



EDITORIALS

Respectfully . . .

We can add little to the tribute offered to Lucy Gertrude Clarkin elsewhere in this issue. We well appreciate the fact that we held the friendship of a great woman and the memory of that friendship we shall hold dear until the end of our span of years on earth. Since the first years of **Red and White** she was one of its most faithful contributors, and we fully realize that she played no small part in building the **Red and White** up to the good little magazine that we think it is. Even in the last few weeks of her life, although her strength was fast waning, she continued to offer advice and assistance to us. She was always encouraging to aspiring poets among the student body and her advice was greatly appreciated by us in our dabbings in the realms of poetry. No longer will her poems grace page one of **Red and White**, but Lucy Gertrude Clarkin has assured herself of front-page rating in the memories of all who are and who have been connected with our magazine.

We regret that we inadvertently caused her pain in our last issue by giving an erroneous reading to one line of the poem she had sent us. A correction at this time will be no consolation but we think it fitting that it be made so that her work will be fully appreciated. Probably an invisible hand prompted the error for the corrected lines make a fitting epitaph:

This leaning on a Love, so deep, so tender;
That pain at last is still!

U. N. O.

Much dissatisfaction has been and will be expressed at the numerous delays of the U. N. O. in arriving at a solution for any of the problems that have so far been dealt with. The apparent lack of co-operation among the member nations has caused much concern in observers, who see little hope for ultimate success. This pessimistic outlook may be justified in the light of other considerations, but not because the member nations discuss thoroughly every item under consideration rather than come to decisions merely with an eye to saving time. The questions which the U. N. O. must solve are not only the results of World War II, of the years

between the two great wars, of World War I. No, the trouble has been brewing for over a century. The pot of international relationships has boiled over twice in our time. New ingredients must be added to insure that it will not boil over again. The U. N. O. had the choice of adopting a trial and error method, advocated by the more impatient, as did the League of Nations after the last war, or of adopting a method involving much study and active, rather than passive, co-operation, in order to determine the ingredients. In following the latter course the U. N. O. is definitely in the right. If there are any criticisms to be directed against it, it should be against the policies it is following.

In the Charter of the U. N. O. is contained the following clause: "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter;" It was this very clause that prevented the U. N. from interfering in the Polish election fiasco, where all ideals of democracy and of sovereign rights of citizens were disregarded. It is this clause that prevents their interfering in the maladministration of the "heroic" Marshall Tito's Yugoslavian government. It is this clause that makes it powerless to arbitrate in China, in Egypt, in Spain, in Rumania, in Hungary. The U. N. is frustrated in its efforts to cease the ruthless expansion of Communist Russia's sphere of influence, or to terminate the exploitation of lesser states by British and American interests. Then in the preamble to its Charter is contained the following clause: "We are determined to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small;" These two quoted clauses are incompatible for as long as the hands of the U. N. O. are tied in dealing with a matter like the Polish general elections of January, the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights is no more than an idealistic dream. Could the U. N. O. educate the leaders and governments of the nations of the world in the necessity of making all their policies subservient to the principles contained in the last-mentioned quotation, then the need for international trusteeship would vanish. Human rights have become secondary to national rights. Man must be made to mean more to the state than the brute does to man if we are to keep the world from becoming a slaughterhouse for humanity. The U. N. O. is still too interested in nations to give primary consideration to humanity, despite its high-sounding ideals. If it should fail in its purposes we have here presented the main reason.

Entrance Examinations

We hope and pray that, whatever its failings, it will succeed in delivering mankind from the scourge of war for years to come. Already we are afraid to deliver our generation to history in apprehension of what posterity will say of us . . . "Were there men in those days?"

At a recent meeting of members of the Charlottetown School Board, the principals of three city schools, and the Director of Education, it was agreed that for a trial period of three years pupils from the schools of Charlottetown would be permitted to enter Grade XI without writing the customary Entrance Examinations. Formerly all students, both in city and country alike, aspiring to a higher education took their first step in that direction by passing those examinations, set by professors at Prince of Wales College.

With the new system to be used this year for the first time, Grade X pupils in the city schools will be permitted to enter Grade XI with a Trustees' Leaving Certificate. Those, however, who fail to get these certificates may still write the examinations as before, and if they are successful in passing they will be accepted into Grade XI; students wishing to compete for scholarships may also write them. This programme appears ideal to the city students. "O-o-o-o-h boy! No more of those hard examinations!" But it's not going to be that easy. The student should work harder during his last year in school for on what he accomplishes during that year depends his chances of being accepted into Grade XI. No more cramming from a file of old Entrance Examinations in the hope that the questions will be the same or along much the same lines. More time can now be devoted to outside reading for the teachers will be relieved of the worry of covering the material the pupils will be held responsible for in the examinations. They will set the exams themselves; thus they will be allowed to be more original in the method they use in conducting school.

One of the arguments put forth in favor of adopting the new system was that the warm weather in the month of June, the month in which the examinations are written, prevents the students from doing their best work. School children are not particularly enthusiastic over studies at any time, much less on sultry summer days when the urge to romp about in the sun is very tempting. It is felt that the city schools, which have never closed until the last of June, or at least until after the examinations had been written, should now close at an earlier date.

If this system succeeds, it may be extended to the rest of the Island. At the present time this extension appears

rather impracticable because of the many difficulties to be solved first. A start has been made, however, and, as to the future, nothing should be left untried that might result in the betterment of our education system and in assisting our coming generations to acquire a sounder basic education.

M. I. D. L.

For the past number of years there has been in existence in the Maritimes an organization known as the Maritime Intercollegiate Debating League. Until last year St. Dunstan's was not a member of this very important organization, although the other major colleges of the three provinces were active in it. In the autumn of 1945 a group of students, headed by a member of last year's graduating class, began an agitation to interest the students of St. Dunstan's in intercollegiate debating and to emphasize the benefits to be derived from it. A delegation was sent to the annual meeting of the members at that time, and St. Dunstan's was accepted as a new member. In our first year in intercollegiate debating our teams won one debate and lost two. This year there has been much more interest shown on the campus in the activities of this new society.

Membership in the St. Dunstan's unit of the M. I. D. L. is restricted to those who are interested in debating and who are doing under-graduate work. The society is under the supervision of a Faculty-adviser who gives guidance and assistance to the debaters. All candidates for the teams participate in elimination debates which are judged by a committee named by the executive of the local unit of the League. Those students given the highest rating by the committee are selected for the three two-man teams to represent the college in debate. The executive of our chapter of the M. I. D. L. is to be complimented on working out such a satisfactory system.

Intercollegiate debating has many advantages. First, it provides a means for the exchange of students' ideas on various topics; secondly, it provides a means for the different colleges to make manifest to other colleges the general training they are giving their students; thirdly, it serves as advertising for the different colleges; fourthly, it serves to rouse the students' interest in debating and thus stimulates them to take an active part in this phase of student activity, one of the most beneficial to the students; fifthly, it provides training for those students who participate in the actual debates. We strongly urge all students to get behind intercollegiate debating so that we may make our presence felt in this important intercollegiate activity.