



THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

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Delta Gamma Sponsors Yearly Bloodletting

Not quite a week remains before the students of Dalhousie will be asked by Delta Gamma to donate generously during this year's Blood Donor Clinic to be held on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of this month.

Surely no soapbox oratory is necessary to convince even the most naive freshette of the importance of donating blood. To the faint-hearted, the information is volunteered that it does NOT hurt, and the anticipation of a free cup of coffee might help to boost the spirits of the hesitant.

As well as the Interfaculty competition, won last year by the Engineers, there is a fraternity competition, previously won by Phi Delta Theta, while the leader of the girls' fraternities was Alpha Gamma Delta. It might be noted that the Interfac winner last year was a predominantly boys' faculty. This is Delta Gamma's first year as sponsor of the Blood Drive.

Dalhousie falls painfully short in the battle for the Corpuscule Cup, given by N.F.C.U.S., and won by Mount A last year. Of the, 1600 more or less, able-bodied students, only 51% donated blood in the main clinic held in 1958, just a mere one percent over one-half the student body.

Since 1953, the number of bottles of blood given by Dal students has dropped from preceding years, with one exception, 1956. Even in '56, the number of bottles given was 648, still less than one-half the number of registered students. As far as the "big" clinic last year, 504 bottles were given, and with registration up, the drop in the number of donations appears even more appalling.

In case the mathematically inclined are attempting to figure out how 504 equals 51% of Dalhousie's population, an explanation is presented. All those who appear at the clinic to give blood, and who are rejected, either because of age (under 18), or other reasons, are included in the percentage. After all, the intention was there. It is no crime to be rejected, and it helps Dalhousians appear concerned with the fate of their fellow man.

The clinic will be held on:

January 19 at 11:30-2:30
4:00-5:30
7:00-8:00
January 20 at 11:30-2:30
4:00-5:30
January 21 at 11:30-2:30

The Canadian Red Cross needs the "miracle fluid" badly. Dalhousie, as one of Canada's universities, can be a tremendous aid.

Editorial

FRIDAY NIGHT FARCES

Last Friday night's dance in the gymnasium struck what most Dalhousians felt was a new low in content, calibre, and enjoyment. The affair was overrun by hundreds of Wellington-booted high school teenagers with "nothin' else to do" who, having paid their admission fee, stomped about eyeing the 10 or 12 Dalhousie couples attending the dance.

In short, our once excellent weekly dances have degenerated into a series of public debacles, while the Students' Council steadfastly refuses to listen to the stream of complaints about the situation.

We are appalled that the Students' Council has sat back and allowed the bad money to drive out the good.

Yet this is precisely what has happened, and will continue to happen, as long as the powers that be allow anyone with the correct amount of silver in his pocket to invade our gymnasium on Friday nights.

As for those few Dal couples who bother to attend—what do they get for their money? Not a thing. No effort has been made at decoration, themes, costumes, good publicity, or stage entertainment. Ninety per cent of the music played is rock and roll.

Small wonder that whatever pride Dalhousie once had in her social curriculum is fast fading.

As long as about 12 couples of a possible 400 show up at a weekly dance, there is something radically wrong. We feel the trouble lies in the Student Council's juvenile approach to the problem. Further, we shall hold the Council as responsible for last Friday night's debacle as if they had attended en masse.

We suggest that the Students' Council move quickly to change this disgraceful situation.

DETERMINED UNITY OF C. U. P. RESULTS IN CHARTER OF JOURNALISTIC FREEDOM

From the courtroom window on the second floor of Quebec city's historic Palais de Justis one can see, below and to the right, the snow-laden rooftops and sturdy greystone structures of the storied city. It was in that courtroom December 30, 1959, in an atmosphere of determined unity, that the 24-member Canadian University Press unanimously passed its long-awaited Charter of Journalistic Freedom.

The twenty-second annual student newspaper conference set what it hoped was an important precedent in Canada when it followed the example of the American and European university press associations, in adopting a charter of complete jour-

nalistic autonomy. The step was considered important because it erased the hitherto timid approach of the CUP constitution toward support of French-speaking student newspapers which are subject to a more rigid administrative control than their English-speaking counterparts.

The Charter is to be sent to every Canadian university and student council where there is a student newspaper, as well as to all provincial governments.

The conference, in supporting the Charter, said that its purpose would be to serve as a national backing of the rights of student newspapers whose policies are, or may be infringed upon by student councils or university administration.

Charter of Canadian University Press

I. WHEREAS the Canadian student press believes in the following principles:

(1) That freedom of expression, and a debate by means of a free and vigorous press is essential to the effectiveness of an educational community in a democratic society;

(2)a. That while the student press is a function of the student government or of the university administration this should in no way be allowed to impair the freedom of the student press;

b. That the student press should be free of all forms of external interference;

(3)a. That it is essential to a free student that it be responsible for the views, and the opinions it expresses and;

b. That the basic duties of such a free student press are to present the various opinions of the students it represents, to present the news fairly, and without bias, and to interpret local, national, and international events and issues of interest,

and import to students to the best of its ability.

II. AND WHEREAS freedom of the student press has been abridged in the following ways:

(1) Confiscation of issues of student newspapers . . .

(2) Supervision, expulsion, or threats of similar action against editors . . .

(3) Control of the content of a student newspaper through censorship . . .

(4) Financial pressure . . .

(5) By censorship of articles . . .

(6) By inordinate, and excessive social pressure . . .

III. THEREFORE the Canadian Student press affirms its belief that it should be free from all the abuses listed under Article II, and declares the following fundamental rights, duties, and responsibilities necessary for the effective implementation of the principles of Article I;

(1) That the Canadian student press should be free from pressure by student governments, university authorities, or any external agencies;

(2) That within the restrictions of the law of libel, and within the scope of their responsibilities, and duties as outlined in Article I, the Canadian student press should be autonomous and;

(3) That the Canadian student press should be free to develop so that it can continue to fulfill its role in the academic community.

The three-day conference also backed a resolution creating a national student magazine, to be sponsored jointly by CUP and NFCUS.

The magazine was established to remedy the admitted ignorance of Canadian students in both their own national affairs and in international student activities.

The magazine is to be bilingual, and will appear four times per year. It will be distributed free by the NFCUS committee on each campus.