

Publication still in danger

Ansul escapes budget cut

by Peter Doyle

By a vote of 37-32, the editors of the Dalhousie Law Students publication, the Ansul, narrowly escaped a motion which would have requested them to return \$600 of \$1000 allotted by the society to the publication.

Perhaps however, this merely saved the Law Society a legal debate as to whether or not the editors would legally have to return the money.

One Law student was heard to say, "Whether or not we can, doesn't affect the validity of trying to get it back."

"I think we would have definitely contemplated refusing to return the money", stated co-editor Vervan Haysom. He, with Dennis Patterson, has attempted to make the publication more relevant to both the Law students and the community.

Incoming Law Society President Fred Sagel, in moving the narrowly defeated motion, spoke loosely of money being "improperly spent".

Criticism of the editors centred on the fact that

although money had been allocated to the Ansul on the basis of five issues being published, only one had actually been distributed. The editors assured those present that one issue was presently at the printers, that several technical problems had beset them, and that the third and fourth issues would be out before the final examinations were over. The fifth issue would be finished in the summer.

Last year the Ansul and the Law Society faced a similar dilemma in that a promised fifth issue was not in fact completed.

A few minutes prior to the Law Society meeting the third year class held a brief entente, at which class president Frank Borowsky hinted about "some money being available as the course of the (Law Society) meeting continues". The money, it was alluded, might be made available to the annual drunk — the Third Year Banquet — if the third year class attended the meeting. A warning was sounded of a possible "conspiracy" of first and second year people to block the

move.

At the meeting, Borowsky moved that the Ansul budget be reduced even more drastically — down to \$200, stating that "considerable harm has been done to the reputation of the Law School".

But when it was alleged that the reason behind the attack on the Ansul concealed a bid to push more money into the Third Year Ball, a loud outcry was raised from the section of the room containing mostly third year people.

The problems of the Ansul however, are far from over. Law Society President Sagel is unlikely to be sympathetic to the publication and allegedly favours encouraging law students to do work on the new Dean's International Law Journal.

Many Law students question how much support the Ansul will be given by the new Dean and the old editors point out with misgivings the lack of student participation in the present publication.

Library restricted

Student protest, 18 arrests at U of T

by Bruce M. Lantz

Toronto City police arrested 18 people at the University of Toronto last Sunday night after about 30 students had occupied the Senate Chambers.

Two of those arrested were the newly-elected President of the Student Administrative Council and the editor of the Varsity, U of T's student newspaper. All are now free on bail.

The occupation was in protest of a decision to refuse undergraduate students and the

general community access to the stacks of the 14-storey John Robarts Research Library. This building, constructed with provincial assistance on the basis of square feet of floor space per student, is one of the largest "poured cement" structures in the world.

In ratifying the decision made by the Library Council, the Senate was ignoring nearly 4000 petitions demanding free entry. Two days previous to the occupation the students had occupied the library and

remained there all night.

The demands of the students were simply that the stacks be opened to the general student community. Since the arrests, these have been expanded to include the dropping of charges against those arrested and the firing of acting president Jack Sword, who called in the police. Sword was the man who got a court injunction against the Wacheea tent community at U of T last summer.

In removing the occupants of the Senate Chambers, the police

broke open the chamber doors and kicked one student in the head.

University officials have claimed that a restricted stack usage policy is necessary because "the stacks would be overcrowded and the undergrads would be likely to misplace books as they glanced through the stack collection".

About 4500 students at the

25,000-student university will have full access to the library's stack collections. Other students will have to order books from the stacks, using the card catalogues as their sole source of information.

At this time the plans of the students are not known but a mass meeting will be held to decide on a course of action, probably a mass occupation.



General admittance to the new John Robarts Library at U of T has been refused, resulting in massive protests and the arrests of 18 persons following an occupation of the Senate Chambers.

Education by computer

MODERN SOCIETY HAS WATCHED THE NOT-SO-GRADUAL ENROACHMENT OF TECHNOLOGY (IN PARTICULAR, COMPUTERS) ON EVERY ASPECT OF MODERN LIVING; NEARLY EVERYTHING WE DO IN DAILY LIFE HAS SOME CONNECTION TO COMPUTERS.

IN SPITE OF THE REPEATED WARNINGS OF THOSE WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO KNOW THE DANGERS THAT CAN ARISE FROM THIS SITUATION, OUR SOCIETY CONTINUES TO ACCUMULATE ADVANCEMENTS IN THIS FIELD ALMOST RANDOMLY, WITH LITTLE OR NO RESPECT FOR THE USE TO WHICH THEY MAY BE PUT.

IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO SEE A POINT IN TIME WHERE EDUCATION TOO WILL BE UNDER CONTROL OF THE COMPUTERS AND THOSE WHO OWN THEM. WHEN THIS STAGE IS REACHED, IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT, BECAUSE THE COMPUTERIZED EDUCATION THAT WE RECEIVE WILL TEACH US THAT SUCH A LIFE IS "THE BEST OF ALL POSSIBLE" LIVES. WE WILL HAVE CEASED TO THINK IN A CREATIVE WAY AT ALL.

THIS FEATURE HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION WITH THE HOPE OF SHOWING PEOPLE (STUDENTS IN PARTICULAR) JUST HOW CLOSE WE ARE TO COMPLETE COMPUTERIZATION AND EXTERNAL CONTROL OF OUR THOUGHT PROCESSES — ANOTHER FIRST IN MODERN ADVANCEMENT. THE FEATURE OUTLINES SOME OF THE PROGRAMMES PRESENTLY UNDERWAY, THE PROBABLE USES IN THE FUTURE, AND THE ONE COMPANY WHICH COULD WIND UP CONTROLLING THE WHOLE SHOW — THE IBM CORP.

READ THE CENTER FEATURE ON PAGES SIX AND SEVEN.

WISE WORDS ...

(cont'd from p. 8)

recent expose of the Moirs chocolate factory. It pleases me to see such community concern and involvement undertaken by the GAZETTE, and this shows a marked improvement over previous editorial staffs that I have seen and known in my years at Dalhousie.

However I would like to see some follow-up on this article. It might be interesting at this point to try to elicit some reaction and response from the Moirs management. It would certainly be interesting to see them defend their position — if they can.

Robert B. Hyslop
Faculty of Law

Students not always responsible for damage

To the GAZETTE:

I have seen some of the destruction caused by some immature students, and it's all well and good to raise hell about it. However, it seems not all should be blamed on students!

On February 25th, I was reading in the Green Room between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m., and the maintenance men were arranging the furniture for Jazz 'n Suds.

They were literally throwing chairs and tables around! I saw one man heaving a McInnes Room-type chair 7-10 feet

across the floor. They were roughly dragging chairs and tables across the carpet — not inches but feet. Other pieces were dropped again not just inches.

To top it all off I saw some of the chairs literally thrown two and three feet to their place against a wall or with another group of chairs.

It is fortunate that nothing was (obviously) broken. Even good furniture cannot stand that sort of punishment for very long.

Innocent Bystander

THE FACTS ABOUT ABORTION REFERRAL SERVICE

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1. Students in both the Faculty of Arts & Science, and the Faculty of Health Professions, will be permitted to pre-register for the academic year 1972-73 during July and August.

2. All returning students should discuss their programmes for 1972-73 during the period March 27th-April 7th with:

ARTS and SCIENCE
(i) The department of Arts & Science in which they plan to concentrate their studies and,

(ii) Each department in which other classes are to be taken.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS

(i) The Director, or undergraduate Co-ordinator, of the College of Pharmacy, the School of Nursing, School of Physical Education, and the School of Physiotherapy.

(ii) The department in Arts & Science in which a concentration in one discipline is intended.

3. Full details of pre-registration will be sent to you in June, together with your final examination results.

4. All students who wish to take classes in French 102, French 202; Spanish 102, Spanish 202; must obtain the permission of the department of Romance Languages.

ONLY students who obtain the necessary permission will be permitted to register in either of the four classes.

BE PREPARED:

Consult your advisors during the two-week period set aside for pre-registration —

MARCH 27th — APRIL 7th

Classified ads

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SUB-LET — Apartment on University Ave. to sub-let from June 1-Sept. 1. Two bedrooms, living room, kitchen and bath. Call 423-5743.

SUB-LET — Park Victoria two bedroom — \$250 per month, May 1-Oct. 1. Call 423-2323.

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DU

Task force attacks University News

by Don Retson

The second open hearing of the Task Force on the Quality of Student Life, held at Howe Hall March 8, was almost a success despite poor attendance.

The committee, established by Student Union President Brian Smith, "to find out what makes students tick", consists of Chairman D. Ray Pierce and core workers Wayne Hooper and James Sykes.

Unlike the first commission hearing in Shirreff Hall, which could be best described as directed discussion on the problem of student apathy on campus, the Howe Hall hearing provided students with a rare opportunity to present their viewpoints and to ask questions on the administration of this university.

The task force received written briefs from Derek Mann on behalf of Information Services, I. W. Somerville, Dean of Howe Hall men and John Holancin, past President of the Howe Hall Residence Council.

Mann's brief pointed out that the purpose of Information Services is to provide "public relations and news service to the university and community".

One of its main respon-

sibilities is overseeing the operation of the bi-weekly administration newspaper "University News". This paper, which is operated by a full-time editor and professional staff, has a circulation of 12,000 and a budget of \$28,000. Even so, Mann feels that the paper "is only scratching the surface" and would like to see it expanded.

One student charged that the University News is nothing more than "a mouthpiece of the administration" and rather than expanding, the paper should be scrapped.

"It's garbage", he stated.

Mann then proceeded to defend the paper as one which "is open to all segments of the university community." However, when the GAZETTE asked if interested students could work on the paper as hired staff, the answer was a polite "no", now and in the future.

While Mann is optimistic that the News is widely read among students, he complained that the paper has never received letters to the editor. One student suggested that this was due either to the fact that no one read the paper or because they did not find the material con-

troversial.

As James Sykes pointed out, "If there is an increase in student tuition, where are you likely to hear about it first?"

Ken MacDougall, newly elected Arts rep, challenged the News to publish a letter written by himself that suggested, among other things, scrapping the paper.

A submission by Dean Somerville expressed the need for a residence manager who could oversee all aspects of university housing. Somerville admitted that Howe Hall is "a stereotyped residence", with rooms allocated on a seniority basis rather than with regard to the needs and interests of students.

John Holancin spoke on the quality of residence life and observed that the cost of a single room at Dal has increased from \$730 to \$1060 since he first came here.

He deplored the activities of orientation as "mass confusion" and suggested the establishment of a service agency that would give greater counselling to first year students.

Holancin's talk reflected a growing scepticism among



martin felsky/ dal photo

Task Force members left to right: Derek Mann (facing), Information Officer, core members Wayne Hooper, D. Ray Pierce and James Sykes. In the background out-going (and maybe returning) Communications Secretary Jim Kayne.

students towards the administration's poor planning and misplaced priorities.

"This university gives a raw deal to its undergrads", he stated.

In a closing statement, Holancin said that it is time this university reassessed its ideas of growth and expansion, which

are carried out at the expense of the students.

The final report of the task force, including some forty briefs, will be submitted to President Smith on April 3. A public presentation will then be held in the SUB April 4, to discuss the recommendations brought forth in the report.

Recommendations in Soc dispute

Real issues ignored

by Glenn Wanamaker

The recommendations submitted in the dispute between Sociology students and Professor Nick Poushinsky are "pure garbage" according to the Sociology Course Union.

The Union has stated that the real issues, involving student intimidation and Poushinsky's inexcusable absence to fish lobster, have been ignored.

Ombudsman Ian Chambers and Dean of Arts and Science Guy MacLean have recommended that Poushinsky improve the general operation of his classes with definite office hours and a clear definition of class requirements. This report has been circulated to all parties concerned and the professor is purportedly ready to accept them.

The Grievance Committee of the Course Union has sent a memorandum dated March 10 to MacLean, Chambers, Secretary of Senate John McNulty, Department Chairman Don Clairmont, and the Chairman of the Committee on Studies. It reads: "We reaffirm our commitment to seek written reasons, which you stated you would give us, for Prof. Poushinsky's:

(1) teaching incompetence

(2) teaching negligence

(3) intimidation of students

We still await your response."

Ombudsman Chambers told the GAZETTE that "there are some issues of a more serious nature involved but they haven't been made known to me."

Another committee researching the issue, the Pro Tem Undergraduate Advisory Committee is expected to reach its conclusions shortly. Then it will be up to the faculty executive committee to make the final decision.

Students are not supporting the Pro Tem committee and the two who have been appointed refuse to sit on it. The reason for this is that the two faculty members on the committee, Professors Brodie and Stephens, also sit on the all-faculty executive committee.

There are also suspicions that Dean MacLean's recommendations will be accepted — no matter what the myriad of other committees decide.

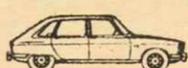
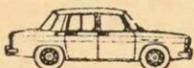
Soc students feel that they are being whitewashed either way, and the basic problem of a professor's inability to teach is being overlooked.

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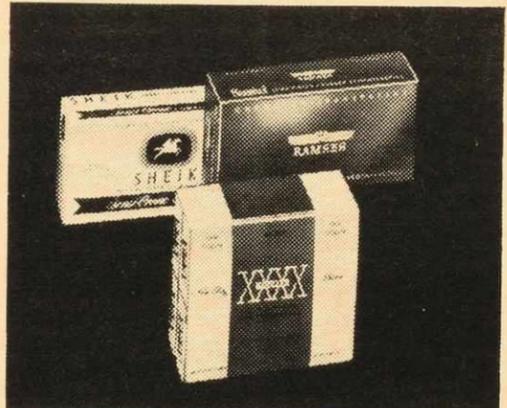
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YS 372

JS2

by Bruce M. Lantz

Collection agencies have been around as long as property ownership and capitalism. Almost everyone is forced to deal with these organizations and everyone has an opinion about them.

Such agencies are considered to be a necessary evil that performs a function — keeping people honest toward debt payment. The GAZETTE disagrees that this is a necessary function, for it will exist only as long as individual property ownership, but we feel that people must know how to deal with them until such time as they are forced out of existence.

With this in mind we print some facts and figures and hopefully dispel a few fallacies.

The middle and lower classes are most frequently caught in the collection web; the lower classes find that they must overspend to maintain a decent standard of living, while the middle classes frequently over-reach because they are so absorbed with trying to "keep up". According to most agents the upper classes are rarely hassled because they "can make it difficult for us". They have the control and it is not worth it for an agency to push them too far.

Students are often the easiest prey for collection agents because, when the student refuses to make his payments, the agency can go to the parents, who fear to see their child involved in court actions and pay the bill themselves.

The primary customers of collection agencies are large companies; eighty per cent of their business is solicited through agency salesmen and usually continues for several years. The rate that agencies charge varies from 12 1/2 to 75 per cent, but is always larger for individual accounts than for companies; the individual charge is usually over 50 per cent.

"We can give lower rates to companies because they will be coming back to us where the individual only may use us once. With companies we make more in the long run", stated one former agent for the Federal Collection Agency in Halifax.

The standards that must be met by prospective agents vary with the company, but most ensure that the agent is aware of the legal restrictions and loopholes. Two basic requirements are the "gift of gab" and quick reaction and response. There is usually one "heavy" in the office as "people sometimes come in just to cause trouble".

The successful agent (who is often required to collect \$2000 per week) must be impersonal, able to detect lies and must be able to play upon the moral conscience of the debtor without actually condemning them. Such people are not the norm, but if one oversteps his legal grounds and any action ensues, the agency refuses to lend any support. Apparently this does not serve as a total deterrent; the game is to collect the required amount of money without getting caught.

The agents are given two weeks of on-the-job training, part of this training consists of calls to another agent who pretends he is a debtor with great knowledge of legal technicalities. With the manager listening on another phone the new agent handles the situation as though it were a real one and is evaluated on this basis.

There are three standard speeches which are taught: the collection agent, the legal department and the processing department. There are no such departments and the calls are all made by the same person. He pretends in each case that he has just come

Are you being hassled?

on the case and that he is "doing you a personal favor by giving you one more chance". By impressing the debtor with the fact that his (the agent's) job is on the line over this, he arouses compassion and usually payment.

A good agent will collect payments through eight out of every ten phone calls. One more may go to court and another is usually set aside in the "dead-beat" file, which is reviewed every six months for seven years.

After this time (according to law) bills need not be paid. During the time your case is in this file, it may be examined by anyone to determine your credit rating, at the discretion of the company. Standard procedure in collections involves alternating a notice with a phone call, with each one more strongly worded than previously.

Physical coercion is out as a method of collection, although there are no stringent regulations regarding the threat of such force. The agent may not be slanderous or accuse you of previous offences. Although Nova Scotia is one of the provinces where a collection agent may call you at work, he may not endanger your job by doing so. If you are called away from the phone he must hang up and refrain from repeated calls.

Everyone should know the lengths to which a collection agency is prepared to go and the methods for stalling and outwitting them. However, failure to make payment will result in damage to your credit rating. Even the smallest bill can ruin a credit rating, and national companies ensure that this is known in every province and often internationally (the federal collection agency is a good example).

Agencies can have you summoned from another area, whether or not they have a branch office in that location. If you must return to face court action then you must pay your own travel expenses as well.

A common method of tracing is to pose as a school friend who is only in the area for a short time. In such cases parents are usually quite willing to give the "friend" your present address. When talking to anyone other than the debtor they are not required to identify themselves as agents.

One thing to remember when dealing with collection agencies is that they never take action for a bill under \$300; court costs make such action impractical. The final decision regarding court action is made by the client not the agency, but they usually drop the matter unless it is of great significance to them. However, although the loser must pay court costs (the agency usually wins in court) the company must pay its lawyers.

It is common for an agent to tell a debtor that a summons has been issued for failure

to pay a bill and that the agency is holding off to give you a last chance to pay. This is always possible, for the agency makes out the summons, but highly unlikely. It is just an efficient way to coerce an individual to make payment.

Threats of taking furniture in lieu of payment are also groundless, unless the bill was incurred through the purchase of furniture. Then the agency may only reclaim the goods that were purchased.

No agent is permitted to inform your employer of your status except on request, and may not attempt to take any portion of your wages — except upon written authorization of the courts. Even in this case they must allow you sufficient money to live.

It is unwise to declare bankruptcy when confronted with a collection suit, because this means that you may never own anything again; the only exception is a married woman who will never own anything of her own. As soon as you purchase something or begin to work, you will be called upon to make payments.

There are certain things that may be done to get out of payments. You may stall by asking for itemized accounts of your bills, you may move (forcing them to start the process again), you may continue to promise payment if you have good reason for them to wait (this is a short-term defence), or you may pull the summons/ payment trick.

You wait until a summons is actually delivered, then rush to the agency and pay them a nominal sum on the account. When you go to court, the case will be thrown out because the owed amount shown on the summons will be incorrect. Thus another summons and trial will be necessary and the same trick may be pulled again. Again this can only be done for a short time before they catch on.

Cancellation of the account is much more difficult. Death may be proven through phoney obituaries and/ or the statement of someone else to that effect. The same holds for mental incapacity or a physical impairment that prevents working to earn money.

It is also possible to prove that you cannot pay (i.e., if you're on welfare) for a period of seven years.

The most important thing to realize is that you are dealing with a professional who has heard most of the stories that could be invented, and knows how to get around them. You must be convincing and very, very sharp to ensure that your rights are observed. If the agency can be made to feel that it is not worth their while to pursue the collection — you have won a small victory.

Of course the thing to do is to avoid credit cards and the companies that encourage crediting and loans. Collection agencies are the police force of large-scale capitalism and as such deserve no support from those they rob: all of us.

The following is a list of collection agencies in Halifax/ Dartmouth, as rated by a former collection agent in this area.

- (1) Financial Collection Agencies Ltd.
- (2) Halifax Credit Bureau Ltd.
- (3) Collection Control Ltd.
- (4) Metropolitan Credit Services Ltd.
- (5) Credit-Aid
- (6) Allied Collection Agencies Ltd.
- (7) Apex Collection Service
- (8) Eastern Investigating Bureau
- (9) Creditel of Canada Ltd.
- (10) Robert M. Douglas

The Dalhousie Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST
COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

The Dalhousie GAZETTE, a member of Canadian University Press, is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union. The views expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the Student Union or the university administration. We reserve the right to edit or delete copy for space or legal reasons. Deadline date is the Friday preceding publication.

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Includes economic, political power

Black Power is self-determination

by P. M. White

Black power is a political phenomena with certain racial overtones. These overtones are applicable in a white capitalist society where black people are in the minority politically, economically and with regard to population.

One may ask the question, "Where do racial aspects come from?" In viewing Western society we find that a few whites hold the political and economic power and are thus able to control social mobility; i.e., they are able to determine the destiny of the rest of the population in terms of how far they go in the system.

I emphasize the words 'a few whites' for the simple reason that a large number of whites are not well seated in the economic stream of Western society.

There are white minorities as well as other ethnic minorities. Nevertheless, it is much easier for this white minority to achieve social mobility once they enter the competitive field, than for others. In this society, where racism is institutionalized, the ethnic has (as the slogan goes) "a snowball's chance in hell" to make it to the top, even if all the avenues are available. The white powerholder will see as well as set limitations on the ethnic minorities' social mobility.

Black power advocates or black organizations for the liberation of black people in Western areas can use these societies as a base for planning and organizing. They may introduce these methods into underdeveloped areas where there is black manpower or where blacks make up a population majority.

As Garvey puts it, unless Africa and her inhabitants are free, Africans the world over will not be free. This does not mean that black organizations in Western societies cannot be of any help, but by no means

will they ease the exploitation and suppression of the black race.

They may help them to fit into the system in order to enjoy better living conditions. The rest of this article will deal with those areas where blacks are in the majority and where black power is more of a political phenomena with little, if any, racial overtones.

Before viewing or analyzing the situation in the Commonwealth Caribbean (my main area of interest) I will take time to define the most often used connotations of Black Power. One connotation refers to black political and economic power. In my opinion this definition means "black capitalism" and will not by any means terminate the present system which condones and assists the exploitation of the masses.

A second definition of Black Power is black political and economic power enabling the masses of people to participate in the means of production and have control over their own destiny. This definition may be interpreted as "socialism" and it is also my accepted definition of black power as "state control".

Socialism is the system which the leading nations of the world are heading towards. They may refer to themselves or their political systems as welfare states, but they are all being forced towards socialism as a result of their own scientific inventions and economic bankruptcies.

We are usually told by those who benefit most from the system in the Caribbean, that there is no place for black power in the islands: all our political representatives are native people and all our

businesses are operated by native people. The premise is that we do have political power and as a result, have control over our economy.

Actually, the Caribbean is a breeding ground for Black Power according to my second definition. All we really have in the Commonwealth Caribbean are puppet governments with no real power whatsoever. This is made evident by one of the men in office, but not in power. Here is Doctor Williams' own painful lament in a rare moment of truth:

"It was found that national planning had little meaning, when major decisions about investment, production and employment in a host country like Trinidad were being made in the head offices of international corporations beyond the jurisdiction of the Local Government." (Trinidad Guardian, July 1, 1969, page 1).

This statement indicates who holds power and controls the destiny of the people in the Commonwealth Caribbean. Power lies with foreign investors and western political leaders.

To overcome these forms of exploitation and suppression, total political unity of the Commonwealth Caribbean with Cuba to collectively seek their political independence is necessary. As many scholars in the Caribbean and abroad have contended, it is only through unified political independence that we can solve our problems.

Political independence is the vital prerequisite for the economic and human development of all people. Only through this inalienable right of self-determination to conduct one's own internal and external political and economic affairs that one can hope to be free.



AROUND HALIFAX

FRIDAY, MARCH 17-
SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Irish Week at Mt. St. Vincent.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Dalhousie Film Society, Oxford Theatre 2 p.m., "Woman of the Dunes".

St. Michael's Concert Series, St. Michael's Church Hall, Spryfield 8:30 p.m., "Music for the Passion Time".

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Dartmouth Concert Series, Prince Andrew High, 8:30 p.m., Belle Canto Trio.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Jazz and Suds, 9 p.m.
St. Mary's Concert Series, 12:30 p.m., Bell Arts Trio, Auditorium Academic Residence.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Dal Radio Record Hop, 9 p.m.

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The computerization of Canadian universities

PART 1: The Computer Dream

by Ian Wiseman
Canadian University Press

Winston Windermill (IBM number 108-284-801), honors biochemistry student, is cramming for his undergraduate examinations. He has chosen to write his exams in mid-June in order to have a leisurely summer, and has only 45 days left to prepare.

His friend, Harlequin Tiltmaster (IBM 159-482-951), is preparing for his finals, too, so they meet on the way to school and chatter about hockey statistics. Harlequin, in the same academic course as Winston, has decided to write his exams in early July.

Building 47, like most other buildings at Every University, is a highrise, glass and steel, somewhat sterile-looking. Inside, the elevator, with uncomfortable acceleration, whisks our heroes to the eighth storey of the library, a floor similar to every other floor. Winston and Harlequin walk to a cubicle, shut the sound proof door, sit down next to a computer terminal and dial the central data bank of biochemical information, located in far-away Ottawa.

For the next three hours the pair carry on a dialogue with computers across the country — learning, criticizing, perfecting, watching film clips on the TV monitor, typing questions and responses into the machine, hearing audio snippets from medical speeches, discussing findings with each other and collecting reams of printed data which

Technology as such cannot be isolated from the use to which it is put; the technological society is a system of domination which operates already in the concept and construction of techniques.

Herbert Marcuse

they take home with them and study.

Just an average day at the university really... Science fiction? Only in the sense that it hasn't happened yet. The computer, and the incredible potential of computers, has already begun to revolutionize universities and the learning process. In a very short time most of the basic parts of the traditional educational institute — the library, classroom, professors, and administrators — will disappear from our universities or at best play a supplementary role to computer-assisted learning.

The potential of computers snowballs daily as new applications are discovered and put into practice. This rapid pace of changing computer technology, plus the high cost of sophisticated hardware, is holding universities back from jumping feet first into the concept of the electronic university. But as universities continue to do their own research and development, and study the needs of education, the day of intensive computerized learning gets closer.

In less than two decades computer technology in the field of education has advanced dramatically from the adding-machine level to a stage where technocratically-run universities are foreseeable.

How can computers be plugged into our universities?

In many ways; among them: the study of computers, studying other subjects via computers, the changing of libraries from book warehouses into electronically accessible data banks, administration of the university and national computer networks to facilitate the flow of academic and administrative information.

The first advantage of integrating computers into the academic world is an obvious one — the ability to instruct students in the use of equipment and teach them how to program computers. As computers become more and more omnipresent in our daily lives (the computer industry will be the largest single industry in the world by 1980), society needs people who understand and can administer the technology. As universities buy or rent computers they also set up departments of computer science to train their students in the finer points of operating and programming the machines.

In this way, the university plays its role as a

supplier of skilled manpower to meet the current needs of industry.

The next step is to program other academic courses through the computer, so that it can help students learn other materials such as science, mathematics or foreign languages. This is usually called Computer-Assisted Instruction (CAI).

There are three basic types of CAI: the drill and practice system used to supplement the standard curriculum; the tutorial system to teach math and reading where the teacher supplements the computer; and the dialogue method which involves direct interaction between the student and computer.

Computer-assisted instruction on a mass scale necessitates large comprehensive data banks for storage of information pertinent to university courses. This means electronically accessible libraries, with efficient information retrieval.

The most common method consists of microfilm (for storage) video screens (for retrieval) and computer terminals (for electronic control). And so on until libraries as we know them become obsolete in the university of the future.

Computers are being widely used in North America by university administrations for efficient registration and rapid analysis of sociological and academic trends among the student and faculty population. Registration at most universities in this country is done by computer cards.

Computers are also useful for calculating university resource utilization; particularly in studying the complex patterns of room allocation, time slots for lectures and the availability of staff.

And of course, computers can be used to facilitate top-level administrative information flow, both internally and between universities. File cards on exchange students and faculty are an example of this use.

A by-product of this mechanization of university administration is the loss of jobs for lower-echelon administrators. The ever-growing "automation vs. employment" dilemma. That leaves us with only the students, the computer people, a few academic supervisors, a handful of administrators — and a whole bunch of new, gleaming, whirring computers.

The danger of a 1984-Brave New World type society where all students are programmed by the same central computer is a very real one.

An extension of this will be the evaluation of students and the grading of their courses. Some computer scientists envision a continual objective evaluation (by computer) which will mean an end to examinations. The computer could record and assess a student's progress every time they used the computer.

Students will still spend only a small part of their day learning from the computers. How does a computer mechanically judge the human experiences, the day-to-day influences of the outside world? How will we be able to relate to computer learning in an age of increasing alienation caused in part by our advanced machine technology? Will the computer universities so systematize the present form and content of higher education so that the occasional outbursts of non-conformity which occur now and then will be eliminated?

Who is going to own, operate and control the educational computers? Private corporations? The government? It's inconceivable under the existing social system that such an all-encompassing form of mass education would be allowed to serve any interests other than those of the status quo.

What about the potential for state control and conditioning — technocratized mind-control and indoctrination on the national level such as the world has never seen before?

These questions remain unanswered as the technological juggernaut rolls steadily onward.

PART 2: The Canadian View

Canada, while by no means a pioneer in the research and development of computer technology, is rapidly becoming a world leader in the application of that technology to university education.

Within the next five years there will probably be a nationwide computer network connecting every

Canadian university to every other one by a complex arrangement of computerized telegraph lines and electronic transmission via satellite.

This will give every university's computer (s) access to other universities' computers, making the total academic resources of Canada available to every student in the country.

This network, the Canadian University Computing Network (CANUMET), is now being studied and designed by some 200 experts in government, universities and the computer industry.

This technologically inevitable integration will by

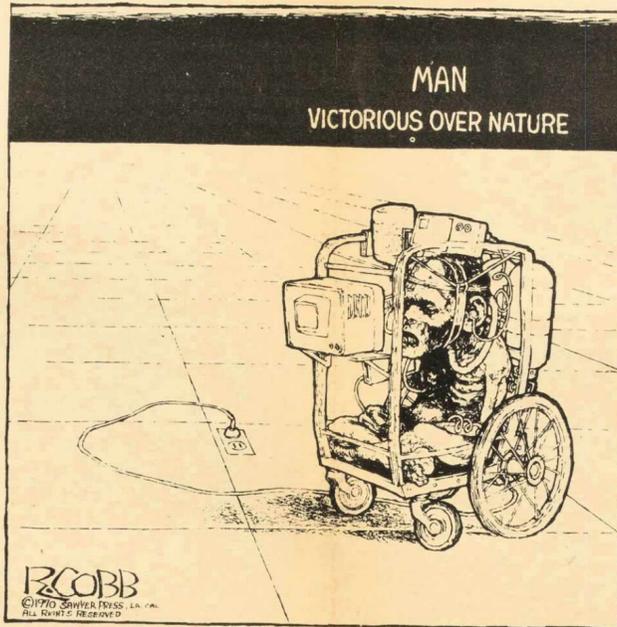
no means be a smooth transition, because of the great variety of computer languages that are used to program computers in Canada. The information-flow between two computers programmed differently would be blocked as suddenly and surely as two people talking different languages.

Another computer system, 'star network' with the National Research Council's massive computer at the centre, is currently studying the possible ways of standardizing computer language. The NRC network is also used for research and development exploration of other possibilities for computerized

education.

The practical functions of the network at this time — it has been operating for several years — are the comparative cheapness of using the NRC's powerful computer, and the access to specialized scientific data banks that NRC is beginning to construct.

Slowly but surely the national university-computer jigsaw puzzle is piecing itself together, with aid from government and education experts, and IBM.



PART 3: The Monopoly Obstacle

And now from the people who brought you the computer, a sweeping new innovation that will dramatically change industry — monopoly.

International Business Machines Corporation (IBM), with assets over \$5 billion, is the world leader in the computer business. In gaining that position, IBM has been through two anti-trust suits, filed by U.S. government and two suits charging monopolistic practice, filed by competitors.

A multinational corporation (although only four per cent of its shares are owned outside the U.S.), IBM owns 80 per cent of the world computer market. It controls the majority of the domestic markets in Canada, the U.S., Britain, France, Japan, West Germany and Italy.

Huge multinational corporations like IBM supercede international boundaries and have developed power to rival that of most national governments.

To consolidate its monopoly, IBM has made certain that university students, the potential operators and buyers of computers, are trained on IBM equipment. This has often meant that employers, rather than train graduates on other makes of equipment, have found it easier and cheaper to switch to IBM hardware. This also ensured IBM of the universities as a sales market.

IBM offers educational discounts on machinery and gives frequent grants to universities who own or rent IBM equipment. This guarantees that, as new studies are done on their computers, IBM can develop new products and new uses for the machines.

It also gives outright research grants to educational institutions and donates to university building-fund campaigns.

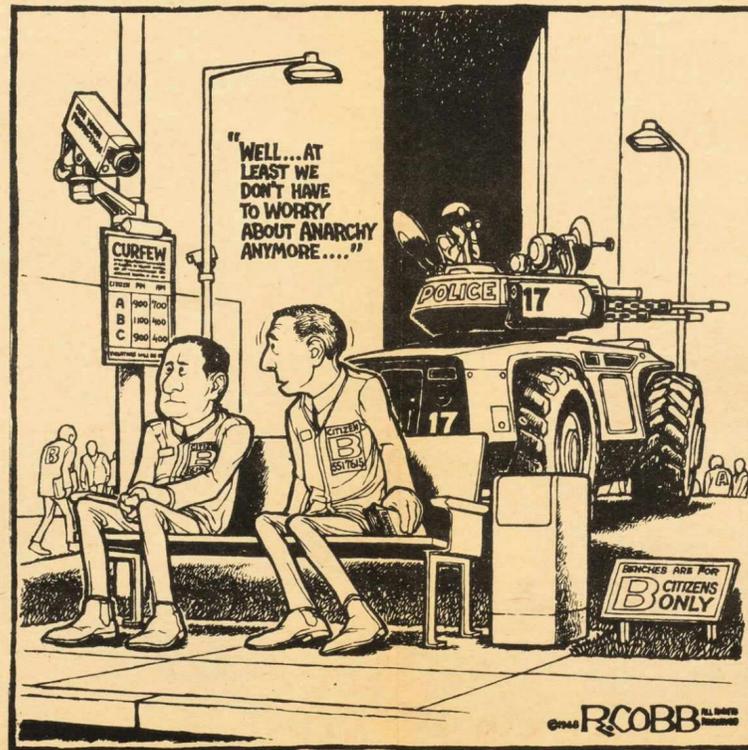
IBM maintains a super-slick travelling display package that moves about the country from university to university, showing films, equipment, samples, computerized programs, graphics and brochures.

And when the sales department falls down on the job, there are more blatant and insidious business connections. Members of the top IBM brass sit on the Boards of Governors at many Canadian universities.

Oh, it's hard work maintaining an effective monopoly, having to be on your toes 24 hours a day. As CANUMET gets to the stage where it needs a body to govern and administer the network, you can be sure that IBM will be looking to its own network, which stretches from coast to coast.

Let's hope there are some educators who object strongly enough to a foreign company running our university education system. And let's keep our fingers crossed that the computer producers don't turn their monopolistic power to programming these computers that are affecting our daily lives.

But these hopes would be less tinged with dire apprehension if the people running corporations like IBM didn't look so very much like the people who run our universities, our economy and our government.



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WORDS FROM THE WISE ...



Soc articles: some confusion but same conclusion

To the GAZETTE:
Re: Sociology articles of March 3.

As students that have been involved in the proceedings thus far, we would like to comment on the above-mentioned articles.

Firstly there seems to be some confusion about the status of the Grievance Committee. The Sociology Course Union is behind this Committee, as it is a Committee of that Union. It exists in order to co-ordinate the members of the Union and the students in the two affected classes (Sociology 301 and 450A). The faculty are aware of this even though they do not recognize its existence as a valid departmental committee.

Secondly, the two students involved in the Pro Tem Undergraduate Advisory Committee withdrew from all investigations of Sociology 450A and 301. What inquiries have taken place have occurred without the sanction of the

Sociology Course Union.

The students in general are mistrustful because they do not know why this faculty investigation is taking place. In their eyes it is a redundant committee without a clear purpose in the investigation.

It must be realized that whatever recommendations are made by this committee, will be made with no student input at the decision-making level, by their own choice, because the students are certain that this type of Committee cannot solve the problems. The faculty, of course, went ahead regardless, and will make recommendations on hearing from the few students that appear before them.

Therefore the conclusion that must be reached by the students is that of your editorial: "Poor teaching will stay and we will continue to be screwed."

Yours truly,
The 4th floor of the
Forrest Building

Problems with Soc. 301 included a lack of integration of the computer programming and statistical parts of the course (caused largely by the absence of Poushinsky during the programming part of the course), a general neglect and lack of consideration of student problems in learning statistical theory and a basic lack of direction concerning the first term project.

In Soc. 405, problems included widespread intimidation of students by Poushinsky after students were told that this was their seminar, and a lack of direction and unwillingness on the part of Poushinsky to clarify what was required in the first term major paper. The result of all these problems was that about fifty per cent of the students enrolled in both courses dropped out of them. Many of those who did drop out were honors or qualifying graduate students. As these courses are required for honors and qualifying year students, dropping out means, in effect, the end of their academic careers.

The main point therefore is that Poushinsky is largely responsible for these students ending their academic careers. This situation should not be allowed to occur in sociology or any other department.

Thus Soc students are trying to make sure this does not occur again with Poushinsky by demanding that he be removed from the teaching responsibilities of any required courses in Soc after this year. They are not attacking him as an individual, but rather questioning his teaching ability on the basis of what has occurred in his courses.

In trying to deal with this problem, Soc students have taken great gains to follow the proper channels. First a survey of most students in both courses was taken to determine the level of student dissatisfaction. When widespread dissatisfaction (especially regarding Poushinsky's teaching ability) was found, the

Course Union then informed faculty of this situation and called for a departmental investigation.

When the faculty refused to set up a more or less impartial investigating committee (composed of two students elected by the Course Union and two faculty selected by the faculty with the Ombudsman as Chairman) the Course Union took the matter to the Ombudsman and the Dean.

In the meantime, the faculty tried to set up their own investigating committee composed of two members of the Executive Committee and any students they can get who are (or were) in either of the two courses. Most students, including Janet Webster and Simon Rasmussen, the student members of the Undergraduate Advisory Committee, have refused to participate on such a committee — partly because the issue is already outside the department, and partly because both faculty members of this committee will also approve the recommendations as members of the department's Executive Committee.

The only real conclusion the GAZETTE seemed to be able to reach concerning the "Poushinsky Affair" is that here are students getting screwed again. It seems to me that you have failed to see the wider implications of this issue.

Firstly, the efforts of Soc students to do something about poor teaching ability shows that students all over the university

do not have to accept inferior teaching practices, especially where their academic or other future plans may be in jeopardy.

Secondly, this issue points to the need for interdepartmental student support for what goes on in one department. Students in one department cannot really deal with many of their problems without frequent support from other students. This means students in all departments should build or strengthen course unions in their departments.

Thirdly, the Dalhousie Student Union should support course unions as a major priority in order to try to meet the needs of students. This should be financial as well as human support in the form of two or three full-time people to help students in any department set up course unions and also to help unify the efforts of all course unions.

I strongly suspect that the soc department is not the only department with teaching problems and that students in other departments as well as sociology need support to deal with such problems.

Respectively submitted,
A Concerned Student

Poushinsky student clears misconceptions

To the GAZETTE:

As a student who has been enrolled in both Sociology 301 and 450, I felt I should make a few comments concerning both courses and Professor Poushinsky's role in them. I also wish to do this in an attempt to clear up a few misconceptions and confusions that seemed to appear in the GAZETTE'S treatment of the problem in the March 3 issue.

The first point I wish to make is that the basic issue involved here is that of the right of students to try to rectify what appears to them to be poor

teaching ability on the part of one or more of their professors. The "Poushinsky Affair" is not a witch-hunt on the part of students or a personality conflict between a group of students and one professor, but a genuine attempt on the part of students in both courses, supported by members of the Sociology Course Union, to deal with real problems in both courses.

Soc. 301 is a statistics course for soc. students. Soc. 450 is an honors seminar which this year has centered on advanced research methods in sociology.

**Threads
For
Today
at**

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Editor's Note:

What we said last time was that people like Guy MacLean and Don Clairmont were attempting to cloud this issue with endless streams of committees. They are also trying to smother the soc course union as they will try to smother every course union. They are trying it again this year because last year's "democratization" of the Soc department by Clairmont worked for a while.

And you are right when you say many more course unions are needed because that will

give us more control over what we learn.

Your third point is interesting. It would be wonderful if the Student Council would support, morally and financially all course unions, but it seems that it is the Council that theoretically is supposed to be representing the students' interests. But practically... Before going to Council with this proposal, check with Arts rep, Peter Dwyer, also a Soc student, about his views about bringing it before Council. He's not too much in favour of it.

Some praise and criticism

To the GAZETTE:

This letter has a two-fold purpose, to offer both criticism and praise, so I feel I shall approach them in that order.

I was most distressed at the appearance of the cover of one of the recent issues of the GAZETTE. I believe the caption was something to the effect that "This University Belongs to the Students...Dig It". Such an irresponsible and ill-informed statement was, to me, both reprehensible and disappointing.

Surely the GAZETTE staff is so adequately well informed to realize that this university belongs to the oft-forgotten and abused group of people known as tax-payers. Without at-

tempting to sound too much like the Chronicle-Herald, I think we should consider the Nova Scotia community members and tax-payers before we lay claim to ownership of the university.

Perhaps the caption should have read (more accurately) "This University is Used by the Students...Dig It". After all, I think "the name of the game" is community involvement and service, and in this manner we can return our skills, knowledge, expertise and ideas back into the community which so generously provides for our learning facilities.

On another note, which falls on a somewhat less critical line, I wish to commend you for your

(cont'd. p. 2)

Neptune presents "The Price"

Audience relates to play

by Emmi Duffy and Glenn Wanamaker

Arthur Miller's "The Price", the latest production at Neptune theatre, is an excellent play. Despite the fact there was no intermission, the drama captured the audience for the entire 130-minute performance with a good combination of serious dialogue and comedy.

The story takes place in the attic of an old brownstone mansion which is about to be demolished. A New York policeman, approaching retirement is making arrangements to dispose of some furniture, which belonged to his father. The room is full of heavy pieces reminiscent of the prosperous times before the 1929 stock market crash. Chairs, tables and urns are

piled up against the walls and dust-cloths are draped over the couch and armchairs.

The basic conflict arises out of the failure of Victor, the cop, to equal the success of his brother, Walter, the doctor.

That parent has a responsibility to his child is unquestionable. But how much if anything does a child owe his parents? This is one of several themes in the play that struck me.

The 1929 crash of the stock market left Victor's father bankrupt. Victor recalls his mother's reaction to the news was to vomit on his father's hand. Victor felt obliged to stay and look after him and thus joined the ranks of the down and out. He stopped his education

and joined the police force in order to pay the rent. Walter, on the other hand, continued his education, contributing a token \$5 a month support for his father. Victor is unable to forgive and forget the past for his resentment of Walter has built up over 28 years. Walter had returned home rarely and Victor views this as ingratitude.

After all these years Walter suddenly turns up and immediately starts to interfere in the bargaining between Victor and Solomon, the Furniture dealer. He reduces Victor to a rank amateur among businessmen in front of his wife, and he shows off about how he knows the ins and outs of wangling a better price to dodge the tax.

Walter accuses Victor of enjoying his role as a martyr, telling him flatly that he is a failure.

Victor's wife Esther vacillates between the two brothers. First she is angry at Victor's stubborn refusal to accept help from his brother and press for a better deal. She pleads with him to understand her need for money and her distress at the nature of their existence.

Later she becomes sympathetic to Victor and understands why he could not run out on his father. With all the tense emotional outbursts the play could conceivably become quite heavy. However, the old limping Jewish used-furniture dealer adds a comic element to the play. Solomon is funny without being unbearably cute.

The play's success is due not only to the talent of the actors and director but also to Arthur Miller's ability to successfully blend the serious and humorous aspects of the play.

The acting is quite good, though in Victor's case, played by Edward Binns, it took a good portion of the play for him to become involved in his part.

Esther succeeded in getting the audience to dislike her but one wonders whether this should have been so large. It seemed that she was holding Victor back in the first part of the play.

The stubbornness displayed by Victor in the scene with his brother was very frustrating for the audience. It created a surprisingly tense atmosphere, probably due to the similarity of experiences among the audience, and it was left to dear old Solomon to relax us.

"The Price" is extremely entertaining, and as with most of Miller's plays the audience can relate. It is certainly worth seeing and it continues through to March 25.

CINEMATTERS

by Stephen R. Mills

In this age of the mass media, communication has become an inhuman concept. Love was once a term used to describe the most intimate understanding and appreciation human beings could share. Now it almost describes the chilly barrier keeping us all apart.

This seems to be the theme of most of John Schlesinger's films and, particularly his latest "Sunday, Bloody, Sunday". (Oxford)

"Sunday" is concerned with the relationship between a young designer (Murray Head), a young woman in personnel work (Glenda Jackson) and a middle-aged Jewish doctor (Peter Finch). The woman and the doctor love the designer; he likes them both but will commit himself to neither.

It is a credible plot but the dialogue is a bit much, making Head's and Jackson's roles so sophisticated that they appear uncomfortable in them. Their acting is adequate, however, and Finch turns in a performance that is nothing less than extraordinary.

He plays the doctor, a gentle, intelligent, and cultured man, who is disturbed because his lover must be shared with another and who sincerely misses him when he goes away. Just right.

It's certainly the best performance of this picture and perhaps of any made so far this year.

As in all Schlesinger films, photography is a potent force but, as always, he has a tendency to beat his theme to death, this time with constant close-ups of telephones, televisions, stereos and his actors' faces. Costume, sets, lighting, and score all compliment the credible

plot.

All things considered, this is a fine film, a professional handling of an important theme, certainly welcome in these barren days.

Comment in passing: The new violence in motion pictures and other mediums requires a separation, for purposes of discussion, of technique and content. Artistically, of course, such a separation is all but impossible to make. Where technique ends and content begins — or whether they are, in fact, one and the same, is a matter of opinion.

However, it seems that many critics, confronted with violence, have focused exclusively on technique — photography, special effects, sound, etc. — at the expense of content — plot, screenplay, character, etc. The result is an almost unanimous praising of technically brilliant films but an ignoring of deplorable content. This is not artistically just. A work of art — or an attempt at art — must be judged as a whole. Technically brilliant films with no content must be condemned along with technically poor pictures with a point that doesn't come across.

Critics should perhaps stop watching films for a while and look at their own work. Motion picture criticism has certainly seen better days.

The National Film Board is putting on a series of full length films in their Barrington Street theatre, Wednesday nights from March 14 to April 12. Films featured include Proxy Hawks, Norman Jewison, Zero the Fool, and on April 12, Mon Oncle Antoine. Cost for the series is \$3.00.

Show stimulating

by Stephen R. Mills

Art is called realistic when it looks like something real but, upon contemplation, opens up into a whole lot more. Abstract art is almost the reverse — it is bizarre to begin with but folds into the familiar under study, but not before offering insight into the artist's personality and the world of Man.

Last week's show at the Dalhousie Art Gallery was abstract in nature but the number of mediums and the degree of abstraction varied, offering a stimulating and entertaining presentation.

There were four artists featured: a photographer, three painters, and a sculptress. If one toured the gallery beginning with the photographs, then going through the work by Carol Fraser, Dongkuk Ahn, and Mansaram Panchal, one experienced a progression of technique from black and white abstract of a relatively simple nature to a skillful use of colour and collage.

The photography — cluttered blacks and whites — images of natural structures; trees, stones, snowflake shapes — and man-made structures; cathedrals, cities, and one profile. All are sombre but not depressing; beautiful, strong, permanent. Haunting might be a word applied to them.

Carol Fraser's drawings are done in black, white, and brown with a bit of blue and red here and there. All are of natural things — flowers, trees, woods and done in intricate detail. There are inclusions of man, first grisly, then acceptable, then necessary; faces, arms, blood, bodies. They move from abstraction to brute reality but are buffered by kind detail — shielded by wonder; the simple drawings of the girl in the chair or the delightful tribute to an old teacher or friend.

From these works of intricate detail and muted shades, to screaming color and design with almost no detail at all. Dongkuk Ahn's "Ying Yang"

prints are pure color, shape, rhythm — reds, yellows, greens, blues in squares, circles, waves. Subtle in its simplicity, joyous colour, joyous rhythm but causing one to consider the preceding images in black and white. They are a personification of ideas; a representation of perfection.

Finally, the colour and ideas combine and explode. Collage! Panchal's work seems to have modern life as its theme — his clippings are from American and Indian newspapers, his pictures are obviously advertising shots. Most impressive is his use of colour — reds, greens, blues. And his use of fabric — that is, pictures of

fabric — tapestry, rugs, carpets — the weaving seems to add to the images, unifying and amplifying them.

One particularly captures the imagination — plastic riders on a carpet; an orange sky and a blue whirly sun. It sets you free.

The sculpture — in yarn — is all around and warms the mind because it hangs in comforting, elongated shapes. It is a good framing device as it has little to do with the other works.

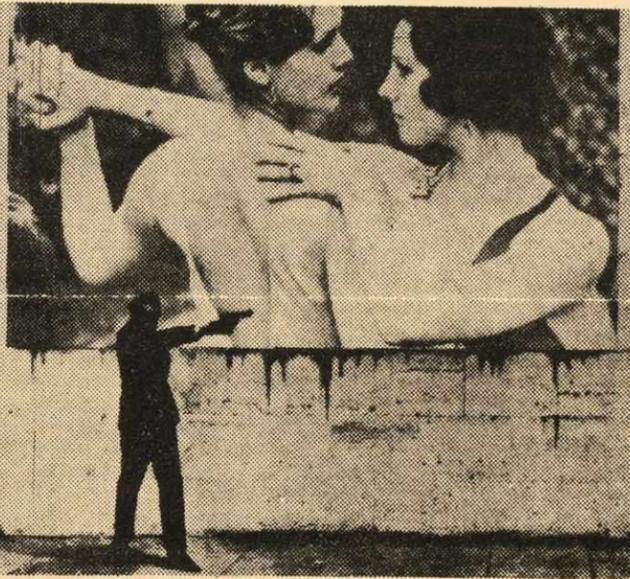
All in all, the show was a rewarding experience and a skillful presentation of works that are not apparently compatible on first examination.

Next at the gallery — sculptures by Rodin.

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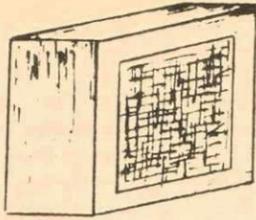


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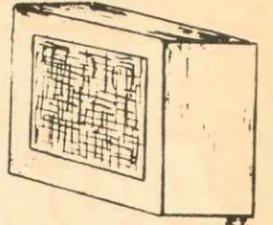
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DÉJÀ



ENTENDU



Good news! Today we preview both Paul Simon's new solo LP and Neil Young's "Harvest" album!

PAUL SIMON (COLUMBIA)

Well, the split with Arthur Garfunkel has finally come. Too bad — as a pair of folk-rock singers, they were unmatched. It's especially bad after their final triumph, the "Bridge Over Troubled Water" set. But, I guess to end a career with a masterpiece is not the worst way to go. Like many other artists, Simon realized that he could go it alone and not have to divvy up the paycheck. Garfunkel, of course, provided at the very most only song harmony — Simon wrote all the songs, both lyrics and music, and did the lead singing on them. This LP will tell if he made the right decision — to go it alone.

We have an LP at Radio, "The Paul Simon Song Book" that had Paul singing Simon and Garfunkel songs alone. It sounded strange. This LP has all new songs, so they can't be compared to old familiar songs. They, like Paul, must stand on their own merit.

Well, the poetry is still there — double beginnings and all, it's not a disappointing album. It was recorded in New York, San Francisco, L.A., Paris, and Kingston, Jamaica — travelling so much is the price of fame. I don't think he enjoyed the trips; Simon sounds tired on the LP. This is emphasized by "Run that Body Down" and the beautiful "Duncan". Check the poetry:

Just later on the very same night

When I crept to her tent with a flashlight

And my long years of innocence ended

Well, she took me to the woods

Saying here comes something, and it feels so good

And just like a dog I was befriended, I was befriended.

Nice, eh? He never would have tried those type of lyrics

two years ago.

On acoustics guitar, Paul shines — no complaints about that. He uses it in a lot of songs, and covers many topics. I think you've heard his last single "Mother and Child Reunion" — it's a good selection. On Side 1, he also covers the drug scene in "Everything Put Together Falls Apart" and the government in "Armistice Day."

Side 2 is much like Side 1 — a great top 40 song starts it, and the rest of the side deals with themes again — peace, trust, and Detroit.

Yes, Detroit (another big city put-down like his New York City hatred).

Two songs are notable — the first "Hobo's Blues" is a joyous instrumental duet for violin and acoustic guitar. The second "Paranoia Blues" is an unusual number from Simon — it sounds like an old blues number, especially when the bottle-neck guitar comes in after each line. The drumming reminds me of that used by Lennon in his "Plastic — Ono Band" LP — heavy, basic bass drum only.

The final cut — "Congratulation" expresses a well-used thematic wish:

"I'm hungry for learning
Don't you answer me please
Can a man, a woman
Live together in peace
Good question."

It's about the most unsurprising thing on a different album for Simon. Nothing outlandish though — just a bit freer than before. It'll probably sell a million, but I'll sure miss old Artie — there was more variety and less pain with him along.

P.S. The Rolling Stone Review of this LP is very well done — I suggest you read it for a more expanded view of the album.

NEIL YOUNG — "HARVEST" (REPRISE)

Probably the most hotly awaited album of the year. Fact is, I love Neil Young's music — and this review is biased in that

way — so take it with a grain of salt.

Fact: There are ten cuts on this album.

Opinion: There are six exceptional cuts, three mediocre, and one is a crucifixion.

Fact: Neil plays with (on various cuts) The Stray Gators (5-man back-up group), the London Symphony Orchestra, James Taylor, Linda Ronstadt, David Crosby, Graham Nash and Stephen Stills.

Opinion: It looks as if Neil is diversifying and that can be both good and bad, especially when you consider the greatness of Crosby, Stills and Nash.

Well, enough of the fact/-opinion stuff. It's a good LP, but only two cuts are great.

There's no real continuity to this LP as there was in others. There's more poetry and themes to this one, though, and for those people who want that, it's good. I miss the rock, though. All the adjectives, "drifting, hypnotic, repetitious" are still applicable, but not as evident as in earlier LP's.

Side 1 starts off with two country-rock numbers that are better than the Byrds have ever done. I still don't like country though.

"Dream up, dream up, let me fill your cup, With the promise of man."

"A Man Needs A Maid" is one of those two great cuts done with the London Symphony Orchestra. It has both raw power and the delicacy to lift you off your seat and plant you on the floor.

You've heard "Heart of Gold" (the hit single), a good song. Check the Dylan-like harmonica.

"Are You Ready For The Country" asks a double-edged question I don't like. I hope he doesn't plan to go that route! The song doesn't strike me either.

"There's a World" is the crucifixion. Also with the orchestra, this cut has everything bad that made the other good. It's too thematic (Neil giving advice), and the orchestral strings are too perfect for Neil's voice so it comes out raucous.

You'll scream "No!" when you hear it.

"Alabama" sounds like classic Young. "Needle" explores the drug thing with a beautiful acoustic (voice is excellent) and "Words (Between the Lines of Age)" is the best cut on the album — an incredible masterpiece. It's also the longest cut on the LP at 6:42 — maybe Neil needs a long

time to show his genius.

Well, it's not his best yet (as RPM says) but it's worth buying if only for the two masterpieces. He's an unusual guy. He's happy singing songs so sad they'll make you cry, but you'll be happy listening through your tears.

Next week: Lightfoot's "Don Quixote" and "Bangla Desh" if nothing else new comes in.

Gesundheit!

by Uncle Walt

Insanity may just be the reflection of an insane society.

— Dr. R. D. Laing

* * *

Many years ago persons with emotional problems or unusual behaviour were considered to be possessed by demons. Exorcism was the cure.

Today a new myth has developed: the myth of mental illness.

Individuals who find it difficult or impossible to cope with this society on its own terms are labelled "sick". Along with this fictional illness go special medical doctors known as psychiatrists, special institutions called mental "hospitals", and special medication including tranquilizers and anti-depressants.

It is true that physiological changes accompany emotional stress and that pills can temporarily mask the problem, but — except in such cases as brain injury and tertiary syphilis — generally the problem is basically social and psychological rather than medical.

In most cases the so-called normal relatives living with the "patient" are every bit as messed up as the person being treated, although perhaps in different ways. These family members may exert intolerable pressures on that individual, sometimes of a sadistic or masochistic nature. Dr. R. D. Laing, a British existential psychiatrist, has written some excellent books on such topics as "Politics of the Family".

Dr. Laing objects to numbing the sufferer with sedatives, and prefers to let the person act through his or her "psychosis" in a warm, loving, understanding atmosphere. Accordingly, Dr. Laing has set up a residence where he lives with the people he is treating. This is indeed a far more humane and effective approach than locking people up in huge institutions.

Not only families put undue pressures on people. A great deal of the information each of us receives in our society is deceptive: half-truths and outright lies. Examples include advertising to sell, political rhetoric to convince us that we want to be governed (and taxed), and much of what passes as education.

The everyday lies which bombard us in the media, the classroom, the church, and even at home often become too much for some people. But this sensitivity is not an illness. Individuals with psychological problems are often very critical of deception, and get angry or upset at even the slightest politeness or sham. All of us should cultivate this insistence on truth. Perhaps then there would be fewer social problems and fewer psychological casualties.



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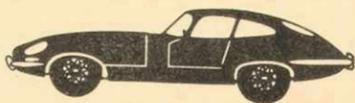
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Wheelin' around



by Charlie Moore

Three weeks ago in this column, I proposed a complete revamping of the Nova Scotia motor vehicle act. Coincidentally, I presume, Minister of Highways Garnet Brown introduced a bill in the legislature on Thursday, March 3, proposing a number of amendments to the M.V.A. While falling short of the modifications which I consider necessary, the new bill seems to be a step forward — a few of the amendments actually make some sense. It deals primarily with driver licensing and the point system.

The highlights are:

(a) A driver whose license has been suspended because of point accumulation will be able to obtain a four-point reduction by successfully completing an approved defensive driving course.

(b) Penalty points will be eliminated for infractions which are not directly related to highway safety, such as driving with an expired license or parking violations.

(c) A provisional license will be made available in special cases for work purposes or to

alleviate other "undue hardships" caused by license suspension.

(d) The reprieves granted by both (a) and (c) will only be available to first offenders.

Most of the rest of the bill deals with minor amendments and alterations to the act. As I stated before, I suppose this bill, while disappointing, is a step forward at least — not a step backward like so much new legislation.

Considering Ralph Nader's self-appointed crusade to have us all riding around in 35 m.p.h.

padded cells, there are a refreshing number of exciting new cars appearing lately. Chevrolet has done an interesting experiment by bolting two exhaust driven turbochargers to an otherwise stock 350 CID Nova. The result is a dramatic increase in power with a corresponding decrease in harmful exhaust emissions; fuel economy is also improved. While this all seems too good to be true, nevertheless it is, and this is one experimental car that will probably see production.

Two weeks ago, I predicted that Chevy would build a pickup truck version of the Vega to compete with the new Japanese built mini-pickups to be offered by Ford and Dodge. While a prototype Vega pickup does exist, (along with an intriguing four-wheel-drive Vega station wagon), it now looks like Chev will counter with a Japanese made truck of their own made by Isuzu. Trucks have now taken over more than 20% of the total car market. In view of this trend, Dodge completely restyled their complete range of trucks this year, and G.M. and Ford will follow suit in 1973.

General Motors has decided to abandon the yearly model change after 1973. The increasing costs of federal smog and safety legislation have made the annual change a financial impossibility. This new policy has been in the wind at G.M. for some time. The Chevy Nova has continued relatively unchanged for five years and when the Vega was introduced they announced that it would follow suit. The new policy will result in the closing of G.M.'s big tool and die plant in Detroit which manufactures the tooling for the yearly model change.

Finally, Peugeot has jumped on the micro-mini car bandwagon with a new model called the 104. The new French baby joins the field in company with the Renault 5, the Fiat 126, the Austin Mini, the new VW-Audi-mini, and assorted Japanese offerings including Honda. It is truly a pity that many of these fine cars will never see our shores due to the ridiculous U.S. style smog regulations which are prohibitive to these, the least harmful of all cars pollution-wise. Strikes you odd doesn't it. Keep a wheelin'.

Men's field hockey at Dal

Men have been playing field hockey on an organized basis in central and western Canada for several years, but it was not until May, 1971 that organized field hockey for men was introduced in Nova Scotia.

Last summer about 30 players turned out regularly to play weekend games on the Halifax Commons. From this group, a team was selected to represent Nova Scotia at the Canadian

Field Hockey Championships in Calgary.

Of the seven teams participating, Nova Scotia finished sixth — not an impressive showing but not unexpected since virtually all the players were novices. This summer it is hoped that a four or five-team league will be started to improve the calibre of play in Nova Scotia and hopefully to improve our standing in the 1972

Championships to be held in Toronto.

Anyone interested in participating in men's field hockey this summer is invited to attend a meeting in Room 104 in the Dalhousie Gym at 7:30 P.M., March 22. No experience is necessary, and all ages are welcome. For further information, contact Denis Loiselle at 423-2335 or Mike Allen at 422-3012.

"Bury the Dead" resurrected

In mid-January of this year the Dalhousie Musical and Dramatic Society was invited to attend Theatre Canada '72 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and to perform their production of "Bury the Dead", a play by Irwin Shaw.

This national festival takes place from May 20 to 27.

The initial estimates of the costs involved run to \$6,000. DMDS hopes to receive funds from both the provincial and the federal government levels but at best this will total only about three thousand.

To raise the remainder of the

money for the trip and to give local audiences a chance to see the exported product, the company will be giving special performances at Dalhousie May 1 to 7.

The performance on Sunday evening, the 7th, will be a special Patron's Performance with reserved seats going at \$5.00 each. Those supporting the group in this way will have their names printed in a supplement to the Theatre Canada '72 programme.

"Bury the Dead" has gone through some changes since it was first presented in the McInnis Room last October. Seven new cast members have been added and original cast members have been given new roles. A new part has been

created and some technical changes have been made.

Everyone interested in promoting local theatre should make it a point to attend one of the special performances, and all those who can afford to do so should attend the Patron's Performance.

Tickets can be obtained and contributions made to the group by contacting Dave Jones, DMDS president, on the third floor of the SUB.

A fun car rally

Sunday, March 19 —
Registration, Kings College quadrangle at 9:45 a.m.
Agenda:
Rally via back roads to Windsor, N.S. Leaving Kings at 10 a.m.
Older out-of-the-ordinary vehicles preferred.
Participants should be equipped with champagne and lunch and be suitably attired for the occasion.
In Windsor for those interested: The Haliburton Society of Kings and the 'St. Lucy Society of Acadia University' propose to debate on the topic: "Resolved that God is an Anglican".
Entrants from Dalhousie welcome.
Enquiries should be made to G.V. Davidson at 422-9421.

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Manson: the play and the man

by Stephen R. Mills

"Charles Manson, aka Jesus Christ", a play based on Manson's life and his trial for numerous murders, robberies, and illegal and immoral acts, is now being performed by Pier One Theatre.

Manson is an extraordinary individual and the play, based exclusively on his writings, reports of his actions, and court records, is extraordinary.

Much of what Manson did — indeed, much of the way he thinks, is theatrical. Fabian Jennings, who wrote the play, has seen this, and the theatrical, the dramatic, the fantastic and the bizarre aspects and interpretations of the Manson story make up most of the play.

The play opens and closes in the court room and, in a series of sketches, shows Manson in conversation with a reporter, in drug-induced debauchery with the runaways called "The Family", and playing games — of cowboys and Indians, of Crucifixion — with them. There are also perspectives, showing the traditions on which Manson's delusions are based, such as the myth of the American

way.

Most significantly, there are many monologues by Manson as he constantly denies responsibility for his acts, claiming that he is a product of his age, a child of the System; reared in prison, learning the lessons of the lost and lonely. Manson calls himself too stupid, too small to be blamed. He is nothing, he died long ago, he did his best with what he had, he blames no one, he loves everyone, and so on.

Pier One handles the play extremely well. Music, set design, lighting, costume, and movement accent the bizarre, druggish atmosphere of the play, but also focus audience attention on Manson's crystal-clear claims about his condition and who's to blame.

Acting is very good, with all the cast more or less supplementing a powerful performance by John Dunsworth as Manson.

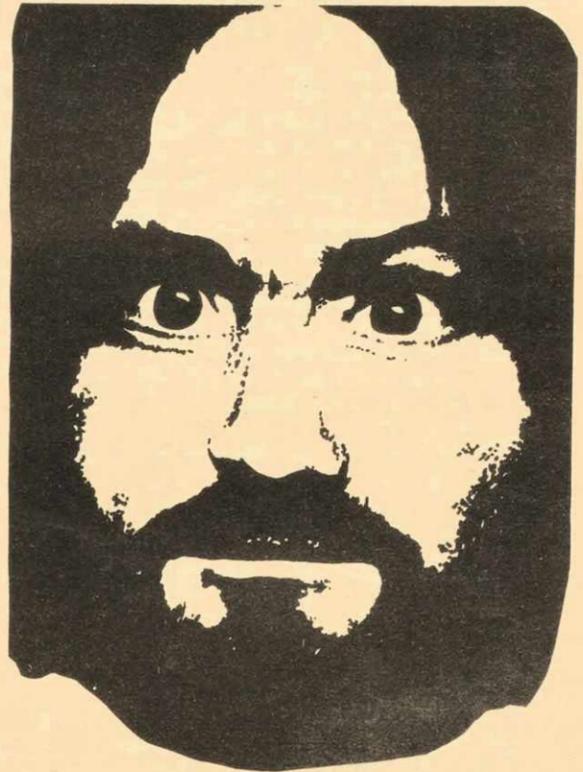
"Charles Manson, aka Jesus Christ" is strong stuff. Pier One must be congratulated on first choosing it and then presenting it so forcefully, intelligently, and professionally.

This play demands that one discuss not only its execution but its content — that is, the personality and circumstances of Charles Manson, and his charges that modern society is responsible for the murders they blame on him and the ruined lives of his "family."

I agree with much of what Manson says about the inhumanity of existing institutions. Capitalism, "democracy", cities, laws, prisons, etc. are obviously very wrong. What they did to Manson — what they are doing to everyone — is ghastly. On a purely emotional level, one would have to agree with Manson.

His actions against the society are, however, ridiculous. The fact that many of his notions are true should not keep one from realizing that he, himself, is insane. The thoughtless silences, the cries for love, the claims of love, the loneliness, depression, irrationality, are witness to this.

People like Manson — and there are many, and there is Manson in us all — fail to realize that they are part of the in-



stitutions they oppose; that is, if modern society is destroyed, it will be suicide.

Manson's claims that he is dead are tragically true. In essence, he was never given a chance to live; he was never given a chance to develop his intellect and his reason. All that developed in Charles Manson was his emotion, which may explain his charismatic control of The Family.

Yet one should not pity Manson — he himself says and knows he is beyond that or anything now. What is important is the message of this perverse prophet crying in the wilderness of 20th century Western civilization. We are destroying ourselves, we are perverting our children, decimating our environment, losing each other. What can we do?

Manson offers no alternatives. His insane plan to escape to a paradise below the desert serves only to highlight his insanity and the nightmarish quality of the entire situation.

Manson says, "I've found my peace. Now you find yours." And, indeed, we must.

Personally, I tend to see the problem in humanistic terms and would resolve it culturally, with a political basis in active socialism. There are other suggestions being made, however, and other world-saving activities taking place.

The problem presented by the existence of Charles Manson is the problem of life itself — how we would live, what kind of world we would have this be.

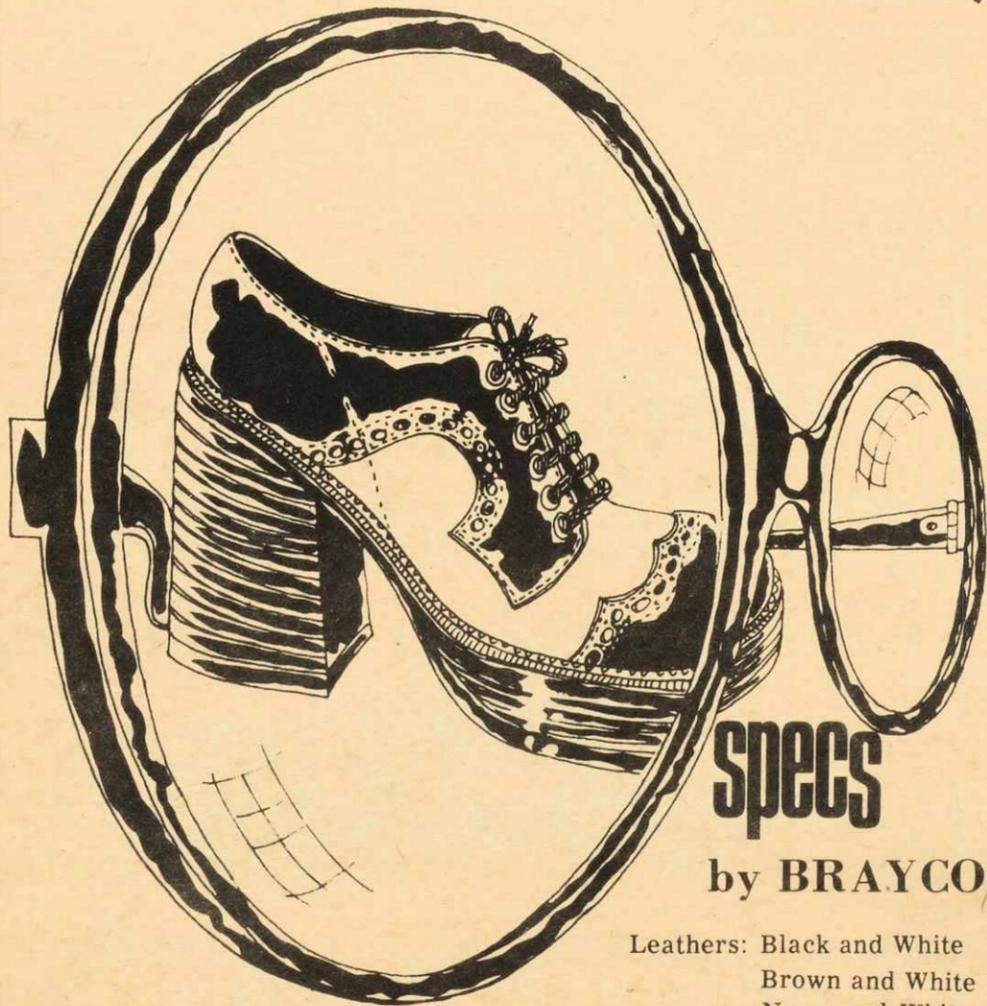
One must conclude that, for better or worse, the answer is forthcoming.



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