

CUS backs free tuition

More financial assistance demanded by 30th Congress

by BILL MILLER

HALIFAX—Student leaders have committed themselves to eradicate all social and financial barriers to post-secondary education, mainly by wiping out tuition fees and providing student salaries.

Delegates to the 30th Congress of the Canadian Union of Students here decided overwhelmingly to ask for more financial assistance than ever before in their long-term attack on inequality of educational opportunity in Canada.

The resolution passed by a vote of 86 to 36, against a small but vocal opposition by the U of A and McGill University delegates.

Delegates demanded concrete long-range financial policies which called for:

- the rejection in principle of all systems of financial aid which involve loans, means tests, or conditions implying parental support;
- the abolition of all tuition fees;
- a system of student stipends to achieve equality of educational opportunity.

LONG-RANGE POLICIES

Delegates were not as specific in their long-range social policies, resolving only that CUS "recognizes the necessity of programs designed to overcome social barriers to education."

An attempt by the University of Calgary delegation to put the financial policies in the same terms, recognizing "the necessity of programs designed to overcome financial barriers to education," gained only the backing of U of A and McGill and failed to be passed by the plenary.

To implement their financial policies, the delegates resolved that scholarships are awards based solely on academic achievement and can "in no way be considered a form of student aid."

They also resolved to make an effort to achieve the conversion of existing loan schemes to bursary schemes based solely on student need; the expansion and improvement of existing bursary schemes; the conversion of bursary schemes to a system of student stipends; and reduction and elimination of all requirements of parental support.

SOCIAL POLICIES

The implementation of their social policies calls for the campus and regional CUS organs to encourage secondary school students to both continue and actively seek improvement of the quality of secondary education.

It also calls for the improvement of teaching standards and attitudes, vastly increased support for adult education, the universal provision of pre-primary education, and the provision of free medical, recreational, and eating facilities for all school children.

Delegates passed five other resolutions backing their move towards universal accessibility. These resolutions asked for:

- increased federal support for education by granting new tax powers to the provincial governments, since education is a provincial matter under the British North America Act;
- an end to secrecy at meetings of the board of governors and the senate;
- a new CUS commitment to higher quality education;
- full student participation in university government and full student responsibility to take an active role in raising academic standards;
- student participation in deciding questions of academic freedom.

Members up, down in CUS

HALIFAX (Staff)—The Canadian Union of Students gained four member universities at the 30th CUS Congress, but they lost four and maybe six more.

At the opening plenary session Sept. 3, York, Notre Dame, Lakehead and Simon Fraser Universities joined the ranks.

Within minutes membership shrank from a new high of 48 members to 46 members, when Loyola University and Marianapolis College withdrew.

Loyola severed its relationship with CUS and will hold a referendum in late October to decide whether to re-join CUS or to join the Union Generale des Etudiants du Quebec or to remain independent of either.

Marianapolis was already a member of UGEQ and was required by that union to withdraw from CUS.

Two days later, Rex Murphy of Memorial University of Newfoundland delivered a fiery, emotional speech and told the congress of Memorial's intent to withdraw Sept. 10, the day after the congress ended.

Then Mt. St. Vincent University, an all-girls institution in Halifax, concluded that "the benefits (of CUS) both tangible and intangible accruing to its students by such membership are not sufficient to warrant Mt. St. Vincent University Students' Union to continue membership in CUS."

Sept. 9, Bishop's University announced it agreed with the ideology of U of A and McGill delegations, and could not stay within CUS.

Bishop's delegates said they did not have the authority to withdraw, but would take the issue back to their campus and recommend withdrawal to their students' council.

As it now stands, CUS has 44 members, the same as it did before the Congress, but could lose Bishop's as well as the U of A (see story page one), to reduce its membership by two more.

PAPERS JOIN CUP

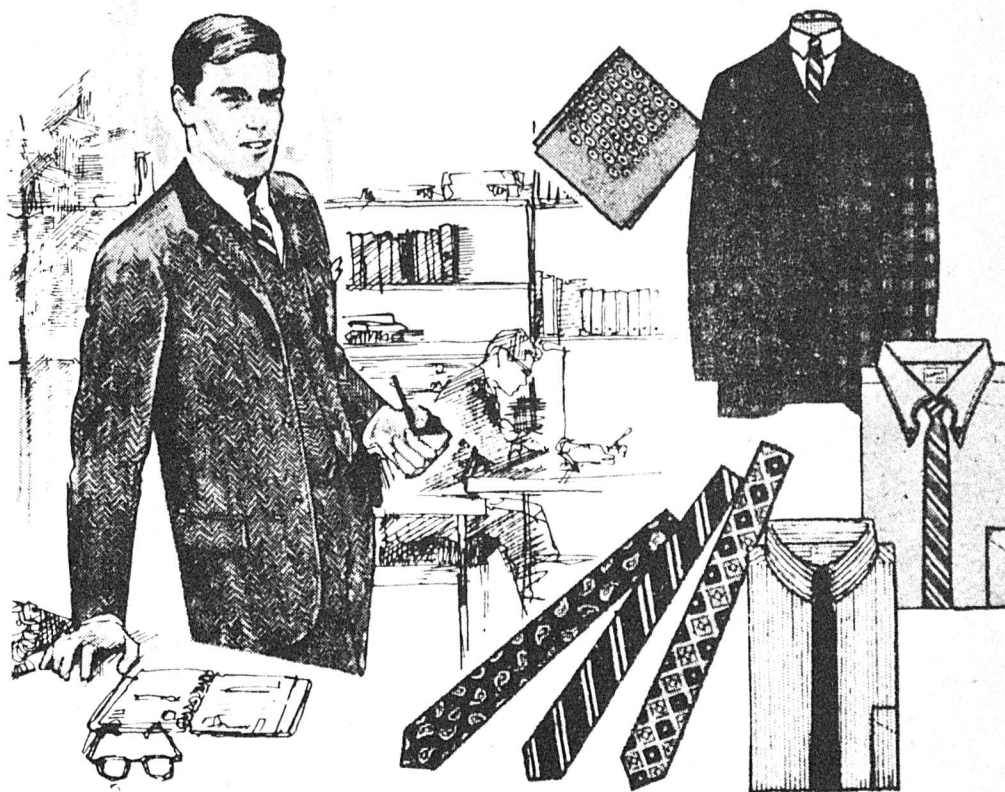
OTTAWA (CUP)—Two Maritime student newspapers have joined the Canadian University Press as associate members for the coming year.

They are The Picaro, published by students at Mount St. Vincent University, and The St. Mary's Journal, produced at St. Mary's College. Both institutions are located in Halifax, N.S.

CUP's membership now includes 43 campus newspapers—12 associate and 31 full members.



FOR YOUNG MEN



A Strong Case

Men behind the executive desk or student desk consider this proprietor an able assistant or counsellor, as the case may be. Here follow a few sage suggestions:

- The suit of worsted herringbone enjoys high standing among those of higher fashion education.
- One aids the British by choosing the silk foulard square to add color at the breast pocket.
- A muted plaid worsted suit is expected on campus; accepted as Saturday-Sunday style elsewhere.
- The sparkle of fine burgundy is enjoyed in the traditional oxford shirt, as well as in the dressy tab-collared stripe.
- The knowledgeable prefer neckwear of richly textured and colored silks, or softly woven challis which is contributed by the sheep.

EDDIES

men's wear

7929-104th STREET
Across from the PARK HOTEL