

RED AND WHITE

Published once a month throughout the University year by the Students of Saint Dunstan's University, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

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EDITORIAL

In student activities this year the most controversial issue seemed to be the role played by CFCCS. Since this subject assumed such importance in college affairs, we feel we should express our sentiments on the question.

In case there are still a few around who are in the dark on the matter, we wish to remind them that at our general student body meeting on November 15, we voted that CFCCS maintain its ties with the national organization. Is such a move for the better or for the worse? For the better, we hope.

Why did the question of CFCCS arise in the first place? Apparently a few devoted students, having become concerned about the function of the organization, decided it was time for a revolution. Therefore, following the Regional Conference at Halifax, they formulated a motion which called for a severance of ties between local CFCCS and the national organization. Whether or not the reasons proposed for the withdrawal were valid is a question which we will not discuss here. But what presents a strange situation is this: The general opinion seems to be that nobody really knows anything about CFCCS, an opinion which may be perfectly correct. It has been suggested that since only a small minority of the students are acquainted with the functions of CFCCS, therefore to vote on whether it should or should not sever ties with the national organization would constitute an irrational action. Well, maybe this is quite true. Certainly it would be the height of ridiculousness for students to vote on an issue with which they are almost completely unfamiliar.

Let us suppose that we did act irrationally in voting on CFCCS. Where lies the blame? With the students in general, one would most probably remark. But actually the blame does not lie with the general student body. The blame lies primarily with those who formulated and introduced the motion. Here were a group of people who realized, or at least should have realized, that the students knew little about the functions of CFCCS. Yet they prepared to ask the student body to make a decision on whether CFCCS should remain as is or should break with the national organization. Is not this an example of irrationality?

If we were in the dark about CFCCS, why did not those members directly connected with the organization plan a campaign whereby CFCCS would be made known to the student body? Then after making sure that every effort was made to acquaint students with the organization, they might introduce the motion. But not before.

Therefore, since CFCCS has been one of many organizations existing on this campus for several years, and since students have not been given any real understanding of its function, they certainly are not qualified to vote it out. The best they can do is vote to let things stand as they are.

Let us remember that if CFCCS became the "whipping horse" among the students this year, it was made so by those who brought in the motion. The blame does not lie with the general student body.

This third edition of Red and White is the final one for this semester. We plan to be back together for the fourth edition in the early part of February.

In the meantime we shall have entered the Holy Season of Advent to prepare for the great feast of the Nativity. May this Christmas be for each student a time for genuine rejoicing and the New Year a year filled with happiness.

Of course the days ahead could be brighter than they appear to be. Staring at us with their diabolical expressions are the examinations. Do what you will but you can't escape them; . . . They have it in for you. However, since we shall all be tagged, let us wish each other not only sympathy, but also good luck. So good luck to all.

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Letters To The Editor

Opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily the opinions of this paper. Whether we agree or disagree they will be published nevertheless, subject to necessary editing or condensation.

In The Dark

The Editor:
"On First Looking Into 'Co-ed
Capers'"

THE CO-EDS

The Co-eds are a mystic lot
Though some would counter:
"They are not";
For in the "capers" they've
begot . . .

I cannot seem to find the plot.

THE "CAPERS"

They oft reflect maturity
As well as lit'lal purity;
And yet, it is a surety,
They lie in dark obscurity.

THE QUESTION

'Tis not my purpose to com-
plain,
Nor yet the author to arraign.
I must, in truth, extol the
brain
That such ideas does contain,
But would you, please, the
work explain . . .
The references are not so
plain.

E.P.Q.

Enthusiasm Overflowing

Dear Editor:

It is heartening to observe the overflow of enthusiasm for C.F.C.C.S. on the part of its foremost Senior and Junior defenders . . . a SOPHOMORE president, a SOPHOMORE secretary-treasurer, and a junior vice president WHO IS IN HIS FIRST YEAR AT S.D.U.! Well done?

Yours respectfully,

Ed Benson.

Supply and Demand

Mr. Editor:

One-third of a page devoted to a campus minority seems to be incongruous with the law of supply and demand as it affects that group. Perhaps it would be wise to allot space for other groups.

Don McMillan

Co-ed Editor's Note:

From all observations it would seem that Mr. McMillan is not qualified to judge this law of supply and demand as such. However, perhaps he might wish to contribute the fruit of his literary talent to our paper.

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OUR LITTLE CORNER

At a General Student Council meeting a while ago, Father MacLellan made an interesting statement which would be well worth considering. In connection with the C.F.C.C.S. problem, he remarked that St. Dunstan's, being on an island, should be slow to break any national ties. We think everyone would agree with this; but let's pursue this thought a little further for a moment.

Our University, geographically, is on an island. From many points of view, this is to be desired. It is an old and time-honored ideal that a university should be somewhat removed from the hustle and bustle of the work-a-day world. We come to a University to develop our whole selves, primarily to develop our minds, our characters and our ideals. A degree of isolation, then, is necessary to achieve this end, for to do so without a great deal of concentration is impossible. The distractions of a large center, therefore, are a hindrance to the attaining of a reasonable degree of intellectual development. There is much more to be said for detachment in the pursuit of a sound education.

However, in the pursuit of the same end, the location of a University in a metropolitan area has definite advantages. Most large cities have their theatres, music halls, operas, great libraries, art galleries and numerous other cultural centres. All these are at the disposal of the student endeavoring to attain a good education and, needless to say, are a tremendous asset. A student in this environment, if he takes advantage of what is offered, can devise great profit.

We may compare the two environments and consider the desirable and undesirable aspects of both. (We are ignoring the "social" aspect here, as this generally centers around the university community whatever its location).

Comparing them, one soon admits that a combination of both would be ideal. Let's see how close we stand to this ideal combination at St. Dunstan's.

Let's say we are, to a greater or lesser degree, isolated, that is, falling into category number one by nature of our location. But, when we come to think of it, there is a reasonable amount of cultural activity available here in "our little corner of the world" — a reasonable amount, that is, if we take advantage of it. For example within the past few weeks, there have been presented a first rate production by the Canadian Players of Shakespeare's "The Tempest", and, thanks to the instrumentality of our generous Alumni Association, a concert by the Halifax Symphony. In other words, in the course of the Academic year, we are exposed to a cross section of fine music and drama. After Christmas we shall have a series of lectures by a competent Canadian Educator. It could be more complete, granted, but, really, we are not so badly off, are we? We must take full advantage of each presentation, however, for we get few enough. "Avail of every opportunity presented" . . . that is the key. We can better our lot in this respect, too. We can throw our support wholeheartedly behind any group which endeavours to bring a fine production here. Maybe we could even bring one in ourselves. It's a thought.

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LETTERS Continued

15 Nov., 1960.

The Editor

RED AND WHITE

St. Dunstan's University
Charlottetown
Mr. Editor

The Nov. 6 issue of your paper carried a front page story which I consider to have been quite unfortunate. The story I refer to is the account of the general meeting of the students and especially of that section which treated the C.F.C.C.S. issue on the campus. In fairness to the students who attended the National Conference at St. Mary's in September, and indeed, in justice to past and present members of the national executive of this organization, certain questions must be cleared up.

Let me state first of all that I was one of the St. Dunstan's Delegation to St. Mary's. Never once at St. Mary's did Mr. Benson or any other member of our delegation propose a motion "for the purpose of establishing greater power in the executive body", as your article suggests was done. To be sure, the same issue of RED AND WHITE carries a very short and almost meaningless article on the St. Dunstan's stand at St. Mary's. I happen to know that Mr. Benson submitted to your paper for publication a much more meaningful and accurate account of the National Conference and the St. Dunstan's part therein. For some reason, known only to your staff, his article did not appear. It is my firm conviction that had you published his account as written, much of the befuddled thinking and stupid sentimentalism which have clouded the C.F.C.C.S. debate on the St. Dunstan's campus would have been avoided.

St. Dunstan's did not contribute an annual sum of \$700 to the C.F.C.C.S. national office. Mr. Benson denies having made such a statement. The fact is that St. Dunstan's spends about \$700 annually on C.F.C.C.S. of which sum, about \$340 went to the national office last year. Your reporter could have verified this figure by a quick and easy recourse to the files in the Common Office.

I do not know of any instance in which one could accuse past or present members of the national executive of "misusing the contributions of the other (why not St. Dunstan's also?) universities". You can have a look at the file

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

Last Laugh

Little boy president blow your horn

The Seniors refuse to rise in the morn

The Juniors on third did call their bluff

Which proves that he didn't blow enough.

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