

Smith may resign



Student Council Chairman Chris Smith is seriously considering tendering his resignation at the next Council meeting. He feels his role is no longer needed.

The threatened resignation resulted from the October 25th Council meeting at which Science Rep Mike Evans attempted to adjourn the meeting before the vote on voting residence reps was made.

Smith said he felt Evans' attempt to adjourn the meeting "made Council look like a bunch of assholes." On the whole the meeting "was a farce", he added.

The issue of residence reps becoming voting Council members was most recently brought up last May, Smith explained. But was not discussed until recently.

Constitutional changes necessary to get rid of the ambiguity of a double franchise were not made, he added.

This is only one of many Council problems which make Smith think his role is no longer needed.

He explained some of the problems, from his viewpoint.

Council members represent only themselves, not the students who elected them, he said. They can not and do not obtain their constituents' opinions, under the present rules of order. They act with very little preparation or thought on matters discussed at meetings, the chairman added.

One example he cited was the fact that this year's budget was passed in a record thirty-three minutes. The majority of Council members did not seem concerned over the amount of

money granted different organizations, but wasted time arguing about irrelevant topics, Smith said.

In the case of the Security budget, the Councillors did not question why they were allocating the force \$14,000, but spent their time "bitching about the campus cops".

The councillors' main problem is that they are "part-time politicians", according to Smith. They don't have time to "delve into the issues" in their dual roles of student and councillor.

The chairman is also concerned about the general apathy of the student body concerning their Student Council. No more than half a dozen students remained at the last Council meeting, a typical number.

Evans tests legality of S.C. meeting

The legality of the October 25th Student Council meeting, held in Sherriff Hall, is being questioned by Science Rep, Mike Evans. The meeting was called to decide the question of residence representatives becoming voting members of

Council. During the meeting, Evans attempted to put forth a motion which the chair did not recognize. It requested that the meeting be adjourned and held at a more convenient time, in the SUB, to enable a greater

and more representative number of students to take part in the vote.

After Chairman Chris Smith did not recognize the motion, the original one was passed without significant opposition.

As a result, Evans is en-

deavoring to have the meeting declared void from the time he made his privileged motion. He contends this is possible according to Roberts Rules of Order. (see letter, p. 14). Smith, on the other hand, claims the motion was qualified and since privileged motions cannot be qualified, he did not recognize the motion.

The constitutional problem of a double franchise complicated the entire meeting. Do students living in residence have the right to choose for both voting faculty and residence representative? The student handbook contradicts itself on the issue.

During the meeting, Vice-president, Jim Hearn tried to explain the problem, but only further confused the issue for the mainly Sherriff Hall residence audience.

Other issues were discussed during the meeting. The Transition Year students are now represented on Council by one elected Arts representative already there.

A few appointments were also made: Vicki Faulkner — member-at-large; Wolfgang Novak — Winter Carnival

Chairman; Benny Bluefarb — Constitutional Committee chairman; and Paul LeDoux — Yearbook editor.

Lengthy discussion centred on some of the grants awarded during the meeting. \$400 was given the Law School for speakers. This was conditional on their paying for the first speaker, and that any speakers of interest talking in the McInnes Room of the SUB for all students' benefit. VP Hearn assured Council that Robert Lemieux, lawyer for many Quebecois leftists, would definitely be one of the speakers.

The Young Socialists group was the other target on the grants issue. According to Hearn, "a capitalist organization such as the Students Council shouldn't support a socialist organization". Member-at-large Alan Moores did not think it was necessary to supply funds for the YS group because "the glorious Dal Gazette propagates the same thought as the Young Socialists".

In spite of these opinions, the motion that \$500 be given the organization was passed finally.

Language labs inadequate

by Beth Burke

Dalhousie's Language Laboratory facilities are inadequate, according to many students in the department. Their complaints are based on the fact that there are not enough machines or hours available to enable them to spend the 5 - 6 hours per week required by the department to pass the course.

The laboratory is open a total of 67 hours a week during which time 669 students in French and Spanish have the use of 40 machines. It is a physical impossibility for the students to fill the requirements — two people cannot occupy the same space at the same time.

In addition, students have to contend with the high casualty rate of the machines. Some days as many as half of the instruments are out of order — on good days only 3 or 4.

Students would also want memory units installed. They encounter difficulties in correcting poor pronunciation without the aid of some device to record and play back their voices.

Professor Harry Aiken, Department Head, says that Dalhousie is having more trouble with its lab equipment than any other university in North America. The machines either break down during shipment or malfunction after

installation. A full time technician is kept busy just repairing the machines.

Aiken claimed the department is doing as much as possible to alleviate these problems, within the limits of their budget. By January, 1972, an additional 20 recording machines will be installed. By next September, the memory units will be hooked up.

"Memory units are not all that valuable in facilitating the learning of a language," Aiken argued. He said that students have succumbed to propaganda put out by the companies that manufacture these expensive machines.

Approached on the possibility of opening the lab on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, Aiken said the budget could not be extended any farther. He went on to express the fear that the lab may have to be closed on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings as well. The problem is the lack of funds to pay personnel to operate the lab in the evenings. If this happens, many night school students, who work during the day, will have to forfeit lab sessions altogether.

"Dalhousie's Language Department is the most progressive in Canada," according to Aikens, despite all its hangups.

Daycare openings

The Children's Co-operative nursery, located in the St. John's United Church, Windsor Street, has two openings for children in the two to four age group.

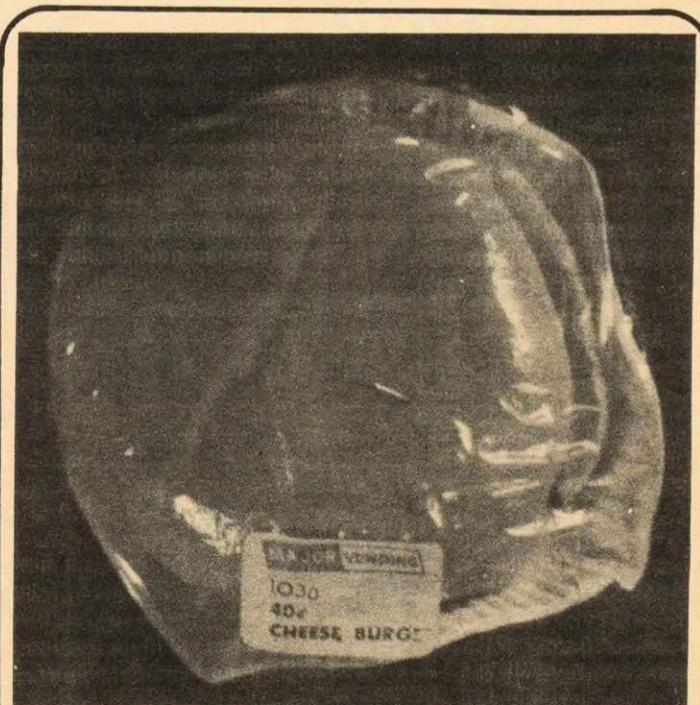
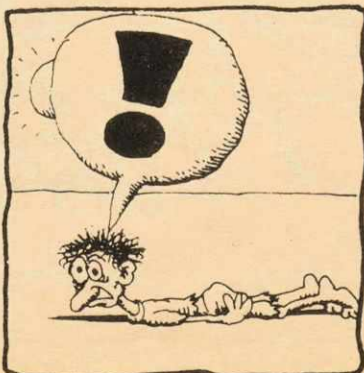
Day care is provided each afternoon from one o'clock to five o'clock. It is an unstructured play time, with every mother contributing an afternoon each week to assist the teacher. Regular excursions of interest to the children are an important part of the nursery's activities. The fee is \$40 per month, for those who can afford it. Arrangements can be made to pay less.

For further information, please contact Jackie Barclay at 429-4199, or Marcia Clements at 477-5514.

MA (Ed) society formed

An Association of Graduate Education Students has been formed to provide cohesive representation for MA (Ed) students at Departmental meetings. Students are invited to attend these meetings and speak on any matter of individual interest, but for continuity they are represented by two graduate students who have full voting privileges.

Ray Fahey has been elected President of the association; Mack McMenemy, Vice-President; Jocelyn Raymond, Secretary-Treasurer; Stu Bird and Brenda McAskill, representatives at Department meetings with Sandra Little as programme committee representative.



This is a cheeseburger, to be found in the vending machines in the SUB. It costs 40 cents. The numbers 1030 stand for the date it was made — Oct. 30. If you buy one with those numbers on it now — you'll be sorry.

(peter clarke/ dal)