well; there is simply no escaping the poisonous, atonal din that passes as 'music,' and

the pain that it causes anyone with even the slightest pretension to an ear is rather too excruciating to be described.

Not to mention the bitter paradox that in one of Canada's foremost centers of learning it is all but impossible to have a peaceful cup of coffee or chat with a teacher or friend. Many a more modest institution has contented itself with setting aside a certain area as a place of peace and refuge for the members of its community. Dalhousie, thanks to the zealous efforts of its radio station personnel and student union building staff, is now in serious

need of a place to set aside as refuge from the SUB. Any suggestions?

So many petitions, letters, and personal complaints have been directed to the SUB staff and radio station management that one feels a certain despair. Apparently, the awful din in whose midst they constantly work has closed these people's ears to any voice of reason or counsel of moderation. Legal action may indeed be the only remedy, for in the absence of any strong evidence to the contrary, there is good reason to believe that, here as elsewhere, noise pollution is an offense with a legal remedy. I

should be curious to hear the opinion of people on the Law faculty on this point. For the moment, I would simply implore the staff and management of Radio Dal not to cause me or others to take the drastic step of going to law. The aim is not to punish the 'guilty,' but to spare the innocent!

I ask the radio station management, in the name of God, to stop or at least greatly reduce the noise pollution in the SUB, either by 'going public' and transmitting to people who have radio sets and want to listen to them, or by restricting the areas of the building to which they broadcast, or the hours at which they play. I will be happy to meet with anyone from the station, as well as anyone who shares my views, in the hope of effecting some sort of meaningful reduction in the noise level.

And I urge the station management not to shrug off or ignore this letter, as they have so many others. I speak for a not inconsiderable body of people in saying "I have had

**To the GAZETTE:**  
I am a new student to this university, if fact this is my first year at any university. It appears to me that the social life of this university begins in the second year, that is, when most people reach the age of 19. There are hundreds of first year students who couldn't participate in Octoberfest. Every Friday and Saturday evening there are activities restricted to those above nineteen. Where are the dances for those below nineteen? I suppose winter Carnival will work the same way. I also notice that there are city police in attendance at any big activity at the S.U.B. Who is this Brian Smith anyway? He doesn't care about us — he only wants to make a name for himself. An eighteen year old

enough!"  
Jonathan C. Peirce  
17 Armshore Drive, Halifax

## SMU Votes For Change

**HALIFAX (CUP)** — Residence students at St. Mary's University have voted overwhelmingly in favor of changing visiting hours in their buildings.

But their elected representatives still must decide how much change to request and the administration must agree.

Under the current rules, male residents aren't allowed to have women in their rooms after midnight from Sunday to Thursday. On weekends they're allowed to have visitors until 3:00 a.m.

Women in the high-rise residence have similar hours, but women in the low-rise aren't allowed to have men in their

apartments before 6 p.m. Fridays and 1 p.m. Saturdays. On other days visitors aren't allowed in before 12 noon. Curfew hours are the same.

About 75 percent of the eligible residents voted about 80 percent in favor of change.

But they were allowed to write in their suggestions and Residence Society officials say about 10 major ideas emerged.

"We want to hash it out among ourselves," Society president, Dan Carroll, said. Society executive will "aim for what we think is the maximum we can get."

"And we're going to bet a minimum we'll accept," he said.

Carroll rejected the proposal offered by some residents for totally open visiting hours, a concept accepted in many Ontario and western Canadian university residences.

"Some people voted for open housing, and that's just not possible, he said. "It'd be a fiasco."

"We have to go through the administration and I don't see any way we'd get open housing at this time."

"However, the number of people who voted, and the way they voted, indicates that the majority of people around here want some kind of change one way or another," he said.

Any changes must be presented to both deans of residence, the dean of students and the academic senate.

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