

Sleep with a friend

For the second year in a row, residents of Fenwick Towers are faced with the possibility of having to pay extra rent at the end of the year. This is becoming something of an annual joke.

Classes are out for undergraduates on the 13th of April. Examinations begin on the 17th, and for most students they end on the 30th. Leases expire on the 22nd.

The reason cited to us by the Accommodations Office as to why the lease expires on this date is unique. Apparently the lease is divided into two equal terms totalling sixteen weeks each. It is difficult to determine exactly when then term ends, so an approximate date is chosen, within reason, and inserted into the lease. This year the date decided upon was April 22.

However, this year the spring term was lengthened a week. So, students who write exams on the 30th of April will have to pay an additional \$18, just so they can write their exams. For Law students, who finish exams much later, the sum is about \$54.

It should be a simple matter to determine when the term ends, so that this problem does not arise. This year may have posed a special problem for the Fenwick operators, but we doubt that this is the case. The calendar states that the term ends on April 13th, and everyone knows that exams take at least two weeks to complete. This would automatically suggest the lease

should expire on the 27th, at the earliest. The calendar is out in July, fully two months before anyone signs a lease at Fenwick.

Shirreff and Howe Hall students are paid up on residence and meal fees until the 30th. Why must the Fenwick people be forced to shell out extra money?

The problem here is not one of honest mistakes being made and regrettable incidents happening; rather, it appears to be the problem of the old profit motive entering into the situation. Fenwick must operate on a break-even basis, and to have students hanging around past the 22nd is unprofitable. The days to the end of the month are used to take inventory and repair minor damages to the suites, so that new tenants may move in on the last of May.

We suggest several ways that students can get around the problem. The simplest way is for Student Council to demand that the lease be extended an extra week. Barring this happening, students are advised to move out, where they are going to be the only ones remaining in an apartment and crash with friends in the building. In this way, only one person will have to pay the extra rent. The apartment cannot be vacated when there is at least one declared occupant still living there. If you're smart, you'll split the rent with your friend.

Brief needs consideration

Four law professors at Dalhousie recently completed a brief on economic development and environmental security. A report is to be found on page 8, 13. Perhaps the most frightening facts pointed out by the committee are the lack of long-range study by the government as to the economic and environmental effects of development, and the fact that the minimal research done is not made available to the public. These items are particularly significant in Nova Scotia where development — mostly by Americans — is on an upsurge. The Shaheen refinery, container ports, and the proposed nuclear reactor at Stoddard's Island are all hailed by Premier Gerald Regan as progressive steps, indicative of the excellent performance of the present Liberal administration in the province. And, to give credit where it's due, the Liberals appear to be handling development in a manner much superior to the Conservatives. There have been no Liberal Heavy water plants or Clairtone Sound scandals yet. However, just as the Conservatives, the Liberals seem

reluctant to stop and consider the overall effects of their wonderous job-providers. How will these projects economically affect the Maritimes as a whole? What harm will be done to the air and water of the area — now, and in five or ten years? Such questions are never answered by the Liberals (and, sadly, never asked by the opposition).

Also, reports studying immediate effects, or the potential effects of proposed projects are never seen by the press, much less the public. Citizens groups from effected areas, and concerned individuals, are forced, by the government they elect, to deal with these issues in the dark.

The Gazette strongly urges that the recommendations made in the brief be given serious consideration by all levels of government. Indeed, any government concerned with preserving the environment should react positively to the committee's suggestion for a publically supported and publically oriented committee on environmental protection.

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