

Certification likely

Opposition to union continues



Dal Photo / Grandy

John Graham of the economics department delivers another straight from the hip anti-union polemic at Senate meeting on Friday.

by Marc Allain

The impending unionization of the Dalhousie Faculty Association has led anti-unionists to intensify their efforts at thwarting certification.

The latest move, from a Faction within the anti-union camp, was a call for the removal of university president Henry Hicks. In a letter circulated to faculty last week, physiology professor W.T. Josenhans virtually expressed non-confidence in Hicks by calling for the

immediate establishment of a Senate search committee for a new full-time president. Under the terms of his contract Hicks has two and a half years remaining as president. Josenhans based his request on the administration's unresponsiveness to the unionization issue.

Josenhans however adopted a considerably more moderate approach at a special meeting of Senate held to discuss the contents of his letter. His intentions he explained had not been to "even mildly" imply non-confidence in Hicks.

"The real purpose of my action, he said, is to stop unionization. It is a request for leadership, from Senate. We are not a frozen body. We are alive and kicking and we must indicate that to the troops." Senate is made up of all full professors in the university along with a few faculty and students elected at large.

Instead of a motion of non-confidence, Josenhans requested Senate support a document opposing unionization and asking faculty members who had already signed cards to withdraw their registration. The motion was tabled however on the grounds that it was inappropriate for Senate, as the University's senior academic body, to take sides on an issue that only faculty could decide. Once tabled, a motion is left to die unless re-introduced.

Anti-unionists did manage how-

ever to wring what they consider to be a major concession from the administration. During the meeting Vice-President Andrew MacKay announced the university's negotiating committee was willing to recommend to the Board of Governors that binding arbitration on fringe benefits be implemented on a one year trial basis. The administration had refused to cede this point in earlier negotiations with the association.

According to DFA representative, John O'Brien, the offer is somewhat of a shallow one. "It's a discretionary grant by the administration that can be withdrawn at any time. That's not the kind of protection the faculty association is looking for," he said.

The big issue for junior faculty is the fear of redundancy O'Brien said. The projected drops in enrolment and reduced government funding has led to general insecurity

amongst the faculty at Dalhousie he added.

He noted the administration has been rather flippant in its attitude towards the redundancy issue, and pointed to the St. Mary's agreement, where the administration has to demonstrate its financial situation and work with faculty at finding alternatives to staff reductions as an example of the greater security that unionization provides.

The anti-union campaign appears to have had little effect on the certification drive. To date no one has responded to the request that cards be withdrawn and DFA president Philip Welch has informed the membership that the association will be applying to the Nova Scotia Labour Relations Board for certification on April 7. The LRB will hold a certification vote on campus within a week of the application.

Strike continues at Ben's Bakery

by Mark Simkins

Students at Dalhousie who worked at Ben's Bakery last summer are being approached to work at 'scab' labour as management at Ben's continues to try to break a two week old legal strike by workers of local 446 of the Bakers and Confectioners Union.

Surprisingly enough, the Union is on strike, not for higher wages, but generally for better working conditions. Specifically, their demands are for a one-year rather than a two-year collective agreement; less compulsory overtime; shift choice by seniority; and three days sick leave a year (presently they have none).

The strikers' picket lines were reduced to three workers on the grounds and three at the main door by an injunction obtained by management on March 30. Trucks

driven by management personnel are being driven through the picket lines, where they are taken over by drivers from the Teamsters Union and driven to Ben's Thrift stores located outside of Halifax. The Union has reacted by following the trucks and picketing the Thrift stores for which the trucks were bound.

Some of the larger grocery chains, including Dominion Stores, have respected the strike by refusing to buy any Ben's bread until the strike is settled. Other stores, including Sobey's, will continue selling the bread as long as it is available. According to the assistant manager of one Sobey's store, "We are not supporting the strike. If the bread is delivered to our door, we'll take it."



Management personnel driving through legal picket lines at Ben's bakery on Pepperell Street have so far injured three strikers.

Council pulls money from Bank of Montreal

The Dalhousie Student Council voted Sunday to move its account out of the Bank of Montreal because of its investment in South Africa. By a vote of 14-1 Council members decided to put their money into the Halifax Metro Credit Union.

Treasurer Gail Rudderham, the only opposing vote to the motion, tried to convince council of the merits of the Bank of Nova Scotia. When it was pointed out to Rudderham that although the Bank does not admit to having investments in South Africa, they are definitely supportive of the fascist Chilean regime, Rudderham said,

"we're dealing with South Africa right now."

"One in three Canadians are now dealing with credit unions," said Peter Greene. "You certainly can't call them all kooks and communists. I think we should be willing to give the credit union a try. There's a far greater chance that the Bank of Nova Scotia will loan to South Africa than the Metro Credit Union. Besides, two Dalhousie students are members of the Board of Directors of the Credit Union. Can you imagine having students on the Bank of Nova Scotia Board?"

"I'm working on it", said Robert Sampson, who abstained on the motion.

SMU athletic fee

Students at Saint Mary's University voted Tuesday and Wednesday on whether to pay a compulsory \$10 athletic fee. The fee, which works out to be about 40c per sports event, will allow all fulltime SMU students to enter varsity home games without purchasing a ticket.

Roy Landry, President of the Saint Mary's Student Council, said the reason for the compulsory fee is to "promote general spirit and to give students a good deal." "It does help the athletic department too", Landry said, "but it's mainly to help students."

The president and treasurer of the student council along with the athletic department, decide where the money is to be used. "We hope to bring in exhibition games, and rent the Metro Centre more often," Landry said.

"I feel many students don't go to games because of the price. For instance, students watch the football games from their windows in residence. Now, if it only would cost them 40c to watch them from the stands, I'm sure they would."

Matthe Adarson, former ex-

ternal vice-president at SMU, disagrees with the present council's attitude. "There are better ways to generate student interest than compulsory fees", Adarson said. "The majority of students don't go to athletic events. It has not been proven that ticket prices have anything to do with attendance. Three years ago, students could buy a \$10 pass to get into home games. This year it was \$10 per sport and there are no statistics to show whether attendance went up or down during that time."

"There is no reason why council should spend its energies on becoming a ticket outlet for the athletic department," Adarson concluded.

Another referendum in the near future at Saint Mary's will be for the Part-time Students Association (PTSA) to organize as an independent group. Presently, part-time students are members of the Student Association, although they do not pay fees. The PTSA wants to collect and control fees from part-time students.

Attention overseas students!

As a result of a new Immigration Act to be passed in the Parliament of Canada in early April, it is imperative that all non-Canadian students on Student Visas visit the Canada Immigration Office, 5221 Harvey Street in Halifax, before leaving Canada on vacation.

Also, all non-Canadian students must visit their Immigration Officer before the expiry date of their present visa in order to obtain new Student Visas.