

continued from page 4

are the same frustrations which forced us to strike action last November and, if you recall a special Council meeting, your decision in support of our case during that time of need was negative in all respects except the one of access to the Student Union Building. Even the Student Unions of other Universities issued statements of support. You have taken a long time to realize funding cut-backs affect us all and the best way to a solution is through organization of a united effort.

On the positive side, we do owe our gratitude to the staff of the **Gazette**, the many individual students and other members of the University Community who played an active role last November. I'm sure there were also some Council members sympathetic to us. We can hope that maybe, just maybe, our mutual concerns are beginning to gel and perhaps your present state of mind will have some influence on the incoming Council. Don't expect the Administration of the University to lead the way for our experience has been that they are content to sit back and squeeze our pocket books, thus forcing us to make all the noise.

**Good Luck!**  
**Reg Fenerty**  
 Business Representative  
 Local 968, I.U.O.E.

## No free speech in library?

To the Gazette:

This letter is written to express a concern on the part of both the students and members of the community who use the Dalhousie University library and its services. It has become obvious over the past few years that the internal politics of the library's administration have often worked against the best interests of the people using the library facilities.

Those of us who frequently use the services of the professional librarians have noticed an unusually rapid turnover of such personnel. This would be understandable if such individuals were incompetent. Yet, it appears that some staff members who have performed their duties competently and professionally have not had their contracts renewed.

Naturally, there could be many reasons why contract renewal is not offered. It is apparent, however, that providing satisfactory and consistent service to users of the library does not weigh heavily in consideration of contract renewal.

In a recent case, an individual who has provided efficient and helpful services was informed that his contract would not be renewed. The fact that he had the support of fellow employees, concerned students and the History Department did not influence the administration's decision. It is believed that because this individual has at times questioned the administration and

has been outspoken on topics that do not please his employers he has been denied renewal of his contract.

This is not an isolated case. There is suspicion that many staff have left the library due to similar circumstances. It is our opinion that in our enlightened society an individual should not be so severely penalized for his opinions. Furthermore, the rapid turnover of personnel in the library is inefficient. It is not in the best interests of those who use the services frequently. It takes time to develop a rapport with the library staff that is productive, and it takes time for the library staff to develop efficiency in whatever areas they work.

In consideration of these facts we appeal to the library administration to deal with their internal relations in a way that retains respect for their employees and will not jeopardize the services they provide.  
 K.D.



## Wholesale ignorance?

To the Gazette:

I do not intend to engage in a prolonged debate with Ismail Zayid over the alleged Zionist "monopoly of the news media" or any other aspect of Israeli-Palestinian history. To be sure, his own ability to use the letter columns of the **Gazette** to propagandize on behalf of the PLO indicates the apparent failure of Zionism to control the Halifax news media. More important, his latest letter only confirms my argument that complex historical questions are not readily resolved in such forums.

Like its predecessors, this latest letter reflects Zayid's wholesale ignorance of the true history of Israeli-Palestinian relations. That he places complete responsibility for the plight of the Palestinian refugees upon the Israelis and that he cites such supposedly neutral authorities as Arnold Toynbee and Bertrand Russell speak for themselves: no one minimally acquainted with the facts of the situation and with Toynbee's and Russell's distortions of those facts would take such a stance or quote such biased observers.

Because my original letter was written before Israel's retaliatory attack against the PLO, I could hardly have criticized its apparent

excesses, as Zayid would wish. I do not personally endorse those excesses and certainly do not advocate the killing of innocents on any side.

It is nevertheless curious, to put it charitably, that Zayid can with certainty characterize Israel's retaliatory attack as "genocide" against all Palestinians yet wonder if the PLO raid which prompted that attack was "deliberate or otherwise." It is curious not only because there is no evidence of such Israeli intentions but also because there is abundant evidence of such PLO intentions. As a medical doctor Zayid would, one would like to believe, have sufficient respect for all human life, including Jewish life, not to justify the deliberate murder of unarmed civilians. Sadly, his latest letter indicates otherwise.

**Dr. Howard P. Segal**  
 History Department  
 Dalhousie

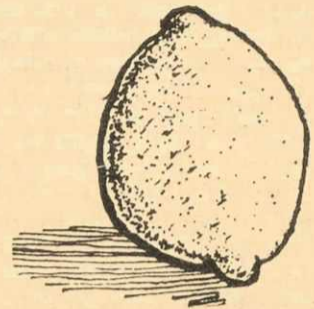
## Hefner makes women obsolete?

To the Gazette:

The present debate over whether or not the **Gazette** should publish explicit condom advertisements is indicative of much more serious and pertinent questions. Does the "sexual revolution" really produce the freedom from sexual and emotional inhibitions that man is attempting to rid himself of? If the answer is "yes", it would only seem fitting to endorse condom advertisements which promote safety. On the other hand, is the Christian

ethic of sex within the confines of marriage still a moral absolute in the twentieth century? If the answer is "yes" to this question, it would seem inappropriate for a student newspaper to publish condom ads in a paper which largely serves non-married students. These are the real issues.

Has the sexual revolution delivered its promise of freedom for the woman in sexual relations? Midge Decter, literary editor for "Saturday Review" has written, "The woman who flirts now labors under the consciousness that her behaviour might easily be seen as an invitation . . . It thus carries both for herself and her interlocuter



either the possibility of sleeping together or humiliating one another. She will, in other words, run the risk of being either a prig or a tease." Instead of delivering freedom, the sexual revolution has produced a tension which militates against the development of a healthy relationship.

Instead of securing respectability for the woman, the "New License" has in fact demeaned her. The

continued on page 6

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## Attention Gazette staffers!

a staff photo will be taken

Monday at noon

meet in the **Gazette** office

Don't miss it!