

SUNS-pipedream?

The Students' Union of Nova Scotia. A word? A reality? A spanish pipedream? Some times it is very hard to understand just what SUNS is and what it wants to do. And it seems in some ways that after the meeting this past weekend, the vision of SUNS as a clear, concise, active body is a little cloudier.

Many excellent ideas and suggestions came out of the SUNS meeting on Saturday and Sunday. And yet there seems to be an important element missing. It is an element that has been missing most of the year. That element is the ability to transform word and idea, into deed.

The Student's Union of Nova Scotia seems to be wallowing in a pool of rhetoric with very little activity taking place on any campus. Let us examine a few campuses and see how they are advancing the cause of student awareness.

Acadia—Well the people at Acadia could not make it to the conference this past weekend, due to up coming student elections. A logical excuse. Yet it is hard to believe that there was not one student on the whole campus who could not find the time to come to Halifax and represent valley interests.

St. F.X.—The people from St. Francis could not attend because it was winter carnival week. And God in Heaven knows that winter carnival is at least ten times as important as the state of education in this province. Why it is silly even to compare the two.

Dalhousie—There were certainly enough people from Dalhousie at the meetings. But how has SUNS faired at Dal. Well the first half of the year was spent talking about what was going to be done the second half. We had no large general SUNS meetings on campus no outward signs of

activity. Oh, yes, excuse me the post card campaign. That lasted for about a week or two. What is going to be done with the cards? Good question. Presently they are in the Gazette offices but no one on council seems to know what to do with them.

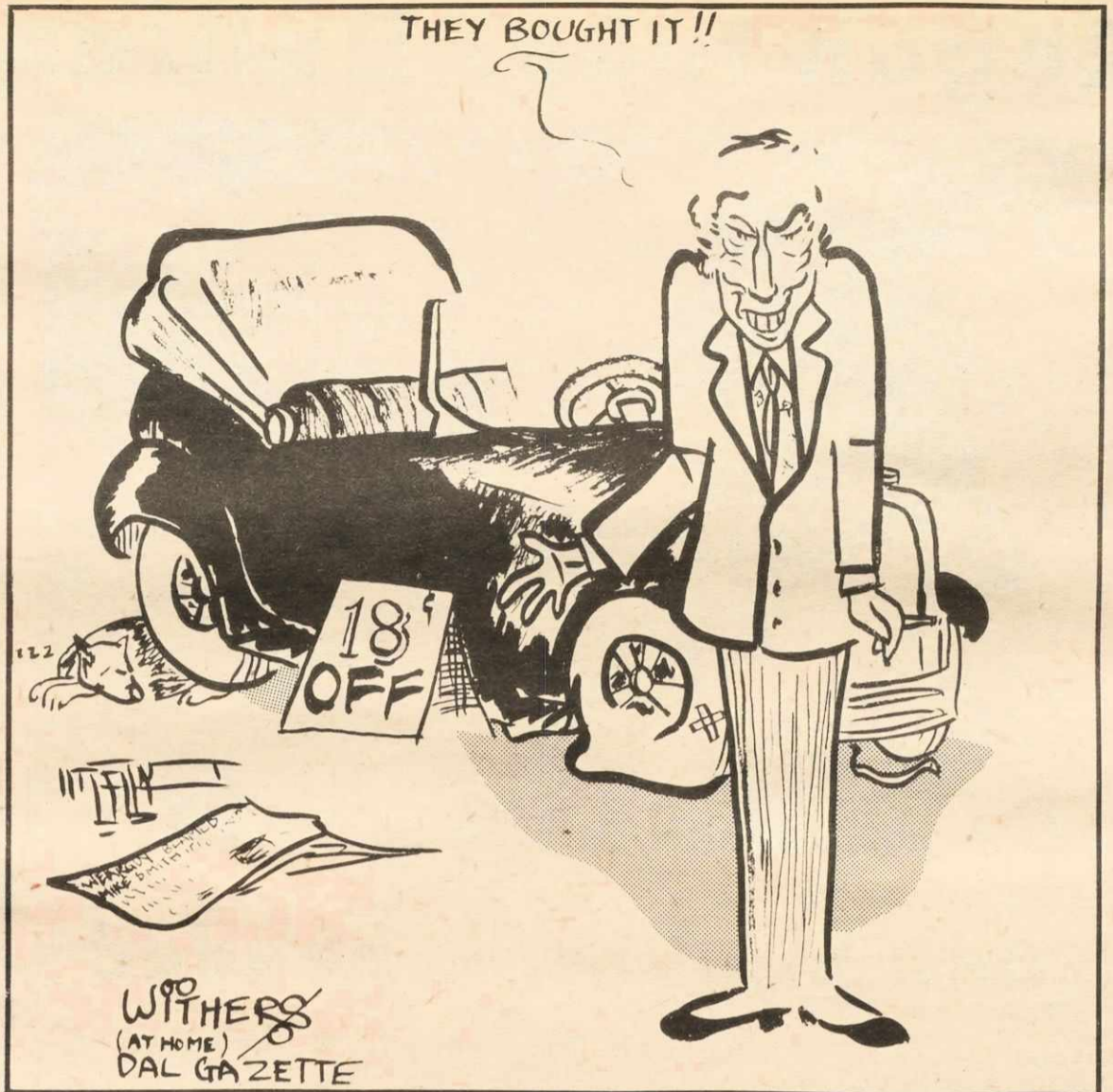
SMU—St. Mary's is presently in the middle of a rather unpleasant fight between the administration and the faculty. Most energies at this institution seem to be diverted in this area.

What does this running tirade really mean. The point is this. There are many concerned and interested people connected with SUNS. It is not hard to see that most of them have their hearts in the right place. But without action all the good ideas and wonderful plans will come for not.

The concern for student education is one that cannot be worried about just when a few individuals have the time to get together and make plans that only last in many cases as long as they are all in the same room.

SUNS must seek a higher profile. SUNS is too much of a 'president's club' right now and this must be changed. If student unions would look, really look, they would find quite a few students, not on student councils, who would be interested in giving a hand. And that is the secret for success for any organization. But action is needed immediately.

Presently SUNS seem to be trying to play a "middle of the road, don't rock the boat, wait and see" type of role. It is a big mistake. Governments eat up this type of attitude. If SUNS wants to be taken seriously then they should start moving NOW. If not they should get off the track. The deteriorating start of education is a rapid one. Students can not afford to play "wait and see".



Letters to Gazette

Striptease protested

Dear Gazette:

As a female student paying my Student Union fees at this university, I want to voice my objection to the plans to have striptease dancers at the Student Union Building. I feel it is misusing the Student Union Building. I did not pay my fees etc., to support these types of activities.

If this activity is to take place those involved should use facilities off campus. I also express my concern for the safety of females in the area after this performance is completed.

Ridiculous? Why take the chance?

Anne Dunsworth

CKDU-FM

good idea

To the Gazette:

I am writing in support of the proposal to convert CKDU, Campus Radio, to an FM station broadcasting under CRTC regulations to the Halifax-Dartmouth community.

Financial considerations aside, I believe such a development has tremendous potential, both in terms of the valuable experience to be gained by the students who serve in interviewing, per-

forming, production or technical roles, and in terms of the opportunity to bring Dalhousie to the community.

I think there would be an audience for the type of specialized alternative radio programming which our campus has the resources to provide. Speaking as a potential listener, I know I would welcome the opportunity to hear concerts and recitals by students and faculty of the Music Department, plays and theatre reviews by the Theatre Department, science update programmes a la Bob Fournier and David Suzuki, and talks by visiting scholars. There would be an opportunity for in-depth programming not possible on present community radio stations, for example, discussions of background information on current and foreign affairs by such departments as Political Science, African Studies, or the Institute of Public Affairs. Literary reviews and readings, notice of upcoming campus events, and possibly broadcast of the Killam and other lecture series, would also be appreciated. I could also foresee the value of "teaser" programmes by Part-time Studies and Continuing Education and other departments interested in reaching potential students and in making alumni and the community in general aware of interesting developments and issues.

From the point of view of Counselling and Psychological Services, we are interested in promoting ventures which might help students make informed study and career

decisions. In this regard, we have been collaborating with CKDU and the Campus Employment Centre in taping interviews with people in various professions about their work, and with representatives of departments about career possibilities open to their graduates. These tapes are to be broadcast over CKDU and will be permanently available in the Career Information Centre. Michael Wile, Director of CKDU, has suggested that this be a continuing programme on FM to be broadcast at an after class time for convenience of Dalhousie and High School students.

Let me close by saying that CKDU presently provides many programmes of the type I've been describing, and should be commended for the quality of its information programming. However, the limitations of the present system of broadcasting to the residences and S.U.B. overshadow all its efforts. A change is long overdue.

Sincerely,
Judith L. Hayashi
Director

Gazette makes boo-boo

To the editor:

With reference to the explosive front page story of last week's Gazette entitled "Tech explodes in controversy", you really bombed out. To confuse

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the Dalhousie Gazette

The Dalhousie Gazette, Canada's oldest college newspaper, is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union members, and is a founding member of Canadian University Press.

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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