



At university a student is taught presumably to speak out for what he believes is right, regardless of whether he is or not. The opportunity is given to student to learn what has gone before in his study of history, what can be done in the future through the specialized courses in which he majors, and he is trained in his study of English to be able to write and speak these opinions intelligently.

A college newspaper caters to the student body who have an opinion to be expressed, but it is often obvious that statements made in the spirit of constructive criticism are taken with the vain supposition that admirable individual work has not been recognized. To those who have used their innate and developed intelligence, the intention of the writer is only too obvious: to others limited in their view to a particular petty personal feeling, the overall good is lost—a mental astigmatism prevents a long range outlook. 'Tis a shame, but everyone is entitled to an opinion, rightly or wrongly.

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A group known as the Fortean Society caters to people who have many opinions to express, views and outlooks on many problems and as their president writes: "We are an association of folks who insist on thinking for themselves and taking only such action as they wish. The club adheres to a principle that "dogma is the worst of all evils and that those who wish to impose their dogmas on the rest of us are far worse public enemies than mere murders . . ."

In their quarterly magazine DOUBT (which can be purchased for 35c from Box 192, Grand Central Annex, N.Y.C.) the Fortean Society disseminates their philosophy with fascinating clippings and comment contributed by world wide Fortean "to widen the scope of Fortean inquiry to all phases of life."

One of their interesting items was the story of an English father who smashed the family television set after his 4-year-old son said "Shut up, Daddy, I'm watching T.V."; or this rather odd item "After years of plug-pulling" Dr. Richard Scorer of the Imperial College of Science announced in the Daily Express that "British bath water usually swirls down the plug-hole counter-clockwise."

* * * *

The Canadian Press announces that the campaign of the University of New Brunswick has come to a successful conclusion with their \$400,000 objective to be used to finance a new men's residence exceeded by \$25,000. Dalhousie University, a much older university, is still without an adequate residence. Are we going to get one, or do we, like Edinburgh University after which we are patterned, really need one? The distinguished Dalhousie professor Archibald MacMechan once wrote: "This new institution, on the other hand, was to have no residence. Students would be free to lodge where they pleased. The townman or the military officer might pay his fee and attend a single course of lectures without the restraints of a discipline designed for boys. It was to be a little Edinburgh....."

* * * *

Spirit and group enthusiasm is missing on a campus that does not have the atmosphere such as residential life which is conducive to spirited demonstrations. The hockey team in their 5-5 tie with St. F.X. were cheered on by a lusty crowd of collegians and it is unfortunate the sextet could not hold their slim lead. Congratulations for a job well done to the whole team and especially to Captain Murray Dewis of Dentistry who potted two goals, and to the "Tabby" Andy Sim, who also notched a brace.

The basketball team played before a minority group of voiceless Dal fans in their one home game last week, and in their two away games faced determined opposition in Acadia and St. Mary's Universities who eked out wins over the Tigers. Last week for the Varsity team, both Senior and Intercollegiate, it was a winless week with three losses. Saturday afternoon in the Dalhousie Gymnasium the Dalhousie Tigers open the first game of the play-offs with a game against St. F.X. A little support and the Dalhousie Varsity Tigers could win this big one—it was a tremendous squeaker last time. Let's get out Saturday afternoon!

* * * *

Overheard at the Junior Prom, which was rated a successful venture, except financially. The gym was certainly decorated attractively. The various dance committees this year have done an excellent job in converting the sweat-box into a "boite de la nuit" atmosphere. Commendations to all due to the inclement weather.

He: "I suppose you dance."
She: "Yes, I love to."
He: "Great, that's better than dancing."

* * * *

The movie Anastasia is certainly as good as it is rated, and the performance of that incomparable Swede Ingrid Bergman certainly is of Academy award calibre. (A late news report Monday stated she received one of the Academy Award nominations.) The love story played by Ingrid and Yul Brynner in the film is carried out in much the same way as that of Henry Higgins and Eliza Doolittle in George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion adapted in the Broadway production My Fair Lady. It is interesting to note that the Galatea and Pygmalion of Greek legend has been re-enacted in these recent performances. In this matriarchal society the story of a man re-making, re-discovering or re-creating a woman who has had a poor background due to health or environment and then falling in love with her is certainly a switch on the "man chases woman till she catches him" theme that has been all too prevalent in movies and plays. Many thanks to the resuscitation of Ovid's Metamorphoses, which originally furnished us with the story.

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A little bit of useless trivia to cram the head while discussing the forthcoming election issues:

Canadians use more than 150 meaningless words to refer to a thing whose specific name has momentarily slipped from memory. Some of these indefinite terms, like "dingus" and "doodad" are short and simple; but, strangely, the majority are long and fantastic: "dudenwhacker, hootenannie, rigamajiggen, thingumabob, whatdycallit."

* * * *

A little engineering story heard in the Shack following the Engineers Ball (to be held this Friday night).

Professor (in math class): If you start at a given point on a given figure and go all the way round it, what will you get?

Freshman: "Slapped, sir!"

Americans Visit Impossible Now

A proposed weekend visit of students from United States universities to Dalhousie had to be called off, NFCUS Chairman Al O'Brien told delegates to the Federation's Atlantic Regional Conference on Saturday.

The visit, a mandate from the last regional conference, was to follow the outline of similar exchanges in Ontario and Quebec, and was to be held in conjunction with the conference.

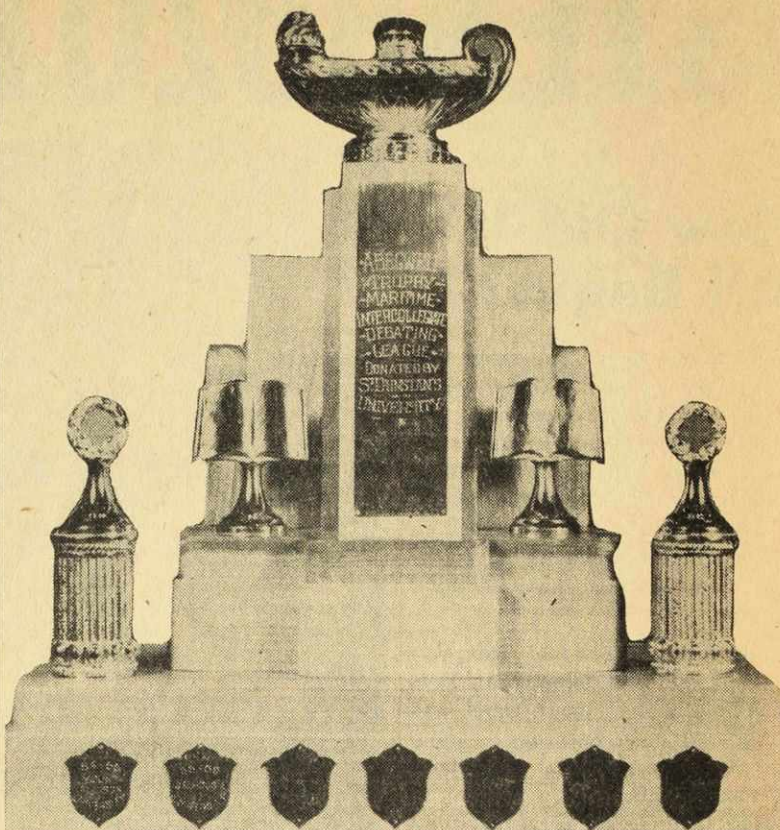
Five New England colleges, Colby, Dartmouth, University of Maine, Bennington, and Babson Institute were contacted at the suggestion of the U.S. National Student Association, the counterpart of NFCUS below the border, by Dave Peel and Elizabeth Duxtan of the Dalhousie council.

Only Dartmouth and Maine replied to the invitations, and the Dal NFCUS committee began organizing a program and started raising funds. But then Maine decided it was unable to send any students and Dartmouth could only send three.

The Dalhousians decided that it was impossible to hold the program that they had planned for only three visitors, and informed the Dartmouth College student council that they regretted having to cancel it.

The conference suggested that Dal continue its efforts to hold such an exchange, and plans are now underway to try again for the fall of 1957.

Debating Trophy Finally Arrives



(photo by Thomas)

The Abegweit Trophy, symbolic of Dalhousie's first victory in many years in the Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League, is finally on display in the trophy cabinet in the Men's Residence.

Victorious over St. Mary's, St. Thomas and U.N.B. in the regular schedule in 1955-56 with debaters Al Sinclair, Malcolm Smith, Matt Epstein, Dick Vogel, Hugh Coady and Dave Peel, Dalhousie tied with St. Dunstan's, forcing an extra debate to decide the winner. Smith and Peel took a unanimous decision from the Charlotte-town university, but were defeated in the semi-finals of the national championships in London, Ontario.

The trophy, late in arriving from Mount Allison, had to be repaired, and only goes on display now that it is lost for this year as a result of only one win in three debates for Dalhousian.

Israel and Her Neighbours

PART II

by Louis Greenspan

Palestine, at the end of the nineteenth century was a barren country, loosely administered under the authority of the Turkish empire, inhabited by some 500,000 Arabs and a few thousand Jews. The South was a desert used by Nomads crossing from Egypt to Saudi Arabia or points further north. The once fertile valley of Jezrul, the scene of the wars of Gideon and Deborah in the Old Testament was a forbidding malaria swamp. The inhabitants of the country belonged to no political unit, save that administered by the Turks. They frequently fought amongst themselves and that national consciousness, now so potent in the Middle East, was practically non-existent. Politically speaking, Palestine was at that time a man's land.

The first Jewish settlers, and indeed all Jewish settlers until 1948 bought uninhabited land from the Arabs out of funds contributed by the Jewish people. It was not expected that the people not accustomed to farming would remain, but as the swamps were gradually drained and waste areas made fertile, it was clear that Jewish settlements would be the basis of a strong political movement. That these settlements were intended as the avante-garde of a future state is clear from their very names, as for example, Rishon Letzion (First in Zion) and Petach Tikvah (Gate of Hope).

The opposition that these early settlers encountered came from two sources; the Arab inhabitants, long accustomed to making war upon one another, and the Turkish authorities themselves. For the Sultan Abdul Hamid was not anxious to have a modern western type democracy in the middle of his corrupt empire. At the end of the first decade of this century still another force was beginning to grow, namely, the spirit of Arab Nationalism in the countries surrounding Palestine. It opposed Zionism on the conviction that a Jewish State would be a stronghold for Western Imperialism in the Middle East.

After World War I, the situation changed completely. Instead of the Turks, the British were in control of Palestine. Instead of scattered Jewish villages there was a whole area of Jewish settlement. The British declared themselves in favor of a National Jewish Home in Palestine, and here for the first time the Zionist movement had the open support of a Great Power.

But as Arab Nationalism grew in intensity, and hostility towards Zionism increased, the British,

whose interests in the Middle East depended a great deal on Arab good-will, modified their attitude. However, facts were facts, and Jewish settlement was so great that it could not be ignored. Nor were the Arabs unwilling to sell more land to the Jews, so that by the 20's the Society of Jewish settlers had the basic organization of a state, and Zionist settlers had already built three large cities.

Meanwhile, the situation of European Jewry was deteriorating. The Fascist governments that had come to power in the thirties were outlining elaborate programmes for mass slaughter of Jews. Stiff immigration laws in Western countries prevented the Jews from escaping. At the same time British authorities virtually halted immigration to Palestine, despite the fact that a Jewish

(Continued on Page 5)



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