

Report of NFCUS Con.

Congress of the National Federation of Canadian University Students.

The XXV Congress of NFCUS was held at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, from Friday, September 22 until Tuesday, September 26. This congress is the supreme policy-making and law-making body of the Federation and is also important because it is a meeting of Student leaders from across Canada.

The Congress can be broken down into three commissions viz. International Affairs, National Officers, and Administration and finance.

One of the main controversies at National Affairs was a dispute over the election of the National president. At present he is elected following the congress and holds office until the congress the following year. It was proposed by Queen's University and seconded by Sherbrooke that the president be elected at the congress and that he would take office after completion of his years studies the following spring. This would allow for a better and more understanding preparation for the responsibility of leading the organization. It was voted against mainly because of economic reasons.

There was also commissions set up to look into:

1. Exemptions of books and instruments from income tax.
2. The possibility of accepting schools of technology as members into NFCUS. (Ryerson, in Toronto, was accepted only as a temporary member for this year.)

There was discussion as to employment of Foreign students during the summer holidays. The proposition proposed by CUCND that Canada should not accept nuclear arms was defeated.

Election results:

1. National President, Walter McLean.
2. Atlantic regional president, Leslie Thomas, Memorial University.
3. Vice president, Sharon Connolly, Dalhousie University.
4. Director, Dr. Trueman of the Canada Council.

During the Congress Dr. Ross, honorary president of NFCUS, stressed that the purpose of NFCUS is to promote a better understanding, surpassing both geography and language, among all Canadian university students; to promote greater co-operation and correlation among student governing bodies in order to watch over the progress of student's interests and academic freedom. On the international level, he said that NFCUS could serve the cause of peace by creating ties with national unions of students around the globe.

D.D.

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CO-ED PRESIDENTS

At the Student Body meeting on October 16, notice was given of a motion for an amendment to the constitution which would make the office of class president eligible only to males. This notice caused a good deal of talk both at Marian College and on the main campus. Some of the boys feel, probably, that the co-eds have too much power, and the girls, in turn, feel that the boys resent their participation in college activities.

We hope this will clear the usually friendly air at S.D.U. First we shall discuss some of the qualifications for office, then the Marian point of view, and finally a little of the background for the coeds' entry into extra-curricular activities.

A good many people on campus and a ven at M.C. think that it is better, but not essential, for a class president to be male, simply because he has better contacts with more students. It is relatively simple for a masculine candidate to collect the residents and even the day-student girls at Marian

College to speak to them, but it is difficult for a lady candidate to speak to the men as a group. On the other hand, delegation is possible; the freshmen have a capable president in Miss Duffy this year. She has appointed her own Minister of Dalton Affairs. Other factors being equal, the difficulties can be overcome. Can the coeds make good class presidents? You men can probably cite at least three examples of good feminine officers along with many outstanding men.

The next question is may a co-ed be class president? The Co-eds do not include in their night prayers the wish that at least one of them will be a president each year. They are usually quite happy to do the bidding of a masculine president but they do feel that they should have the right to run for the office of class president. If the men want one of their number to be elected president, they have only to attend the meetings and use their majority. Right-thinking people vote for the person, man or woman, who is best fitted for the posi-

tion. This is the crux of the matter. Is it not undemocratic as well as discourteous to make an amendment to put down rather than to safeguard a minority group.

Less than twenty years ago the first lay women came to study at St. Dunstan's. They were so few at first, that the traditional masculine atmosphere of S.D.U. was little changed. Gradually the co-eds began to get a little experience in holding office. In 1959, Marian College was completed and co-eds began to assume greater responsibility in proportion to their numbers. This year, for the first time, a co-ed elected president of the freshman class. Although the changes took place in a very short time, St. Dunstan's welcomed the help of the co-eds and cheerfully "showed them the ropes." We hear a lot of fuss today about the equal rights of men and women, but always before at St. Dunstan's the guys and gals have helped each other rather than compete. We should not let a minor issue spoil the existing spirit of co-operation and understanding.

Men Wanted

Men, truly men, are wanted for a special position. The requirements are intelligent Catholic men to read, study, talk, argue, and uphold Catholic truth against its adversaries. The position is that of a Socialist. Many are called, but few respond. Why? What will the boys say?

There is a Sodality on the Campus which has a meeting every Wednesday evening in Room 2, Main Building. The purpose of this and any Sodality is the personal holiness of its members.

Why have a Sodality on the Campus? In the words of Father Dean, "It is from the simultaneous action of all those groups that we can look forward to a transformation of the spirits and of the hearts which will have an effect on the institutions of the professional world and will favour the organization of the economic life according to the light and the orientation brought by the social doctrine of the Church."



Commander George L. Amyot (left) and Lieutenant-Commander George C. McMorris, both of Naval Headquarters, will visit St. Dunstan's on 30th November, 1961 to interview and counsel students on the Royal Canadian Navy's program of sponsored university education and training, leading to the naval officer's career. Interested students may make appointments for interviews on this date by calling on the University Placement Officer, A. J. MacAdam at Main Building, telephone: 4-9448.

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A Fool's License — A Defence Of The United Nations

In the October 12, 1961, edition of Red and White, there appeared an article entitled "Exhibition of Hot Air and Shoe Rapping"; it was obvious that this article was written, and quite emphatically, to express the author's disdain for the idea of international cooperation and for its existing form of application, namely, the United Nations. In that author's words, "Ever since medieval times this idea of international cooperation has proven itself of no avail," and respecting the U.N. as the application of international cooperation, he continued, "including the League of Nations and the United Nations." There are many, however, who have the good sense to frown on this author's position in these matters, many who will not dismiss the United Nations and international cooperation so readily and so easily as he does.

There shouldn't be any area of dispute over the notion of men working together — even on a large scale, even to make this world a better place in which to live. Cooperation among men, even on the international level, seems to be a manly endeavour of the highest distinction. Despite his previous utterances in the matter, our author-friend seemed to reverse himself when he wrote the following words: "... let those who believe in the rights of man work together, in a determined cause to abolish totalitarianism and to let freedom prevail." In fact, how can the objective he outlined be achieved anywhere but on a level of international cooperation? Yet, he wants to abolish the only existing vehicle of international cooperation. Whence comes his logic? Moreover, it would seem reasonable that since he favours international cooperation that he provide a substitute for the United Nations.

What is his substitute? Are we to assume that the character of his criticism is destructive rather than constructive? It seems there is no choice! Perhaps, his latter statement is merely a flourish of oratorical verbiage or maybe, this applies to his former statement.

In view of the fact that the general tenor of our author-friend is anti-United Nations, it might be assumed that he favours international cooperation. Thus, this article will be concerned with presenting a few considerations in favour of the United Nations.

There is a certain category, by virtue of our author-friend's definition, that the writer of this article must fall into since he chooses to suggest that man's hope can be invested in the Un-

ited Nations — the category of a fool! His implication is that only a fool's license could enable anybody to defend the United Nations. To this author, it would be considered the maximum insult to be exposed as illogical by a fool. However, it does not appear reasonable to abolish the single medium of international cooperation in these days especially without providing an alternate to fill the vacuum created. The author of "Exhibition of Hot Air and Shoe Rapping" fails to realize this fact apparently. (Maybe, there is no substitute!) He surely cannot neglect this aspect which follows upon his abolition of the U.N.

We cannot resolve disharmony on the international "we" by ignoring it. We cannot be like our author friend, desiring to solve unpleasant aspects of international relationships through the ostrich technique of head in the sand. Surely, we cannot resolve conflicting opinions by a technique of keeping them apart. Why can't various parties meet in an international form to settle their differences? Communists, neutralists, and the West can meet in the U.N. to attempt to solve their difficulties. Indeed, the United Nations is a splendid opportunity for the West to explore the evils of Communism. Pius XII once was said to have declared that he himself would meet with the devil if it meant gain for the Church. Why can't the U.N. be the medium of a parallel meeting of the varying world forces?

There are other innumerable aspects of the U.N. that our politically-minded author friend ignores completely. Would he dissolve the U.N.'s massive food distribution to the world's needy, its essential health projects? Would he nullify the cultural, educational, and agricultural efforts of the U.N.? What would our author-friend do with the mandated territories without causing friction?

What about world disarmament efforts? Would our author-friend dissolve the peace between the Jews and the Arabs, between the opposing factions in the Congo? He seems to have as a fundamental premise that international cooperation is confined solely to the sphere of politics? He has given no consideration to other aspects of the United Nations!

In conclusion it might be well if our author-friend were to become more specific to his stand in this matter so as to erase this author's belief that his opinion on the U.N. is founded on a series of meaningless and sweeping generalizations.

Long Live the United Nations!

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