

Council's Got to Shape Up

It is time for the Dalhousie Student Council to get up off its ass and get a little work done and the first thing they have got to do is make sure they have enough councillors who are going to show up for meetings.

For the second time in a row important council business had to be delayed because not enough councillors could find the time in their 'busy' schedules to attend the fortnightly council meetings. The idea that other members had to telephone people to come to the meeting in order to have a quorum is absolutely ridiculous.

It is true that councillors have all the time restraints of regular students as well as time requirements for council but one has to wonder why they ran for council in the first place if they planned not to show up for any of the meetings.

The student council office should be the busiest place on this campus. All too often it instead resembles a Mexican village at siesta time. It's hard to believe that student councillors (who you can never find in the council offices) can not afford two or three hours every two weeks to serve the interests of the people that elected them. If they can't afford the time they should quit and let someone else have the job.

What is worse is that the councillors who will not show up must affect the moral of the councillors who are concerned about the campus. Dick Matthews, the president of the Student Union realizes this but he has got to be more forceful in order to stop it. He may not want to threaten people with reprisal but he has got to realize that this is not the time to pussy foot with councillors who are not doing their jobs properly. Dalhousie needs strong student leadership not wishy-washy words and invisible student representatives.



WITH THAT KIND OF ATTENDANCE,
THE INEPT SLACKARDS 'LL MAKE
GREAT MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

DALHOUSIE
STUDENT
COUNCIL



WITHERS FOR "A" NORBS THE

Letters to Gazette

Nukes are here to stay

To the Gazette:

Two weeks ago the Gazette published two articles on nuclear power. The editorial was good in that it stated we have an energy problem and we have problems dealing with that problem—nuclear energy. The only complaint about this piece is the following: "a nuclear disaster would kill millions and affect millions of others for generations to come." The last part is true and is the same for any "disaster", but what effects? The first part of the quote I take exception to; How?

The other article was true regarding some of the specific problems with nuclear energy. The writer failed to state, however, that the "How Safe?" question has been answered for some of the alternative sources. Statistics show that there are greater risks of death, delayed death, and serious injury in all other aspects of the energy field than nuclear. Recently 'Acid Rain', which is the product of hydrocarbon burning in the U.S. and Nova Scotia, is thought to be irreversibly changing our environment.

Industrial risks, which the nuclear industry contributes to, is a direct consequence of our technological age. We must monitor all industries and try to minimize these

risks without drastically affecting our standard of living. We cannot go back technologically; NUKES are here to stay. We must learn to live with them and keep monitoring them. Mistakes happen, but remember, radioactive plutonium stays around only 250,000 years (which is actually incorrect), but arsenic, mercury, cadmium, DDT, and most other toxic substances stay around for an eternity.

If your readers wish to learn more about this debate I invite them to read "The Nuclear Challenge. Understanding the Debate" by Alan Wyatt, Book Press Ltd., Toronto, 1978. It's a Canadian book, about Canadian issues.

Peter Ian Wallace
Department of Geology

American "adulation" of their constitution, this statement clearly implies that fascists should not have free speech.

This is a dangerous precept. Once we deny free speech to any segment of our populace, we become no better than any of a dozen repressive countries, who also allow free speech to only select groups.

I do not accuse this paper of supporting the anti-freedom of speech stand taken by the article. My own experience as a reporter and as an editor has taught me that freedom of speech is what makes newspapers such an important part of our society. I realize that the article, being a reprint, may not have been carefully scrutinized before publication, and I hope such errors will be prevented in the future.

If, however, you do support the anti-freedom of speech view, I only ask that you keep your opinions on your editorial page, and out of your articles.

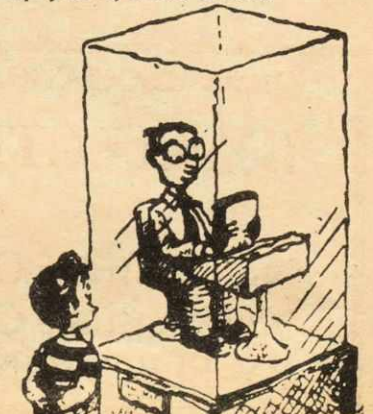
Sincerely,
William Prouty
Spryfield, Nova Scotia

Free Speech

To the Gazette:

It is not usually considered professional journalism to reprint articles wholesale from other papers. One of the reasons for this can be seen in your October 18 issue reprint entitled "Neo-nazism on rise," taken from the Charlton Morris Illyniak.

In this article, the reporter referred to "the American Civil Liberties Union's persistent defence of a universal right to free speech, even that of fascists." Coming after a statement denigrating the



The Dalhousie Gazette

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The views expressed in the Dalhousie Gazette are not necessarily those of the Dalhousie Student Union, the editor, or the collective staff. We reserve the right to edit material for space or legal reasons, or if it is considered offensive to our readers.

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