

The same as he's doing here . . .

# Hicks in the Senate: What's he doing?

Dalhousie President, Dr. Henry Hicks has been a member of the Senate since the fall of 1972, and the GAZETTE has taken a look at his performance to date in the Senate debates.

Senator Hicks was given the privilege of moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. This is the motion upon which Throne Speech debate is based, and it is traditionally moved by a government back-bencher.

Hicks spoke for 65 minutes, and the reaction to his speech was predictable for such an exercise in tradition. At one point Senator Grattan O'Leary pointed out that "Some of us are going to sleep over here."

When the Senate committees were appointed, Hicks appeared as a member of the joint committee of the House of Commons and the Senate of the Library of Parliament. No doubt his continuing duties at Dalhousie prevented assumption of a position on one of the Senate's standing committees.

On February 14th Hicks presented a major speech on federal support for post-secondary education, criticizing the inequities that have resulted from its system of distribution.

The scheme established by the St. Laurent government gave money on a par capita basis, rather than on the basis of the number of university students in each province. This,

to Hicks, seems contradictory to the aim of increasing educational opportunity for students. Money was given to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and it in turn gave it directly to the provinces.

In 1966-67 the Pearson plan was introduced. Provinces could receive per capita grants, or grants equalling half of the universities' operating costs. This scheme, while not necessarily hurting provinces with an unusually high number of universities, did hurt the less affluent.

Provinces such as Ontario and Alberta can afford to spend large sums and therefore they get more federal money. One example is a professor at Dalhousie receiving \$15,000 a year of which 7,500 is paid by Ottawa to Nova Scotia. However, the same man would get \$20,000 at U. of T., and bring \$10,000 to Ontario.

Another problem with the Pearson scheme is that there is no longer direct federal funding. All money goes through the province, and they need not spend it on universities. In Nova Scotia the Stanfield government held the money for three years. The Bennett government in B.C. was notorious for its tricks to get the most money from Ottawa while spending little to nothing on post-secondary education.

Hicks sees the result as a "provincialization" of Canadian universities. The provincial governments are trying more and more to restrict the number of students from other parts of the country. This is destroying the valuable contribution to a national identity that universities can make. There have been cases of students unable to get student loans because they don't fulfill the residence requirements of any province.

The only direct funding comes from the National Research Council or other special federal agencies. One example of these was the \$10,000,000 that was put aside several years ago by the federal Health Resources Council for the building of a new dental school in the Atlantic region. The new school will obviously be at Dalhousie. However, the federal money will cover, at best only half the cost. The rest must come from the provincial government, but these bi-level negotiations have been the delay in getting a new Dental School.

On March 21st the Dal President spoke during the debate on a gun-control bill. He was concerned over the possibility that members of a family would not be able to lend firearms to each other, recalling the enjoyment he has had from occasionally using firearms.



## GREAT FOR YOUR HEAD



## WRANGLER JEANS

## Student servant wants views

To the GAZETTE:

I have been charged with the responsibility of overseeing the general operation of the Student Union Building for the coming year. In doing this I am acting on your behalf to ensure that the SUB is run as effectively as possible to fulfil the needs and desires of Dal students. This is no mean task as it is impossible to satisfy everyone all of the time. However, it is my intention to cater to as many people as possible in a way which will add to the quality and enjoyment of student life. To accomplish this I must be aware of the attitudes of the people for whom the services of the SUB are intended — you, the students. Please feel free to let me know what you like and what you don't like about the policy and operation of the Student Union Building.

I have some changes in mind which I would like to initiate and your views on the many areas concerning the SUB will be invaluable in considering such changes. My office is in Room 212 of the SUB. Drop in anytime or call me at 424-3774. I am here to serve your interests.

**Bruce Evans**  
SUB Affairs Secretary

**Gazette staff meetings**  
**Monday 12:30 Rm. 334, SUB**

### FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

To be a disciple of Christ isn't easy. Discipleship costs. The same for priesthood. One could paraphrase G. K. Chesterton's famous comment about the Church and say,

"It is not that the ministry has been tried and found wanting, rather it has been found hard and not tried."

In a world where men love themselves, the idea of loving others seems to be hard for some to understand.

In a world preoccupied with getting, the idea of giving may be hard to understand.

In a world preoccupied with comfort, the idea of 'doing without' may be hard to understand.

In a world preoccupied with saving itself, the idea of Someone who has saved the world, may be hard to understand.

Hard to understand. Quite possibly!  
A commitment for life to truth, to justice and to brotherhood is the challenge presented to-day to the missionary priest.

Considering your future?  
Why not examine the challenge presented to the missionary priest?

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE TO:

Fr. Jack Lynch S.F.M.  
Scarboro Fathers  
2685 Kingston Road  
Scarboro, Ont. M1M 1M4

I would like to receive a copy of the pamphlet 'CHOOSE LIFE' which will give information on the Scarboro Fathers; their vocation, their lifestyle and their training.

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