

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.

Dear Editor:

May I, first of all congratulate you on your persistence in developing the Red and White into a better College Paper. You should indeed, be able to elicit comments on controversial subjects from the students.

During the rest of the year or perhaps next year, I would suggest some comments from the following topics.

1) In the interest of safety, I would suggest that St. Dunstan's hockey teams wear helmets. The visiting teams always seem to wear them. Students and players reactions to this comment would be interesting.

2) I would suggest that you have a short column of Alumni news. This would particularly pertain to the very recent graduates, who would be known by students. This information could be gathered and used as filler for each edition. Any activities and whereabouts of recent graduates could be of news value to the students.

3) Your paper should be very interested in the timely topic of smoking among students. Discussions on this subject and perhaps even a survey carried out by your paper as a project for early in the coming year might be of interest. All of the statistics need not be gathered at once. I am sure you could get help in developing a questionnaire or some other form of survey.

4) Immediately after Christmas, next year, might be the time to get a committee started making large blocks of ice preparatory to having some real ice sculpture done for next year's carnival. Certainly, some of the students could display their talents at ice sculpture that would be very attractive.

My congratulations to your staff and I am sure that the Alumni of St. Dunstan's are very interested in your efforts.

Very truly yours,

DR. J. A. McMILLAN '26

Dear Mr. Editor:

In the last edition of the "Red and White", a certain Mr. "Interested" tried to "knock" the academic standards of Saint Dunstan's University. First of all, he stated that if St. Dunstan's University has a superior teaching staff, why then has she produced only one Rhodes Scholar in the past years? Well, I'm sorry to say, but it is not the teachers that make a Rhodes Scholar, but it is the student himself. The Committee set up to choose the Rhodes Scholars does not look for a person with a 95% average who knows his school texts backward and can answer any question pertaining to the subjects in his particular course, but rather they look for a man who is far above average in intelligence and also an all-round man, i.e., one who takes part of extracurricular activities and is well learned. To be a well learned man one must read many books, both fiction and non-fiction. No one forces a student to read many books, and, therefore it is the student who takes it upon himself to read who will become learned. Also, in this respect I might add that Saint Dunstan's is a relatively small university. The graduating class is always small—even in recent years it hasn't been much more than 65 or 70 students. Out of such a small number it is very hard to get a Rhodes Scholar.

Next, Mr. Interested implied that the greater part of the faculty at Saint Dunstan's are not

top ranked professors. Let me list a few professors and tell me how many of them are not of "A" quality: Father Ellsworth, Father Roche, Father Murnaghan, Father MacLellan, Father Kelly, Father Bolger, Father Duffy, Father Cheverie, Father McGuigan, Father Cass, Mr. Murawski, Dr. O'Grady, and there are many more. Aren't all of these men among the best in their field? Many of them have been sought by the most famous universities in North America, either to teach or to do research work.

Mr. "Interested" tried to compare Saint Dunstan's standards with those of McGill University in Montreal. I have friends going to McGill on academic scholarship who in their high school days ranked in the 90 and 95% bracket who are now having difficulty in passing because of the lack of explanation given by the professors. I am not saying that the professors at McGill are not good, but it is a fact that these professors cannot take much time for detailed explanation because of the large number of students in the class. In one Freshman English class at McGill there are 600 students—more than in the whole of Saint Dunstan's. How many professors at other universities would be willing to help students outside of class as the professors here are? At most universities the day is over for the professor when the last bell rings, but at S.D.U. I have never been refused when I asked a professor to help me with a problem, even though he might have been busy at that time.

I went to about the largest high school in Montreal—over 3,000 students, and many of the teachers there have taken summer courses at Saint Dunstan's and they regard this university as an outstanding one. So Mr. "Interested", I'd advise you to think the situation over, and while you're at it, look up the standing which the "Royal Commission on Education" of Canada gives Saint Dunstan's, and don't be surprised to find it as one of the best.

Furthermore, you must not have a very high opinion of your fellow students if you think they need a letter from you to make them start thinking about the standards here. I'm sure most have thought about this and have concluded that S.D.U. has very high academic standards. I think you must show as much interest for your studies as the

junior class did in making a real fight of the election for president of the Students' Union.

In concluding I might add just one more thought: A student gets out of a course as much as he puts into it.

A. SAINT

Dear Editor:

May I extend my compliments to you, Mr. Foster, for the work you have done since taking over as editor of the Red and White. Most will agree the last issue was a good effort. The only thing I didn't particularly appreciate about it was the not-too-subtle and not-too-charitable reference to the former editor. These remarks were out of place in a newspaper since the campus was certainly not ignorant concerning this matter.

Doug substantiated his resignation in a quite straightforward article in the same issue. Whether or not he deserved the numerous insinuations directed towards him is certainly subject to discussion; at any rate, the issue is not merely black or white, as many have taken it upon themselves to judge.

CATHERINE DUFFY

Dear Mr. Editor:

The Seniors and Juniors are symbols on which many a freshman models himself or herself upon. They control the Student Council and are looked up to. Why shouldn't they? They are much older and accumulated three full years of knowledge more than we. What's the matter with our upper classmen? Last week the election for the Presidency of the Student Council took place.

The student taking this job is being put in charge of the affairs of 500 students for the coming year. With only one student running for president, he, without the approval of the other 497 students of S.D.U., will run their affairs. We have to accept him and his management no matter if he is capable or not. The majority of the students on this campus are disgusted at the disinterest which "those Juniors", the future senior class, have shown.

How do they expect to obtain the support of the student body? Tell me, Juniors?

EDWARD LAPIERRE

Dear Editor:

I feel that I must submit a few words in defense of Ian and Sylvia against whom such harsh opinions were voiced by "\$1.50

Poorer" in the last issue of our Red and White.

Exactly what does Mr. (Miss) "\$1.50 Poorer" expect when he (she) attends a folk-singing concert? Does he expect a "Sing Along With Mitch" or is it a "hootenanny"? He said that he was familiar with only one of the Ian and Sylvia selections. This, I contend, is the essence of folk-singing. Can we know the folk songs of every little borough and berg across our country? Most certainly not! This is the reason we have folk-singers, and it is the job of the folk singer to bring unknown folk songs to the public. I also contend that if Ian and Sylvia have been "booked solid" for months, they could not be as poor of quality as "\$1.50 Poorer" might think.

That final statement of comparison between Sylvia and "Canada's answer to Kitty Wells" was, I feel, meant to be derogatory in effect. *Au contraire*, this was quite a compliment from a critic bent on destruction. After all, is not Kitty Wells one of the masters in her particular field of entertainment? And has she not a few "million sellers" to prove this? I wonder if the opinion of "\$1.50 Poorer" would have been different had Ian and Sylvia performed at S.D.U.

A. J.

Dear Sir:

There appeared in the last edition an exaggerated, if not biased, criticism of the Rovers Three. These young men in their spare time have provided popular entertainment for many a fun-loving person last September, if one may recall that far back, Freshman Week was highlighted by this same trio. No less than a month later, the Rovers Three again spirited our football rally. Have we by any chance forgotten their past laurels? No criticism, and scarcely a word of thanks was then mentioned.

Their high quality of informal familiarity should be appreciated by the student body, especially since at one time or another they have been "Saints". In their latest criticism, it was implied that their type of song was vulgar and a disgrace to a Catholic institution. If taken out of context, certain phrases may have sounded risque, but when included in the general atmosphere of the hootenanny, no insult to sophistication was either made or implied. At carnival

time every one praised the Minstrels, who are internationally known. The Rovers Three were no more off color, if such a harsh adjective may be used, than the above mentioned group. Certainly we would be narrow minded to bicker about them, so come on students of S.D.U., let's act collegiate and give praise where it is due instead of adverse criticism.

RONALD TURNER

Editor's Note: Informal familiarity often breeds contempt! It appears also that the definition of vulgar is synonymous with hootenanny; hardly Mr. T.

"The Church Needs You"

Senior men and women, the church needs you. Admittedly we have not heard this many times while at St. Dunstan's, and rightly so. Though a Catholic institution, S.D.U. has not been and should not be the means whereby the church takes the advantage of constantly reminding us that the religious life is a superior vocation. The big question may have been suggested off and on but we are not haunted with the idea. The faculty, in general, leaves it up to the student to find himself but is always ready to give advice and assistance when asked. Perhaps religious vocations have not been stressed for fear of receiving exaggerated accusations of "high pressure sale".

If a fellow student, rather than a faculty member, were to say, "Seniors, give the religious life serious thought. Be positive in studying the question, think of the advantages", the suggestion might have a more lasting effect. Such is the reason for this article. If you think you have a calling for religious life, if you think you might be happiest as a religious, talk it over with a faculty member.

Certainly, serious concern over this matter warrants at least a try at it. An introductory year in religious life can only have good results, whether you remain or leave, you will honestly be able to say: "... it has made all the difference".

ROGERS HARDWARE CO. LTD.

Queen Street

If it's Hardware, we have it.

PHONE 4-8501

Distributors of—
CCM Skates and Sticks

Kodaks — Films — Processing

REDDIN'S PHARMACY

132 Richmond St.

L. M. DOUCETTE

R. M. SMALLMAN

Soda Fountain — Light Lunches
PRESCRIPTIONS A SPECIALTY

DRINK PEERLESS BEVERAGES

J. & T. Morris

LIMITED

Summerside — Phone 436-2316

Charlottetown — Phone 894-3745

Master Cleaners

Phone 894-5636 — 122 Fitzroy Street

If Your Clothes Are Not Becoming To You,

They Should Be Coming To Us!

ANSKO FILMS

CAMERA SUPPLIERS

MEYERS STUDIOS

COAST TO COAST

DAILY FILM SERVICE

ALL PRINTS "LARJA" SIZE

CHARLOTTETOWN

128 Richmond Street

Phone 4-9912