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CANADA'S OLDEST STUDENT PUBLICATION

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## CAESAR'S GALLING WARS

Now that we have committed ourselves to the conducting of a local radio station for a full day of broadcasting, we find ourselves faced with the problem of providing entertainment for at least four hours other than regular feature hours. Hence we find ourselves faced also with a dilemma that has confronted any amateur organization that has been in a similar position. There is an abundance of talent among students at Dal. We have a dance orchestra for example, that most students would, without prejudice, match against any "name" band in Canada. But on March 8 we shall not hear them unless we are prepared to pay out Union fees from an already over-burdened Council treasury. The Union, in fact, does not permit the musicians to volunteer, and if they were to accept payment and then pass it back without receipt, as has been suggested by some students, the band would be jeopardizing its future so far as off-the-campus work is concerned. That thought, therefore, must be ruled out. And we cannot blame the musicians.—We have, however, a number of excellent pianists who will be able to play—that is if we purchase Union tickets for them, or pay 'stand-by' pianists who will not so much as touch the piano for payment. Again, then, we bump into Caesar's rulings. And many are the stories of a similar nature that have been brought to light since Caesar Petrillo has decided to protect the interests of his boys.

The economic argument concerning the necessity for organized labor is as insoluble as the problem of which came first—the chicken or the egg. Protagonists of labor maintain that they must organize to fight, among other things, the rising costs of living; and their opponents maintain that labor's demands for higher wages have forced them to raise the prices of produce. It is senseless, perhaps, for the layman to form an opinion on this matter; but he can, without much thought, see the extremes to which both parties have been going. Just as profiteers are 'killing the goose that laid the golden egg'—turning 'free enterprise' into 'private enterprise'—so are such men as Caesar and his types destroying the labor union movement.

With this problem in mind a U.B.C. delegation forwarded the following resolution that was passed at the recent NFCUS conference in Winnipeg: "Be it hereby resolved that NFCUS secure from the National Headquarters of the Canadian branch of the American Federation of Musicians definite assurance that Canadian Universities be able to broadcast programs on a non-commercial, amateur and cultural basis using students' talent over the air during any airtime not currently used by any station for commercial broadcasting without recourse from local musicians' unions."

Surely this resolution is not unreasonable. Surely the thousands of musicians in Canada who have willingly or unwillingly joined the Union in defence of their interests will see that this request will not hinder their efforts to make a living. Students, in this instance, are not competing with professional musicians. — Will Petrillo, however, the man who allegedly boasted to his union's 1946 convention in St. Petersburg that he intentionally violated an American law, be reasonable? If subordinate labor members are wise they shall endeavour to curtail the czarist methods of their boss. University students, so often called "the future leaders of the world", will not be inclined to understand the principles for which labor is fighting if labor is unwilling to abet the harmless desires of "the future leaders". And if there is one thing that labor needs most, at present, it is understanding.—Meanwhile it appears that we shall have to be satisfied with a musician radio day. There is, of course, a possibility that a speaker's union will be formed in the meantime, and then we shall have to hire 'stand-by' members of the Union to be there while we, amateur speakers, have the privilege of one of our basic liberties. Extreme as this thought is, it is hardly more so than the present musicians' union code of restrictions.

## EDITOR'S MAILBOX

Dear Sir,

"nuff said." No. certainly not. Further, I would like to analyze last week's letter point by point.

The Hebrews were all originally from the Arabian desert and drifted into Palestine between 1400 and 1200 B. C. (Breasted) At a maximum, then, "our poor ancestors" have not been in Palestine for more than 3300 years. A far cry from 5000.

Thirteen hundred years ago (632 A. D.) the Arabs overran spread from India to Spain. The Arabs have been the most numerous people in Palestine since then. In the XI Century Palestine fell under the Seljuk Turks, and successively under the Christian Crusaders, Egyptians, Mongols and, finally, the Ottoman Turks until 1918. Considerably more than a "great total of thirty years," quoted by the erstwhile historian.

The Arabs joined the Allies in World War 1 under H.R.H. King Hussein, and fought for the liberation and unity of the Arabs INCLUDING THE ARABS IN PALESTINE. The Allies made clear their promises to the Arabs that they would support them in their nationalistic claims and that Palestine was to be no exception to the areas which were promised freedom and independence. (Fadhel-Jamli, Ph.D., Univ. of Beirut and Columbia.)

"...The British promised the Arabs all of the Arab speaking land except Lebanon and certain points to the North... the Arabs revolted against the Turks, made great sacrifices and helped the British to 'take the land.' McMahon and Colonel Lawrence promised definitely that the Arabs would have all the lands that they could conquer, except those lying west of Damascus, Hama, Aleppo and certain points to the North. The records are clear and definite. (Mr. Charles Issawi, The Arab Office, Washington.)

"I have received orders from my Government to inform you that all your demands are accepted and that all you ask will be sent. (McMahon to the Sherief of Mecca.) What were these demands? They are contained in a letter from the Sherief to McMahon.

"...That the British Gov't. acknowledge the independence of the Arab countries in every sense of the word... bounded by 37 degree latitude to the border of Persia... and on the West by the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea to Messina."

Understood by even the simplest of people? Yes, and I thoroughly agree.

I am at a loss to understand just what was meant by... after all, Trans-Jordan was completely liberated by 12,000 Jewish soldiers while the main organized strength of the Arabs was turned against the Allies." Lawrence, in his Seven Pillars of Wisdom, stated that "without the Arab help England could not pay the price of winning the Turkish sector. When Damascus fell the Eastern war drew to an end."

As to the statement attributed to the Archbishop of Lebanon it might be well to recall remarks made by Dr. Judah Magnes, Hebrew Univ. of Jerusalem: "... Zionist totalitarianism which is trying to bring the whole Jewish population under its influence by violence and force." Or

(Continued on page 8)

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