

Memory

Gerald Mallett '44

I lay drenched in silver moonlight
And dreamed of you.
A tranquill stillness held the night
In peace, we knew.

I thought I heard your gentle step
Brushing the hill,
And held, with foolish hope, my breath—
But all was still.

I closed my eyes again to be
In other years,
But you are gone and cannot see
My stinging tears.



The Canadian Student Assembly

James McCarthy '40

Judging by the letters, pamphlets, and college paper, the C. S. A. is held to be arch-enemy of all Canadian ideals and to be so over-run with Communists that, in its meetings, a man may not support those ideals. By others, however, it is held to be a firm supporter of those ideals, a progressive leader amongst Canadian institutions, and the true voice of Canadian College students. This is all a bit puzzling and, no matter which side is supporting the truth, both are getting a great deal of publicity.

This much discussed society was founded in 1937 under the auspices of the Student Christian Movement, an organization whose purpose is to foster Christian zeal on Canadian College campuses. As stated at that meeting, the most important aims of the Assembly were to foster Canadian political and economic democracy, to improve college life, to provide scholarships for needy students, to obtain equality of rights for religious, social, and economic groups, and to urge all Canadians to play their parts in settling world problems.

Its organization consists of a National Executive, which directs the National program, and a National Coordinating Committee, which is composed of the National Executive and members from each of the represented colleges, and whose duty is to coordinate work on the different campuses. Affiliation is open to all colleges, and to individual societies in the colleges.

Previous to its meeting during the past December, the C. S. A. had concentrated its efforts in the field of national scholarships. This work was rewarded when it succeeded in obtaining a scholarship fund of \$225,000 which was to be expended in giving needy students the benefit of a college education.

During the Christmas holidays, with some two hundred students in attendance, the C. S. A. held its third conference at MacDonald College. The members of the conference were divided into four commissions, which were to discuss National Unity, Canada in World Affairs, The Improvement of University Education, and the Extension of University Education. The results of the meeting were summarized in a number of resolutions, thirteen concerning the maintenance and extension of education, seven concerning the maintenance of democratic rights, two concerning conscription, five concerning the furthering of understanding between Canadian people, and three concerning Canadian unity and autonomy.

Shortly after the termination of the conference a professor who had been one of the men invited to advise its committees levelled serious charges against the conference. In his opinion it was led by a group of students who expressed anti-British and anti-war opinions.

According to him the general tone of the speeches, made by those who led the discussions concerning Canada's relations with England, closely approximated the tone of speeches coming from Moscow and Berlin. He also thought that the resolutions, which were passed by the delegates composing the conference, did not express the opinion of Canadian university students.

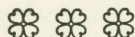
Following the publication of these charges several newspapers discussed them, and one suggested that the Dominion government probe the organizations of seditious influences; at the same time, several universities withdrew from the ranks of the C. S. A.

In our isolated situation it is not proper for anyone

to defend either side publicly, but we should be interested, for the problem is one which concerns students in general. From what we have read on both sides it would seem that this society had done very good work, notably by obtaining almost a quarter of a million dollars for scholarships; furthermore, in a country as large as Canada a wide diversity of opinion can be expected. At the same time, the conference went on record as being opposed to conscription, a resolution which, by some, might be construed as being unpatriotic.

While not members of the Assembly, we can regret the decisions of students in other colleges to withdraw their affiliations, for the decisions appear to have been made very hastily. Certainly, there seems to be no clear reason for the sudden withdrawals, other than one man's opinion. An Assembly such as this can play an important part in developing students; and even if, for the moment, the conference were controlled by an undesirable group, it was organized by and depends for its existence upon students in general, who have the power to expell the unwanted leaders.

Furthermore, any college which sent representatives to the meeting was obviously assuming that the C. S. A. was founded upon sound principles so, that if some members of the congress acted in violation of those principles, then it would appear to be the duty of all right-thinking representatives to rebuke them, not after the meeting was concluded, but while it was in session.



Good deeds ring clear through Heaven like a bell.

—*Charles Dickens.*

Ingratitude, like an all-consuming fire, destroys all goodness within the human shell that harbours it.

—*Van Amburch.*