

# A more appropriate resolution

WHEREAS the elected Students' Council of Dalhousie University is not presently and never has been a truly representative body, responsible to the people, its electors, and WHEREAS there exists within the aforementioned body no official opposition Constitutionally empowered to actively question policies and decisions such as may be adopted and/or enacted by that body, and WHEREAS the unchecked dictatorial powers of that body may be and have been used to secure political advantage for the elected members individually and collectively, and WHEREAS these practices do not reflect and are frivolously irrelevant to the interests and wishes of the student body at large, and WHEREAS these same practices have manifested themselves in many acts of irresponsibility and flagrant disregard for the duties and disciplines of elected office, being principally:

(1) the futile and fruitless exercise in investigation and bureaucratic marshmallow pushing known as the Gazette Committee Report

(2) the gleeful and immature approval of a telegram of sympathy towards the American people, which was to have been sent to that country's diplomatic representative in Ottawa on the occasion of the election of a president

(3) the subsequent failure of Students' Council President A.R. Smith to send the telegram, and his blatant disregard for the order of Council and Constitutional provisions which so directed him

(4) the failure of Council, after resolving to send telegrams to the Department of Manpower and Immigration and to the Students' Council and President of Simon Fraser University, to delegate any party to carry out its orders

(5) the failure of those members of the Students' council Executive aware of the error to so inform Council, especially after the personal initiative of Arts Representative Will Offley in sending the former telegram to the federal government had brought the matter to their attention

(6) the simultaneous failure of those same members of the Students' Council Executive to instruct or censure Mr. Offley in any way following his unilateral action in this connection

(7) the unjust action of Council in suspending Mr. Offley after the questionably phrased second telegram to S.F.U. had been sent by him under identical conditions, for a "deliberate and willful breach of Council decorum", an "irresponsible and damnable deed", and WHEREAS this decision was clearly

made on political rather than judicial grounds, and

WHEREAS the Students' Council, in its gross incompetence and inept bungling, is, and should be, at least as responsible for the actions of its members regarding decisions and policy of the body as are the members themselves, and

WHEREAS in this matter Council has abrogated its share of the responsibility involved in a most cowardly and odious manner through the sacrificial and symbolic suspension

of a single member,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council assert equality of responsibility and restore justice by reinstating Arts Representative Will Offley to a Council censured by its own vote, or, alternatively, that Council invoke similar suspension upon itself as a legislative body and upon each of its members individually for the reasons stated herein and those contained in the resolution of suspension enacted against Mr. Offley.



## Councils lowest

Can Arts Representative Offley attempt to regain his seat on Council by legal means? We would like to be able to assume that he can.

But apparently not, according to Law Representative Hugh Cowan. Council President Smith has informed the GAZETTE that Mr. Cowan will definitely take steps to ensure that Offley is charged with forgery if he makes any such move. Cowan will do so despite (or perhaps because?) he believes that Offley, if convicted (which is dubious), would be returned

to the U.S., whose military draft he is resisting. Such an unprecedented threat by one member to remove what surely should be the rights of another can only heighten the distain in which most students now hold the Council.

Since this is just a blatant exposure of the normal operating methods of the liberal politicians on Council, we would certainly feel out of place in suggesting that the Council might take appropriate steps to PUNISH one of its members.