

- EDITORIALS -

OUR RESPECT

In the last issue of the Red and White, an article appeared which we feel, in retrospect, was disrespectful to Dr. Frank MacKinnon and to Prince of Wales College. This paper does not always agree with statements made by Dr. MacKinnon or positions taken by Prince of Wales College. It will always be our policy to express ourselves freely, and we hope honestly, in this or any regard.

We regret, however, that our last issue did not reflect the admiration and respect that Dr. MacKinnon, by his contributions to his community, and Prince of Wales College, by its long tradition of academic excellence, have earned from us.

ANOTHER MODEL PARLIAMENT?

Last year the Liberal and Conservative clubs at St. Dunstan's sponsored a highly successful model parliament. An election was fought; a large percentage of the students voted; and a one and a half day session was held in the provincial legislature. Most admitted that the campaign was too long. Some were glad when the whole thing was over. However, the project generated more student participation than any other event of the year, and the parliamentary sittings were helpful in introducing to a large number of students the mechanics of parliamentary government. In addition, student interest in both political clubs after the parliament increased substantially.

It seems strange that no plans are being made for a model parliament this year. Certainly the Liberal and Conservative clubs are not that busy with other efforts. If neither the Liberal or Conservative clubs can arouse enough energy to launch a model parliament, maybe the newly formed New Democratic Party on campus or a group of students simply interested in the idea could provide the necessary direction to get the ball rolling.

THE NEW POSTAL SYSTEM

The University has introduced a new postal system to service the male residents at St. Dunstan's. More than 200 individual mail boxes have been installed in the basement of Main Building. The boxes replace the theatre box-office type of mail distribution which has been such an insult to Her Majesty's mails for the past number of years. We congratulate the Bursar for relaxing his grip on the University coffers to invest in a much improved system of mail delivery.

Formerly, if a student did not get to the mailing room during the brief noon hour period of business, he did not receive his mail until the following day. Moreover, not because of any inefficiency on the part of the managers, but because of the muddled system, mail was often mislaid and sometimes lost. The individual mail boxes enable the students to get their mail any time, and enables the post office managers to sort the mail quickly and efficiently.

In the Students' Union elections last year, several of the aspiring candidates for office included promises of improved mail delivery in their election platforms. This year, Students' Union officials approached the administration suggesting the installation of mail boxes for the male students similar to those installed at Marian College earlier in the year. Within a month, gleaming new mail boxes were purchased and installed in Main Building at an estimated cost of \$1800.

We congratulate the Bursar and others responsible for the speed with which they responded to the student suggestion, and for alleviating the troublesome problem of mail distribution at St. Dunstan's.

AN ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

A problem which has become particularly serious with the introduction of separate programs for the three varsity sports this year is the extent to which local merchants are being asked to purchase advertising space in S.D.U. publications. The Red and White, the Yearbook, and the hockey, basketball and football programs are continually hounding Charlottetown firms for advertising support—without any co-ordinated effort to avoid competition with each other and without regard to the fact that some firms are being approached four or five times.

Unless some sort of advertising committee is set up by University and Student Union officials, St. Dunstan's stands a good chance of discouraging the valuable support of patrons who have been generous in the past.

The Students' Union has approached the Athletic Department in an attempt to remedy the situation. No co-operation was received. Co-ordinating the advertising drives of the University publications need not curb advertising revenue. The lack of such co-ordination certainly will. Maybe another attempt could be made to convince the Athletic Department that the situation is getting serious and something must be done immediately.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ABOUT THAT SOAP

Dear Sir:

May we be permitted to use your paper to voice a small complaint?

Please, Sir, when we were children we were taught to use soap to wash, since water was not sufficient. So, where is the soap in all the containers, especially designed for the purpose of holding soap, in the wash basins of Duffy Science Building?

When we have all that goo from the biology lab, stuck under our fingernails, we like to get it out, since we see no advantage in preserving it for posterity.

—Cap. Dalton Hall

THE STUDENTS' DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Dear Sir:

I would like to draw attention to the unconstitutionality of one of our beloved institu-

tions, the Student Discipline Committee. The committee was established in response to the students' complaints of being summarily judged on residence infractions by a prefect or by the Dean of Men.

The Administration believed at the time that we had a responsible request in being judged by our peers, and set up a committee of students with the power to levy fines on offenders of residence rules. This is all very nice, and fits in with our concept of democracy.

However, any resemblance between the Student Discipline Committee and a democratic institution is purely coincidental, and not really meant to be taken seriously. The committee has the practical status of a court of law; one should not really expect it to operate like a court, of course. After all, it operates in a closed society which should be concerned with preparing itself for joining the world society later, not bothering itself with technicalities such as rights.

Where is the resemblance between a court of law and a body of students who allow the accuser to enter his charges and bring up circumstantial evidence which has no direct bearing on the official charge, when the accused is absent. What kind of judge is the chairman who allows such evidence to be admitted? What kind of court of law convicts a person on the grounds of purely circumstantial evidence? Kangaroo?

The university is supposed to be an environment for nursing the germ of a better world. But what kind of world are we preparing for? Communism? The democratic system has its foundations rooted in the recogni-

tion of human rights, but it seems that we are not bound by democracy at St. Dunstan's. The state of the Students' Discipline Committee clearly points to the deathbed phenomenon, the belief that we can remedy ourselves when necessity confronts us.

—Tim McGrath

CONGRATULATIONS

Dear Sir:

Let me congratulate you and your staff on the production of a very excellent college newspaper this year at St. Dunstan's. I understand you have been the target of considerable criticism as a result of your latest issue. However, as a former university student myself, I know that a college newspaper which does not arouse some provocation is not a successful effort.

Best of luck in the new year with your paper.

—B.A. '66

"YOUTH 1967"

Dear Sir:

I would like to comment on the current T.V. series "Youth 1967" which began Monday, January 16. The series is sponsored by the P.E.I. Interfaith Council with Dr. I. G. MacQuarrie as Chairman of the series.

The panel, made up of young students of different backgrounds and faith, discusses such topics as parents versus children, education, sex, etc.

I think this is a very worthwhile program and hope to see more of the same type of program in the future.

—An interested Sophomore Student

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—Camp poet