

DAL GAZETTE

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Straight from the Pocket

Dalhousie University can take pride in its participation in many projects, both regionally and nationally, in which its role has been an outstanding one. Amongst the more notable of these projects or organizations is the National Federation of Canadian University Students, the World University Service of Canada and the Canadian University Press.

It is to the second that we wish to devote our efforts. The WUSC organization at Dal, as well as other colleges, is one of the few campus groups whose interests are purely and unquestionably unselfish and for the benefit of deserving persons truly in need of assistance. The purpose of WUSC is to aid needy and impoverished students in any part of the world, and when you get down to it, the success or failure of WUSC depends on what each of us is willing to give outrightly of time, energy and money to achieve this purpose without expecting anything whatsoever in return except the personal gratification of having done something good for someone else.

Canada's WUSC organization is a good one, and like such organizations first requires sufficient nourishment to keep itself going in order to keep others going. On the Canadian scene, it maintains two national or general secretaries who are required to move around the country a good deal promoting WUSC interests, plus secretarial help, the maintenance of sufficient press and public relation releases, which along with such heavy items of expense as rent, salaries, travelling expenses, publication costs, etcetera set the outfit back some \$16,000.00 annually. This amount of money must be realized initially before the specific aims of the organization can be delved into.

WUSC is anxious that all money raised on university campi should go toward direct relief for needy students. It requires, therefore, a means to meet its operating expenses without deducting first various amounts from funds raised on campus to pay these basic costs. There is where YOU come in.

At universities across the country, students have been asked and have contributed \$1.00 each, straight from their own pocket, to do the job. At others, Students' Councils have levied or allotted a ten-cents per capita fund from its Council budget for this purpose. Either move is satisfactory and each is to be commended. We strongly urge the Dal Council of Students' to do the same. The Alberta Students' Council, usually keen, thoughtful and charitable re this type of matter, failed to see its duty in the same light, but we predict that a change will be made yet. For your interest we reprint an editorial from last week's Alberta U. "Gateway."

Students Council, which has aroused little controversy so far this year, last Tuesday made what seems to us a serious mistake, when it rejected the proposals for a student levy in support of the World University Service of Canada.

Raising of the levy proposal was an outcome of a recent visit by Lewis Perinbam, general secretary of WUSC. In an enlightening talk to a group of council members and student leaders, Perinbam outlined the financial problems which face WUSC today.

Until recently, WUSC was supported almost entirely by campaigns seeking voluntary contributions on Canadian campi. Most of the money so raised went directly to overseas relief; but some, of course, had to go to administration — keeping a national office with two full-time secretaries and a stenographer part-time. Administration costs were more or less arbitrarily set at no more than 10 cents per student, the remainder coming from other gifts from those interested in the work of WUSC.

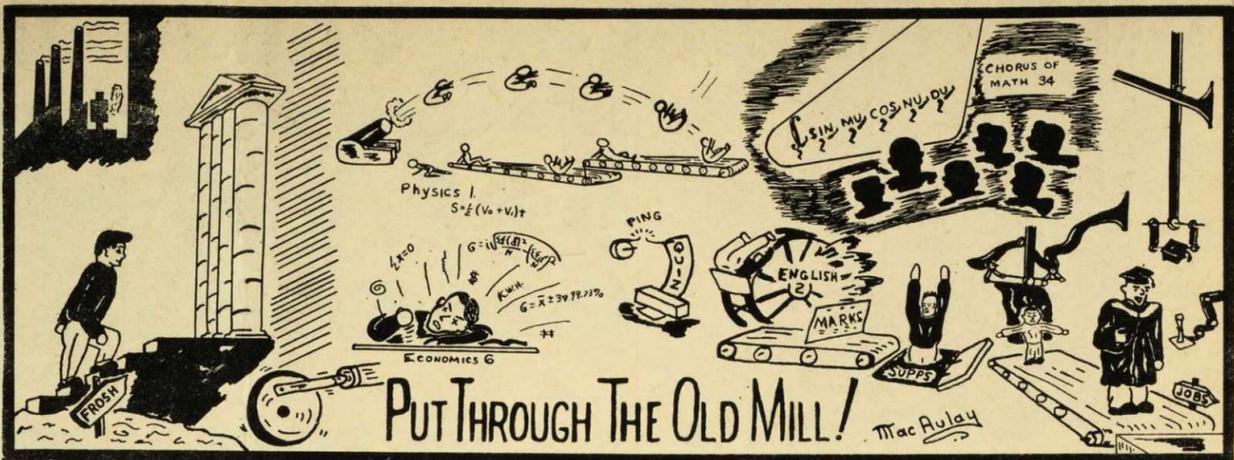
As a result, salaries, not on a generous scale to start with, have sometimes gone unpaid for months on end. The need for a more stable source of revenue for WUSC, which, by the nature and quality of its work, has a unique place in Canadian university life, led to the suggestion of a student levy to be collected with fees, which has been implemented at UBC and Saskatoon.

A student levy, collected automatically, has several advantages. It provides a guaranteed amount of money so that WUSC can plan ahead. It usually provides more money per student — \$1 — than voluntary contributions can raise. It frees the time and energy of the local WUSC committees from the necessity of running campaigns, enabling them to devote themselves to the cultural and educational work activities which are also part of the function of WUSC.

On the other hand, the campaigns which have been conducted on campi across Canada have made necessary active and vigorous local committees. And, because WUSC has had to sell itself each year to the Canadian student, it has the good will of that student solidly behind it everywhere.

In these circumstances, the logical course of action at Alberta seems obvious. Administration costs — which are pegged at ten cents per capita — are the ones which should be definitely guaranteed at the beginning of each term.

A levy is the logical and satisfactory way of doing this. But the campaign, which has strengthened the organization and provided it with good public relations, should be retained. It would have an added appeal, because canvassers could assure the students they approach that every cent collected would go directly to overseas student relief.



Letters To The Editor

Dalhousie University
February 23, 1956.

The Editor,
Dalhousie Gazette.

Dear Sir:
Why the criticism of *The Little Foxes*? The play was well done. I don't know what standards E.T.B. was using to judge it but it certainly ranks with the student productions at the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia. In fact David Murray should be commended rather than criticized.

I suspect what E.T.B. does not like is David Murray's choice of the play itself. *The Little Foxes*, like the *Madwoman of Chailot*, demands a certain effort on the part of the audience. Any good play does. Bedroom comedies demand no effort; and in proportion when they are over there is nothing left; they are simply entertainment; they pass and are forgotten like the effervescence they are. Would E.T.B. prefer a play of this kind? Let those who want those kind of plays produce them; but at least give credit where credit is due: the DGDS deserves nothing but approval for its production of *The Little Foxes*.

Yours truly,
P. B. Waite.

February 24, 1956.

To the Editor,
Dalhousie Gazette.

Dear Sir:
May I ask space in your paper to express my surprise at your editorial "What is Wrong with the DGDS"? I had thought that the choice of plays and their production had been particularly creditable this year. As a person, brought up close to the professional theatre I had seen the original productions of *The Madwoman of Chailot* and of *The Little Foxes* and I found the Dalhousie productions very interesting. So many members of the staff have remarked to me how glad they were that more entertaining and sophisticated plays were being put on this year than in the past.

May I also express my surprise at what your editorial says about the choice of play, appropriate to a university. You write: "Comedies are much more appropriate to the collegiate stage than serious or even semi-serious drama." Let it be clear that I have nothing against comedy. There is nothing more serious than comedy. Nevertheless it is hard not to draw the conclusion that your writer means by comedy simply the latest slick piece from Broadway. To recommend this is not to see the purpose of the theatre in human life. All civilized societies have found release of the spirit in the theatre. We must surely want that to be so in Nova Scotia and for our universities to play their part in the development of a Nova Scotia theatre. If the university descends to the lowest common denominator of achievement in this field, what can we expect will happen in the province in general?

Your view of what plays the university should put on is wrong for another and more technical reason. It is surely an axiom of the theatre that the acting and production of comedy requires the longest and most difficult training of all the theatrical arts. And the more frothy and passing the comedy the more difficult it is for amateurs to do it well. The kind of modern comedy you recommend is almost impossible for amateurs to do well because its success in New York or London depends on their having been written for the particular personalities of stars who are then surrounded by very expensive decor. Nothing is less appetizing in this life than a stale Martini. If Dalhousie concentrated on the frothy Broadway Comedy — it would be producing stale Martinis.

Finally may I add, the purpose of university dramatics and journalism is to begin the practice of those arts and to learn their basic principles. Among mature journalists, the highest maxim of their art is that editorials, though hard-hitting, should never be written because of personal whim or prejudice. It is to be hoped that in future your editorial writers will learn that grown-up maxim.

Yours sincerely,
George P. Grant.

Why Break Your Back? Pick Up Your Pen!

'Tis the time to be thinking about summer jobs but why break your back and work up an unnecessary sweat when you might rake in some extra cash with a little literary effort. Why not take a crack at the W. H. Dennis English Prizes for poetry and prose, with first and second prizes of \$200 and \$100 respectively. Here's all the gen to get you in the field:

Joseph Howe Prizes for Poetry
James DeMille Prizes for Prose

The attention of candidates for these prizes is drawn to the following regulations adopted by the Senate to govern the awards.

1. Candidates for these prizes must be registered in at least three classes in Dalhousie University.
2. Candidates may submit not more than four poems for the Joseph Howe Prize. The poems may be epic, lyric or dramatic, and they may be of any length.
3. Candidates for the DeMille Prize may submit more than one manuscript. The term "essay" is to be liberally construed to include short stories and descriptive sketches as well as essays proper upon any literary, historic or philosophical subject. Essays proper should be about the length of an ordinary review article, i.e., of between 4000 and 6000 words, but originality of thought, freshness of treat-

ment, style, etc., will be chiefly considered by the Jury of Award.

4. Candidates are recommended to choose Canadian themes.
5. Three typewritten copies of each composition must be sent in by the competitor. These compositions must be typewritten, upon one side of the sheet only. They must not be signed by the candidate, but a pseudonym is to be typed at the end of each manuscript and after the pseudonym a statement as to whether or not a first or second or no prize has been previously awarded to the writer. They are to be accompanied by a sealed envelope bearing in one corner, in typewriting, the same pseudonym and addressed in typewriting to the "Jury of Award, Joseph Howe English Poem Prize," or "James DeMille English Essay Prize," as the case may be. The envelope shall contain in type-

WUSC is a fixture on the Canadian university scene. It is time that its finances were put on a stable permanent basis. And it is time Alberta's Students' Council woke up and realized these elementary facts.

NEWS OF THE U'S

by Garry K. C. Braund



Dalhousie Gazette
CUP Editor
Dalhousie University, Halifax.

In reply to student petition special SRC meeting approves referendum as to whether UNB will remain in NFCUS next year. To be held on February 29. NFCUS opposed motion on the grounds it would be too much work for them to defend. Also claimed petition to constitute want of confidence in SRC. Recommended president resign. President refuted remarks and refused to resign. Motion passed unanimously. —Brunswickian.

Dalhousie Gazette,
CUP Editor
Dalhousie University, Halifax.

UBC Student Council February 21 voted 7 to 3 to withdraw from NFCUS and to take initiative in forming a National Students Presidents Association to replace it. The council decision will not take effect unless students approve it at the spring general meeting March 15th. Odds of student approval are only fifty-fifty experts say since no fee decrease could be offered. The decision came when council approved the majority report of the special committee formed last fall to investigate the advisability of NFCUS withdrawal the committee reported while NFCUS projects are worthwhile they could be carried on just as effectively by a more streamlined organization. The report recommended a substitute body with no permanent national executives. Various projects such as art contests and exchange scholarships could be delegated to committees on the various universities at the annual convention. The UBC substitute proposal is modelled after the Pacific Students Presidents Association which comprises 70 Pacific Coast universities. If the withdrawal proposal is adopted by students UBC will immediately initiate a conference to discuss a substitute for NFCUS to which all Canadian universities would be invited. It was stressed that the committees suggestion for NFCUS substitute would not be binding on the proposed conference. Purpose of the conference would be to find some substitute for NFCUS and not necessarily to merely adopt the UBC solution councillors said. —The Varsity, University of Toronto.

writing the pseudonym, the titles of the poems or essays, as the case may be, and the candidate's name.

6. No prize will be awarded for any composition unless it attains to a high standard of merit.
7. Successful compositions shall become the property of the University, and shall be available for publication in the Dalhousie Review without remuneration.
8. In the poetry contest no winner of a first prize is eligible to compete again, and no winner of a second prize is eligible for a second prize in a subsequent year.
9. In the prose contest no winner of a first prize is eligible to compete again, and no winner of a second prize is eligible for a second prize in a subsequent year.
10. The winner of a prize in the poetry contest is not debarred from competing in the prose contest, and vice versa.
11. Compositions must be handed in to the Registrar's Office on or before March 31, 1956.

N.B. Attention is called to the fact that only Dalhousie students are eligible for these prizes.

Dal Law Student To Grenada Bar

Benson T. Douglas, LL.B., LL.M., a graduate of the Dalhousie Law School, has been admitted to the Bar of Grenada, B.W.I., according to word received at the University. A native of Grenada, Mr. Douglas returned there recently after his studies in Canada. He was admitted to the Bar of Nova Scotia in June of last year, and practised in Halifax.

Mr. Douglas' admission was moved by the Hon. Keith Alleyne, Acting Attorney General of Grenada, and accepted by the Hon. Mr. Date.

Coming to Dalhousie in 1950, Mr. Douglas won a number of awards, including the Smith Shield and the Angus L. Macdonald Prize for Oratory. He was President of Sodales, the student debating society in 1954, and graduated as Bachelor of Laws in that year. In 1955, he undertook postgraduate study in Constitutional Law and Criminology on a Sir James Dun, Bart., Scholarship, and received the degree of Master of Laws.

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