

Grad Society put off

by Ron Norman

The Graduate Students' Society (otherwise known as DAGS), with their request for a \$5000 grant (or one-third of the grants budget), and ex-Dal student union president Dan O'Connor, with his practical, yet imaginative comments, enlivened the otherwise stale Student Council meeting Sunday, September 28.

The meeting, scheduled to commence at 7:00 p.m., was held up for some time while council members waited for one of their kind to arrive to fill a quorum (ie. two-thirds of the voting council members must be present). It seems that some of the students' elected representatives are simply not showing up all the time. While waiting in the sedated atmosphere of the council chambers (2001 style ceiling and all) Science Rep. Allan McHughed wishes he was at the movie (instead of falling asleep here).

The quorum was finally met when Ann ("I've got naturally curly hair") Smiley rushed in at 7:15.

A number of minor matters controlled the first part of this bi-weekly sideshow, including recognition of Chris Neilson as Education Rep. (by acclamation), and Chris Hart's resignation from Senate.

In the first "real" business of the evening, interim Grad. Rep. Peter Greene, while picking his nose, made a motion to publish the salaries of all non-elected full time Student Union employees. His motion was based on the principle that as the employer, the students should be aware of how much their

employees are making; not so much, Greene said, so that salaries can be chopped because they are too high but because they may not be high enough. In any event, Treasurer Mark Crossman (with apples in his cheeks) urged Council to vote against the measure claiming that it would cause a "management nightmare". Besides, said Crossman, the figures of the total salaries paid by the union to its full time non-elected employees are available. The motion was voted down, causing Greene to exclaim, "My God, what reactionaries".

The next item of Council was the decision not to enter the Joseph Howe Festival this year, meaning a saving of \$1500 (Mark Crossman's eyes lit up at this notice-he hates spending money).

The new ad policy for the Student Union was tabled and Sue Johnson, the communications officer, said that there will be a 15% discount on election ads for all campaigners. It might be added that CKDU will most probably be flooded with election ads this year. Not only will the students eyes be sore with the oversell policy of posters, but his/her ears will tingle with the standard election ad chatter.

The Grad report by Joe Rosa was accepted with thanks. The spring graduation lost only \$650 more than expected; much better than the spring of '74 which lost \$2000 more than expected (Council's idea of an improvement is that its better to only lose a little more than planned than to lose a lot more than

planned).

John Dorsey presented his report on the course evaluation calendar. The main point was that there are only 3000 course evaluation calendars printed, costing over \$4000- and that was with the University paying \$1400 in labor costs. Gord Neal quipped, "For two dollars I'd rather buy Penthouse". The main argument against the calendar came from Peter Clarke (Senate) who says that after registration week it is never used again. "It's really only a one shot deal".

Lynne (I'm glad to be on Council) Fitzgerald made her short report on the state of the Arts Society. There is an 8 person committee on this society and another meeting will be held in Rm. 318 Wednesday October 1 at 7:30 pm for all those interested.

Finally, we get to the best part of the Council meeting, the report from* Grants Committee. Peter Greene, Chairman of the Grants Committee, submitted three recommendations, two of which were immediately adopted. The Rugby Club received \$500, and the Education Society \$325. The recommendation that the Water Polo team receive \$225 was increased to \$300 after the Water Polo team made a fine on-the-spot presentation-even with Ann Smiley's question about English saddles (not really-Ann knows water polo is played in water-I hope!).

However, the Grad Society (DAGS) were not as lucky as the Water Polo team. In the Grad Society's request for a \$5000 grant the question of the whole society support structure was brought up. The Grad Society wishes to replace the Student Union in its representation of grad students, feeling that it (DAGS) can do more for the grad students than can the Student Union. If set up DAGS would then receive a set sum of money each

year (ex: 10 dollars from a 50 dollars student fee) and supply the grad students with things now supplied by the Student Union. However, this concept, if decided on, would not be implemented until next year; in the interim DAGS would like \$5000 for a financial base.

The controversy then, was not so much the new concept (DAGS is a very commendable society) but whether it deserves \$5000 from the Grants budget, the whole of the Grants budget being only \$15,000. In effect DAGS would take 1/3 of the budget, while providing for only 1/8 of the students (1000 grad students).

Student Council did not want to set any unwanted precedents and so when clearer thinking finally prevailed it was settled that the concept of DAGS receiving a set allocation each year would be tabled to a committee and reviewed there, and DAGS given a \$1000 grant at present. The Grad Society Reps., very unhappy with the \$1000 grant, and what they felt was a Council shaft, left immediately.

The Housing Report was the last important item. The main point to come up in the housing discussion was that 85 additions were made to Howe Hall by shifting single rooms into double rooms and double rooms into triple rooms. This assinine idea of temporarily solving the housing crisis came from the Residence Committee on Housing. Will these shifts be temporary or will they prove to last longer, as the Residence Committee and the University do everything they can to forestall housing additions? A new residence to be built in the Dunn parking lot was viewed by Council as not very feasible, and besides, plans do not even exist for it.

Reports as the film got out clearly indicated that a grade B film does not drag as long as a grade C Council.

Forum on Nationalism

On Tuesday, 7th October, at 7.30 p.m., a public forum on Nationalism will be held in the Student Union Building, Dalhousie University, in Room 218.

There will be 3 main speakers, whose contribution will be followed by open discussion and questions from the audience.

Speaking on Nationalism in Canada will be Mary Ann Hushlak, a researcher at the Institute of Public Affairs, Dalhousie, whose political experience includes membership of an experimental task force on community development in Edmonton (funded by all 3 levels of government) and civil service work in Ottawa.

David Rollo, a member of the National Executive of the Scottish National Party will discuss the recent upsurge and likely development of Nationalism in Scotland. Mr. Rollo is a prospective Parliamentary candidate for Paisley con-

stituency, where he polled nearly sixteen thousand votes in last year's October Election and is also the Party's spokesman on energy matters.

Jim Lotz, a local freelance writer, author of *Northern Realities* and co-author of *Cape Breton Island*, will speak comparatively of Nationalism in Europe and North America. Jim is a contributing editor of *Canadian Review* and *Axiom*, is on the Editorial Advisory Board of *Plan Canada* and *Science Forum* and has written numerous articles on political and economic issues.

The meeting will be chaired by John Godfrey who is an Assistant Professor of History at King's University College and chairman of recent King's Debates.

All are welcome at this meeting which should be a worth while event for those interested in the political future of Canada and Scotland.

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