

Red and White

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Where The Money Goes

Presently there is a great deal of controversy over the generous budget granted to the A.A.A. by the Students' Council, which seems to stem from the fact that over two-thirds of our money is allotted to the maintenance of first teams while the other one-third has to take care of every other form of extra-curricular activities.

We do not intend to discuss the merits or demerits of the A.A.A.'s budget since the consensus of opinion seems to favour the encouragement of inter-collegiate sports, but an interesting innovation was recently highlighted when the Students' Council decided to charge nominal admission fee for the Glee Club-Drama Society presentation of "Carousel" which helped to strengthen the claim that the Students' Council was placing too much emphasis on sports and not enough on cultural activities.

In order to clarify and to straighten out the issue, we indulged in some fact-finding research, and the revealing results should give some food for thought to those who are charged with the responsibility of distributing the Students' Union funds.

In 1960-61, the overall Students' Union budget was approximately \$5,100. Of this amount, \$3,060 went to the A.A.A., \$155 to the Glee Club, and \$115 to the Drama Society. This year, the budget amounted to \$7,600 and although both the Drama Society and the Glee Club received a three-fold increase (Drama Society \$410, Glee Club \$465), the A.A.A. nevertheless, collected a whopping \$5,068, a \$2,000 increase over last year's. (The A.A.A. alone this year received almost as much as the combined budgets for last year).

President O'Hanley stated in the last *Red and White* that "we need a program whereby we might have a more logical distribution of student funds along the athletic line." Coming from the president himself, this statement does sound extraordinary since it is the primary duty of the Students' Council to see to it that not only are student funds adequately distributed, but also that the aims and objectives of all campus societies are properly fostered and encouraged in the best interests of the general student body.

It is interesting to note however, not withstanding the comparatively astronomical A.A.A. budget, students never balk at having to pay an additional 35 cents to see a football game, nor 25 cents for a hockey match. But yet, some of them claim that it is contrary to principles and tradition to ask a 35-cent admission fee for a dramatic musical comedy of a calibre unparalleled in the history of St. Dunstan's.

The factors that make this situation sound ridiculous obviously spring from two facts — an impassive student body and an indifferent Students' Council. On the one hand, the students express a passive indifference to the affairs that should concern them most, while on the other hand the Students' Council — the body whose primary function is to safeguard and promote the interests of the students — displays both the lack of effective organisational control as well as a deplorable apathy towards the introduction of new ideas.

Anybody's guess is as good as ours as to how the Council will eliminate its present \$700 deficit. But, whatever is going to be done, it will be left entirely up to the students themselves either to arise from their somnambulism or to be forever shrouded in mysticism in the pages of "Mnemosyne."

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WHY NOT?

Not withstanding the saying "Fools rush in where Angels fear to tread", we dare comment on the recent drama *Much Ado About the A.A.A.* created by various Council members and other angry young men.

Understandably, the A.A.A. finds itself in a difficult situation. On one side it is being besieged by the above mentioned authors for allegedly presenting a budget far too high for our means. While on the other they are kicking themselves and being kicked by others for not having enough of the almighty dollars to run athletics on the campus as they would like.

A plan which could well be offered as a solution to the problem and which has been worked successfully on other campuses would be to place the finances of athletics in the hands of the University Officials retaining the A.A.A. as a body but with no affiliation with the Students' Union.

It is our belief that the Administration would not be opposed to this plan of action and that it would ostensibly benefit both athletics and the other extra-curricular activities which would remain under the auspices of the Students' Union. Necessarily the Students' Union fee would be reduced, and the University would claim the reduction and supplement it to carry on athletics. Hence, under this plan both facets of activities would have greater funds on which to work.

Here's hoping that the plan will at least be discussed and in the final analysis be implemented.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir:

On January 17 of this year our first Student Council meeting was held, and like most of our student council meetings there were heated discussions on many issues.

The one I am most concerned with is that issue dealing with the sending of a NFCUS delegation to the Regional Conference in Halifax on the 9th of February.

It is definitely not outside the field of the student council to debate the number of delegates that should be sent. Nor, for all that matter, is it outside whether or not to send a delegate at all.

The only objection which I have is that the student council based the "whether or not" on the betterment of local students from NFCUS, and there were some opinions expressed that by this criterion none should be sent.

I think that anyone who would express this opinion in an open forum has not seen the posters and leaflets publicizing the activities of NFCUS. This person has not stopped to wonder who asked the Federal Government to allow the deduction of tuition fees from income tax, or who took the trouble to get the students deductions at certain stores in town. This person has not stopped to think of the advantages of a Union with the other universities, not only in the Maritimes but of all Canada. And these are not all the things which NFCUS could give him to think about.

Perhaps the objector would

have been satisfied as to the usefulness of NFCUS if it had sponsored a successful dance or a beard growing contest.

The objector seems to imply that there would be no return from the convention itself, that going to the convention is the reward for something, from which there are no returns. This is very wrong, objector.

Mike Lane

Dear Editor:

The last edition of *Red and White* took approximately two minutes to read. That isn't saying much for six pages of a college paper and if that is any indication of life at S.D.U., it must be awfully dull. It is not because I lack college spirit that I found it uninteresting nor is it because I am a day student and felt that I should, at every opportunity, clash with you poor resident students who lead such a dull life. It is because there wasn't anything in it worth reading.

What do I care—or anybody else except Sandra Britt—whether or not Mait MacIsaac likes the "Twist", and who wants to hear Ray Hansen "expound upon" the twist. I'm sure I don't. Nor am I interested in whether or not Marilyn Sutherland, Marcia Arsenault, etc., do or do not dance it. If I want to know, I'll ask them for a dance. If they twist, they twist. If they don't, they don't. If the editors feel obligated to comment on the twist, O.K., but why in the name of all that is good and holy waste over a page of a college paper on it? Wouldn't



a column suffice?

If K.C. is so fed up with the world, why doesn't he go and kill himself in private without wasting space in *Red and White* over it. Why not take a trip to the moon and fill a paper up there with your sadistic views. Take "Tinkers dams" with you for your chief editor. He said he was sad. I believe it. I'll be glad to write your obituary if you don't make it, and even submit it to this paper. It may prove to be more interesting than that bull you submitted.

And then there is our "Where our cheerleaders" friends who asks us where our college spirit is, and then ridicules us for cheering against our opponents. Doesn't he realize that part of our cheering is to get on the backs of the opposing team members? Maybe he has lost his college spirit and has sided in with our rivals.

Everybody finds gossip interesting. I'm sure it would be more enlightening that a column of views from a couple of pessimists who try to leave us with a feeling of defeat. The one who wants "Special K" to drop a bomb on us wouldn't feel that way if he knew how Harry Callaghan would feel seeing that Cheryl Ann Connors hasn't a fall out shelter, if he knew that Frank MacDonald would not be able to see Madlyn Murphy at Dr. Sinnotts on Saturday nights, or if he knew that Muriel St. John would not get her waste paper basket. Perhaps the paper could stand a bit more humor, I know our second pessimist could.

A tutor who tooted a flute
Tried to teach two young
tooters to toot

Said the two to the tutor
Is it hard to toot, or

To tutor two tooters to toot.
Perhaps a low form of humor, but it doesn't give the reader a feeling of remorse like some of the things in the last issue.

In closing I would like to add that it is time a day student column became a regular feature in the *Red and White*—even if it is only gossip.

Here's hoping for improvement,

J.B.M.

"AMATEUR?"

Dear Editor:

In theory, education develops the whole man. In practice, the physical side of man at St. Dunstan's lacks development. I am referring specifically to the athletic usage which the SDU gymnasium is put to. Basketball for the majority of SDU students is a spectator sport. I do not think this spectator role of the average student develops him physically. Apparently SDU's AAA doesn't give a hoot for the average student who wants to play basketball in the gym. Why? Basketballs at SDU are exclusively the property of first teams. It is impossible to get hold of a ball without tremendous inconvenience. This is a bit confusing inasmuch as our AAA is an "Amateur" Athletic Association. What is the purpose of the AAA? Obviously, it is the promotion of a class of glorified Athletic wonders upon the campus. Can basketballs be available in the gym at free times? This isn't an excessive demand, and it would help in a small way the physical development of the ordinary, athletically - inclined students.

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