Rents hiked dramatically

in quad and then moving in with friends could be the easiest way to beat the high cost of accommodation. Rents have sky-rocketed since controls were lifted in July and there doesn't appear to be any relief in sight.

Statistics compiled by Tracy Kuhtz, director of the Students' Union Housing Registry (SUHR) show significant increases in rents for all types of accommodation. Average monthly rents increased 25 percent from January to October 1980.

The average monthly rent for one bedroom with cooking facilities increased from \$127 to \$172, a 35 percent increase; two bedroom suites from \$269 to \$352 (35 percent); three bedroom houses from \$492 to \$590 (20 percent); and four bedroom houses from \$572 to \$648 (13 percent).

The increase in the range of rents has been even more substantial. The top price for a two bedroom suite in the SUHR's January listings was \$450 per month; in the October listings the most expensive was \$900.

The top price for three bedroom houses went from \$600 to \$1500.

Because of the absence of rent controls landlords have acquired more power.

It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly ...

by Greg Harris

"Landlords can do anything porate affairs, says rent controls
Building a two bedroom igloo they want with the rent. Up it by won't be reinstituted. 50 percent, double it, depending on what the market will bear," free reign as long as they give facilities," he says. three months notice of the in- Koziak cites

> The Students' Finance Board benefits of lifting controls.
>
> B) considers \$175 per month However, high interest rates (SFB) considers \$175 per month the maximum students should be paying for accommodation. But \$175 is only the average figure taken from SUHR statistics.

Some people have needs that just aren't met by the \$175... I'd like to see them (SFB) have more flexibility. Their assumption is that most students live together.

'There is a fair amount of low cost housing, but a lot of it is so scummy I wouldn't want anyone to live in it." SUHR listings consist largely of ac-commodation at the "lower end of the scale," she says.

People are now phoning up (the SUHR) and asking to share one bedroom." Some students "can't really afford" to pay the rents as they stand, she says.

Students eventually give in and cut back on other things,'

Julian Koziak, the provincial minister of consumer and cor-

"The long-term effects of rent controls are bad; they destroy says Kuhtz. Landlords are given the provisions of living in new

Koziak cites an increase in house purchases as one of the

without rent controls. Koziak says the government is working on "rental incentive programs," which are intended to stimulate construction.

students is not that bad.

"Two people sharing (a bedroom) is not that bad a thing when you take a look at housing in are inhibiting development, even this province and this country ...

there has been a constant decline in percent of occupation in dwellings.

"The doubling up concept is useful. It shouldn't be looked at Koziak says the situation for askance ... I think we should learn to live together," he says.

> Kuhtz says the chances of widespread rental increases in January 1981 are "fairly good."



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1980

... unless one has plenty of work to do. Jerome K. Jerome

Hazardous radiatio

LONDON, ONTARIO (CUP) -An accident that exposed a number of students to low level radiation may cost a University of Western Ontario researcher his research license.

The accident took place in a biochemistry department lab in Western's medical science building October 5. Department chairperson Bishnu Sanwal said the accident occurred when a student spilled a few drops of solution containing a radioactive

Sanwal said the student discovered the contamination during a post-experiment geiger counter check of the work area several hours after the accident. By that time, a number of other students had passed through the contaminated work area.

Subsequent efforts to clean up the spill with paper towels and cleanser proved ineffective and university officials were called, said Western safety officer Dwight Barratt. The exposed floor area was covered with half- Barratt. But later examination millirems of radiation. inch thick plexiglass shielding and indicated that students had been marked to prevent people from contaminated to an extent of less said Barratt. "It would indicate entering the work area.

Geiger counter readings indicated a local radiation field of 20 millirems per hour, 180 times the

maximum permissible level established by the Atomic Energy or about 10 per week. A typical X-Control Board (AECB), said ray exposes a patient to about 20

than six millirems, probably because equipment in the area shielded them, he said.

The AECB's maximum allowable level of radiation exposure is 500 millirems per year,

"This was a serious incident," that something went wrong in the normal operation of that lab. Because of that, the (University's) radiation safety committee will be reviewing Dr. Sanwal's licence."

Sanwal said the spill was insignificant and not dangerous at

But Barratt said the spill could have been harmful if it had not been quickly detected because the radiation effect would accumulate in those working in the

'That's why we roped off the area before there was a problem,' he said. The radiation effect is intense only in the immediate area of the active material, he added.

by Peter Michalyshyn Democracy prevailed at reading about SU decisions in the Students' Council Tuesday night, almost. He said he was tired of get into the habit of walking over required to do this now. council," Astley said.

cutive's decision-making power in a 12 to 10 vote.

Law Rep Clarence Hudson proposed a motion demanding all changes in SU service and retail operations be ratified in council before being implemented.

Now that the

SU President Nolan Astley only every two weeks, and decisions often had to made in the

interim. One such recent decision, Astley said, was to close RATT after it lost its liquor license. The executive had no choice but to lock up the bar and could not wait over a week to have Council ratify the decision.

However, Astley admitted he should have thought twice about the executive decision to cut the SU Information Desk's operating

In the November 18 Council meeting commerce rep Phil Soper questioned the rationale behind this cutback.

No one could deny Soper's accusation that the cutbacks had been made unjustifiably and

without proper analysis. But with the decision made, and the cutbacks implemented before the November 18 Council meeting, Council could do nothing more than accept or reject it; they accepted it.

Council narrowly defeated a defended executive action, only after trying to pass least 24 hours notice on executive motion to restrict the SU ex- however, noting that Council met amendments to make it less

> One amendment would have forced the executive to have all its

'We certainly don't want to implemented; the executive is not

Council dumped the motion suggested councillors be given at decisions, to then be ratified in the next council meeting.

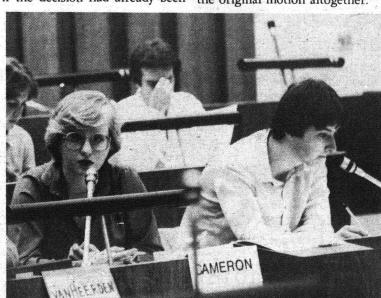
Two more amendments were decisions ratified by Council even defeated before Council junked if the decision had already been the original motion altogether.



ONLY A FEW SHOPLIFTING

DAYS LEFT TIL XMAS!

Gateway Reader Survey results are in(page 8), we've found you want some more humor(page 7), more photo features(page 9), and less of everything else. That's why there will be only one paper next week. Look for us on Thursday.



Do you trust these two with your money?