

RED and WHITE

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STAFF WRITERS

Mary Lou Cremin, Philip Mullally, Victor Jeske (news); Joanne Vatalaro, Terry Burman (features); Gerald FitzGerald (Bulletin Board).

Assistant Managing Editors

Douglas E. MacLeod, Dan Kinch, Nicholas Wong.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE

The feature article in this edition brings to light a distressing situation that has bothered us for quite some time — the Students' Union is broke, bankrupt, or whatever one may call it, they are penniless.

Last year, students paid a Union fee of fifteen dollars. With the small amount at hand, the Executive, nevertheless, managed to grant each society every cent it had asked for in its final budget. Despite the fact that an overall budgetary deficit of \$800.00 had been forecast early in the year, the Union somehow ended the year with a surplus of some \$200.00.

This year, the Union fee was jacked up to \$25.00. This increase was ostensibly made to offset any recurrence of a deficit, and to ensure that every society received its required quota. But then what happened? The Administration walked in and took over eighty per cent of the funds, claiming laconically, that this was intended to place Athletics on a much higher plane this year, but not hinting that it was mainly because of the lack of confidence they had in the competency of the Students' Union to administer these funds wisely.

It is here that the first paradox occurs. The argument was advanced last year (by several members of the Faculty) that far too few students were reaping benefits from the Union finances, and that these funds should be distributed in such a manner as to provide for adequate sharing by as many as possible of the Students' Union finances, so as to make the benefits advantageous to the plurality. If this was the stand taken then, how can the Administration logically support it now when eighty per cent of the students' money is placed at the disposal of ten per cent of the students who take part in sports, while the meagre balance is supposed to be sufficient to provide for the remaining ninety per cent of the student population?

We certainly agree that Sports are a necessary element in the realm of extra-curricular activities, and we, likewise, agree that Athletic teams of the highest calibre do boost the prestige of a University to a very great extent, but so, for that matter, do the other spheres of extra-curricular activities — Debating, Drama Glee Club, and so on. And even to a much greater extent does the campus literary publication.

Whether one wishes to agree or not, the fact is that any campus publication should be considered as the trade-mark of a University, since not only is it the primary medium of external communication, but it is also the intellectual expression of the students of that University, and the yard-stick by which that University is judged.

We can easily publish **RED and WHITE** as a scandal sheet (make ourselves the laughing stock of other Universities) but the point is "Should we?" Are we not under some sort of obligation to provide the students with a literary publication of which they can all be proud? Are we not under some obligation to endeavour to improve the standards of our publication with each succeeding edition? Do we not owe it to ourselves, and to the University, for that matter, to give of our best every time we prepare to publish an edition?

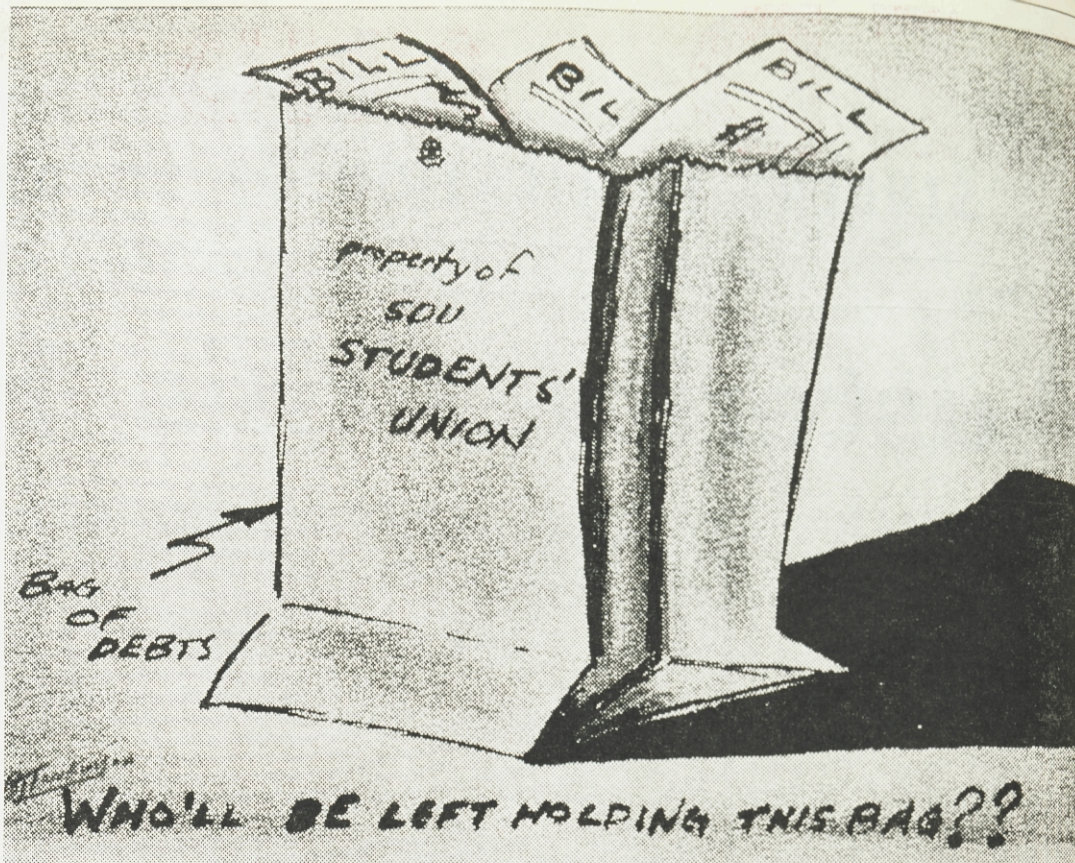
We can only fulfill these ideals if we are provided with the necessary funds. This year we budgeted for \$1750. Regardless of what our budget was last year, operation costs and expenses have risen so much that it is quite impossible to publish a good journal for less than \$1750. The *Dalhousie Gazette* costs almost \$10,000. per year, and in no other part of Canada can there be found a campus paper of the calibre of **RED and WHITE** being published for less than \$2,000.

This is where the second paradox occurs. **RED and WHITE** is read and enjoyed by all the students on this campus, so by a simple process of logic, one should expect that **RED and WHITE** should be the Organization in receipt of most of the Union funds. But what has happened? We have asked for a meagre \$1750 — a mere twelve per cent of the Union Funds — and the Union Executive tells us they are broke.

So are we supposed to swallow that and make believe we can operate on counterfeit? The blame for this illogical distribution of funds should rest squarely on the shoulders of both the Union Executive and the Administration — the Union Executive for granting the other societies their quotas without even stopping to consider **RED and WHITE**, and the Administration for trying to solve one side of the problem without even giving consideration to the other side.

Perhaps some jokers may like to see a publication of a two-page edition of the "**RED and WHITE Scandal Sheet**," or maybe the *St. Dunstan's Rag*. If so, we will have to disappoint them, but we may also disappoint a lot of students in another way — no more **RED and WHITE**.

So come on, you people, how about letting us have our dough, huh!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily the opinions of the editor and staff. Whether we agree or disagree, they will be published subject to the availability of space.

The editor strongly urges all students to make the best use of these columns.

There is a Students' Union

Dear Editor:

Having last year had a little experience at getting my articles censored either in whole or in part, I was tempted to use the salutation, 'Dear Censor'; but having no experience, however with this year's staff, I will settle for 'Dear Editor'. I use the term 'dear' only because our editor has asked for approximately \$1900 this year to run the paper. This is an increase of \$1100 over last year's figure of \$800. This would nearly be enough to publish ALL articles submitted in their ENTIRETY. One snap of your finger would do it Mr. Editor; at least, this is my opinion after reading a notice addressed to the staff which began 'I command you.'

My main reason for writing is to criticize (constructively) this paper for doing the number one all over the S.U. If the Students' Union or any other organization does wrong, criticism is forthcoming, but why carry the joke so far? The answer may be found in the fact that two members are day students.

This reminds me of a letter from 'A senior' who made this point clear. Yes 'a senior' who being such, should be brave, stable, and confident, but hasn't enough courage to sign his name. I would like to ask him three questions: Does NK have to be sitting on an ICBM streaking across the sky to operate it? Does JFK have to be in the White House to run his country? And does 'a senior' have to be in town to know what is occurring there? The answers to these questions as well as the one he asks -- do two executive members of the S.U. have to board on campus in order to do a good job? -- is NO. Three cheers for Dot on her letter, too. For her information there have been four meetings of the SU previous to the publication of the first R&W; but she was not present. Neither was the editor of R&W, but he 'commanded' some one to be there. Granted, according to the constitution, it is not necessary for them to be present but these meetings are open to all, and if they are not satisfied with the present conditions, why did they not make it a point to attend and voice their complaints. If all these people who spend their time 'shooting off' about nothing being accomplished would get off their fantastically fat fannies and attend to their respective duties there may be a lot more accomplished.

After being present on campus two years and after campaigning last year, surely Dot cannot be serious when she asks if there is a S.U. If she hasn't enough interest or initiative to find out for herself, I'll fill her in now. There IS a Students' Union. Its executive

are: Harry Callaghan -- willing and able president, Colin McMillan -- aspirative and competent vice-president, Marilyn Sutherland -- an ambitious, hard working and capable secretary, and Don McCormack -- sincere and devoted treasurer. These people cannot do their job themselves, however. They require the FULL co-operation of the Entire student body which it is not getting. At present, the S.U. can walk all over the students, and it seems that the students couldn't give a DARN. The S.U. is only as good as its support; so why not forget our grievances, drop our family compacts, and support the members whom we elected.

A bit of sarcasm and non-truths were also noted in last editions headline and sub-headlines. All the freshmen to whom I have been speaking do not seem to agree with the headlines, which may be explained by the fact that they were written by someone on 'command' of a higher official with the intent of jeopardizing the S.U. I may also add that this party had been planned for the freshmen before the senior elections and would have been given anyway; so to what 'great tradition' did the seniors follow? A picture on the last page with the caption 'Freshmen', corn, seniors-hot dog... appears also to hold a note of sarcasm. This party was sponsored for the freshmen by the seniors with no profit whatsoever for the latter. The caption, however, indicates the opposite. If statistics mean anything, it may be interesting to note that over twice as much was spent this year on the freshmen as last year.

Again I repeat, WE are the S.U. If we support it, we have one -- If we don't, we suffer the consequences -- not the executive.

John B. MacDonald '65

Dance Daze

Dear Sir,

The first dance at S.D.U. was sponsored by the Mnemosyne yearbook staff and featured the Frosh Queen Coronation. Although the dance was generally considered a success, much consternation during the latter part of the evening was aroused by a singing group composed of freshmen.

During the preparation for the dance, it was suggested by a number of upperclassmen that this Freshmen group lead a sing-song during the evening. The invitation was declined by the Freshmen. However, in the latter part of the evening they appeared and attempted to lead a sing-song. Normally, a sing-song at a dance is welcome and nurtures school spirit. This was not the case. The upperclassmen stood back and critically discussed the episode the couples reacted likewise.

One realizes that the Freshmen

The Editor and Staff of Red and White express their sincere and deepest sympathy to the staff member, Nicholas Wong, on the death of his father.

ough to notify the dance committee before the dance of their intentions, who, in turn, could explain to those present the particulars of this sing-song. However, a certain amount of blame should be shouldered by the upperclassmen, who refused to co-operate, but at the same time voiced strong criticism. The fact that they did not join the sing-song seems to manifest an air of snobbery toward the Freshman class, which to this date has displayed unprecedented spirit.

John Dunphy '64

If a Senior fails

JEOPARDIZING

Dear Sir:

I would like to reply to a letter printed in the October 16 issue of your paper. It was signed 'A Senior'.

He seemed very annoyed about the fact that the Freshman class was not properly welcomed. What did HE do about it? Talk, talk, talk. Why doesn't he stop flapping his lips for a while and use his brain (presuming, of course, that 'a senior' has one.) The only way to have a successful Freshman week is to plan it. A committee which will be here the following year... should be chosen before college closes in May to serve in this capacity. It was not the fault of the Students' Union nor the committee that the members of the committee chosen last year were not here. Due to unforeseen circumstances the members of this committee were unable to get back in time. So, for next year, why not have these people chosen in such a way as to guarantee that they will be here. Perhaps if 'a senior' fails (heaven forbid!) he will head the committee.

He also seemed very annoyed about the two day-students serving on the Students' Union. He asks, 'Do you think they can do a good job from town?' Friend, they can do no worse 'from town' than the Students' Unions in the past have done living on campus.

What is the basis for the antipathy towards day-students? Perhaps 'a senior' can explain what is wrong with the day-students. I wish he would. I have been at St. Dunstan's for four years and everyone has been yakking about day-students. Friend, day-students are just as good as you are. The only difference is that they are properly fed.

So why don't you try to help instead of hinder? In your case, you could help unfurl St. Dunstan's sails by standing behind it and using all that hot air of yours.

Cordially yours,
Paul R. Batchilder