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DRIPPINGS

from the Editor's Pen

What do you know about politics?

If you are an average student at this university your knowledge of party platforms and their effect on the government is, in all probability, very vague. Perhaps such matters contain no interest for you at the present time; however, within a few short years you will have the privilege of exercising your vote in municipal, provincial and federal elections. Will you at that time understand the issues in question or will you blunder on with many of your fellow citizens, interested and enthusiastic, but hampered by a grave lack of knowledge of politics?

It is thought that a college education is a training in leadership as well as an understanding of certain phenomena. We have often heard it expressed that the students of today are expected to be an important asset in the reconstruction of tomorrow. If this is to be a future task we obviously need more than a knowledge of the fundamentals of Chemistry, Electricity or Economics. In the system of education practiced here, there is definitely something lacking.

Many of our Canadian Universities support student parliaments in which debates of national importance are reviewed and reopened. Members are chosen by a system of elections based on the plan used in Canada today. Parties have been developed and follow the courses of their parent National or Provincial organizations. Students at universities where this practice is followed, are ever conscious of the parties and parliaments, politicians and premiers.

At several other universities a political club is maintained for the benefit of the students. These clubs sponsor speeches and debates by well known politicians and leaders who explain various planks of their platforms and various points regarding the workings of governmental departments. These organizations provide an invaluable knowledge which is difficult to obtain elsewhere.

A student parliament would be difficult, if not impossible to operate in a university of our limited size. However, situated as we are at the seat of a provincial legislature, we would have great opportunities and advantages in the establishment of a Political Club. Undoubtedly the S.R.C. would give support to such an organization and would probably aid interested people in the founding of it.

Looking Around

C. U. P.

Montreal—C.U.P.—Sixteen universities were represented at the NPCUS Conference held at the University of Western Ontario, London, December 28-30. It was unanimously agreed by the delegates present that the activities of the Federation, which had been severely curtailed since 1940, should be re-inaugurated in 1945, to as great an extent as was consistent with the limited finances of the organization, and the national emergency in which the nation finds itself.

A wartime executive was elected with Richard Bibbs, University of British Columbia, as president; Marcellin Tremblay, Laval University, first vice-president; Jack Pye, McGill University, Bob Ellis, University of Saskatchewan, and Haldane Reynolds, Acadia University, as junior vice-presidents.

Doctor, questioning nurse about her patient:
"Have you kept a chart of his progress?"
"No, but I can show you my diary."

Toronto—C.U.P.—A prize of \$100 is being offered by the Women's Canadian Club of Toronto for the best poem (sonnet, lyric, ballad, ode, or narrative) entered in their annual Literary Contest.

This contest is open to professional or non-professional writers throughout the Dominion and closes Feb. 15, 1945. Detailed information and rules may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer, 67 Bloor Street East, Toronto 5.

The morning after
The night before
Our cat came home
At the hour of four,
The innocent look
In her eyes had went,
But the smile on her face
Was a smile of content.

—Fall-Ye Times

Toronto—C.U.P.—It has been announced unofficially here at National Selective Service that all Arts students who fail their Christmas examinations are to be allowed to remain in college. No further statement has been made as to any change in status of Science or Commerce students.

Montreal—C.U.P.—Selective Service officials here deny any knowledge of a reported change in status of University undergraduates as circulated from Toronto.

Wolfville, N. S.—C.U.P.—Professors or recordings? That is the great question on the Acadia University Campus.

The student newspaper has conducted a poll of student opinion concerning this great issue and presents the results.

One student suggests that in the event of the use of records, it would be easier to turn off the speakers at the end of the period. Another likes the idea of playing the recordings of a week's lectures (Continue on page five)

First Prize Serious Verse—Varsity

Europe, 1944

By Margaret R. Gould, Graduate Studies

Held by the street's fantastic irregular windings
Weighed to the curve with the turn of the previous centuries
Sensing the shadows dissolve into slant-rising mist.
Stands a figure.

Music is made for the dance by the creaking of wagons
The stage is set, with snow the theatrical backdrop;
But the children, their parts only partially learned, and forgetful,
Respond not.

Silent and sibilant-fosted they move in the shadows
Close to the walls where the old men, bitterly jibing,
Tremble with cold, jealous, and scarcely distinguishing
Phantom from youth.

The one in the buttress of houses stands in the driven
Angle of snow, bone-hands peneant, lips barely twitching
Yet at his whisper the children move to the cart tracks
Unseeing:—

Siberia, Africa, Spain, cold-hearted America
Lapland and Iceland and Norway, yellow Arabia,
Persia, Thibet, Samarkand, melt into fragments,
Are lost.

And the world is a single snow track, shadow deserted—
Space and night and the distant creaking of carts—
And the dancers dissemble (unlovely, grotesque in the junk)
Dead patterns.

The figure lowers his hands, and the children, still silent
Creep to the walls where the old men, grouping their heads
Greet them and reach probing hands and whisper unheeded
Their sorrows.

All the street darkens, the children in crouched immobility
Look toward the one who in darkness has impaled the pattern
Feeling his absence; yet have they never quite realized
His presence.

"I don't need none," shouted the lady of the house before the agent had opened his mouth.
"How do you know," he replied, "I might be selling gramars!"
—Gazette

Mother: Get off that soldier's lap.
Daughter: No, I was here first.
—Gazette

Major: Drat it, I've forgotten the password, but you know me well enough.
Voice from the guardhouse: "Don't stand there all night, shoot him!"
—Gazette



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