

walk-out on National Union of Students

delegates to the union, and allocated numbers of representatives on a percentage basis.

Under the plan, the Maritimes got a total of 24 percent of the possible delegates to the union, Quebec got 20 percent, Ontario 20 percent, each of the Prairie provinces got seven percent and British Columbia got 25 percent.

But the plan was attacked for over-representing the Atlantic provinces.

"If the Maritime provinces are going to get 24 percent of the votes, then I wonder if they are willing to pay 24 percent of the fees," Susan Geason, administrative assistant of the University of Toronto part-time student council asked.

The University of Alberta threatened to withdraw if the proposal passed.

The Prairie delegates, who had strongly rejected the regionalism concept, caucussed and produced a plan for modified rep by pop — one vote for every 5000 students in an institution or fraction thereof.

The Atlantic province delegates angrily rejected this plan.

After a series of floor battles, another proposal was rejected, this one by delegates from McGill University.

The language of the proposal was inflammatory and appeared to divide delegates further.

Montreal's Dawson CEGEP walked out, saying "This conference has proven to us that the federal concept of representation within the present boundaries of Canada cannot permit democratic process."

REP BY POP PLAN ACCEPTED

Amid considerable uproar and confusion, Cameron's original percentage proposal was rejected and a Prairie rep by pop plan accepted.

Tom LeRoy of Fredericton's St. Thomas University walked to the microphone and read a biblical quotation, referring to the decay of civilization.

When he finished, delegates representing the six Atlantic Province schools at the conference walked out together. They spent the rest of the day caucussing among themselves and with other delegates, sounding out the possibilities of eventually joining the national body.



Walk-out prompted by bullheadedness of Upper Canadian and Western delegates.

The fledgling organization's future is still uncertain because potential members must conduct referendums on their campuses before being allowed to join. Although a few students' councils had already authorized their delegates to join the new union, only Simon Fraser University has conducted the necessary referendum.

Delegates authorized the "Central Committee" or executive of the NUS to solicit grants from potential members to finance its formative stages. The only commitment made at the conference was a grant of \$1000 from the University of British Columbia student council.

The conference was perhaps the largest gathering of Canadian student council representatives since the demise of the old Canadian Union of Students (CUS) in 1969.

Immediately after the Eastern walkout, most of the 11 Quebec delegations left. Chairman Dan Boisvert left with them to be replaced by David Dick from UBC.

"MUST START SOMEWHERE"

"We've got to start somewhere," Simon Fraser representative member Michael Warsh said. "We must continue to form this organization and by starting small we will build our strength. I urge the remaining delegates to remain and proceed."

And proceed they did, through more than five hours of seemingly endless wrangles over amendments to the proposed constitution, some major, but most minor. The constitution was not finally adopted until late on the final day of the conference.

The remaining delegates changed the proposed name of the organization from National Association of Students to National Union of Students. The word "association" was retained in the French for translation purposes.

They also adopted the Declaration of

the Canadian Student, which formerly served as part of the Canadian Union of Students constitution.

Delegates beat back an attempt to cut the number of general NUS meetings from two to one per year by a vote of 16-28-18.

In a controversial move, they added a by-law which requires one-half of all NUS standing and special committees be composed of women.

The vote was 24-16-8 with such traditionally conservative student councils as University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon) and York University voting for it.

They also ruled community colleges must be represented on committees in the same proportion as their NUS voting power.

Only 24 institutions were left when the constitution was approved. The walkouts cut the size from 51 to 39 and other schools left to catch trains or the attractions of Ottawa.

Central Committee representatives are Warsh from B.C., Roy Ellis and Gerry Trinker from Saskatchewan, Jack Fuskner from Lakehead; members at large are Teri Ball from UBC and Lin Gibson from University of Manitoba. Russell Freethy from the University of Victoria was elected treasurer.

The Committee is trying to organize a policy conference for February when it hopes significant numbers of institutions will have joined NUS through referendums. Only resolutions which have been received three weeks before a meeting can be considered NUS policy. Otherwise they must be approved by member student councils after the meeting.

By February, Atlantic Province student councils should have decided whether to join the organization. A meeting is being held in Charlottetown this weekend (Nov.18-19) to discuss the formation of a Maritime or Atlantic Province student union and on the regional student councils joining the NUS.

Long comments on walk-out

by Glenn Wanamaker

"Most delegates to the founding conference of the National Union of Students two weeks ago could not understand that the Atlantic Provinces are different", Dalhousie delegate Steve Long said last week.

Long, who joined a mass walkout by Quebec delegates and other Atlantic delegates, said the walkout was prompted by the bull-headedness of Upper Canadian and Western delegates.

"It was very much an example of powertripping," he said, adding "they were not willing to listen to other people's points of view."

"They formed what they considered a national union of students — representing only five provinces," he said.

Atlantic and Quebec delegates left the founding conference of the new union after they were unable to work out a satisfactory formula for representation in the union. (See story this page.)

But Long isn't down on the idea of a national student union.

"There is a place for a national student union, but the one that was proposed was impractical, unrealistic and not fairly representative," he said.

"Nothing could be accomplished if Dalhousie were represented in the new union, he said, since many matters would have to be dealt with provincially in any case, as education is provincial responsibility."

With more than 80 percent of Canadian post-secondary students in Ontario, Maritime delegates worried they'd be outvoted if institutions were represented on the basis of their population. But other delegates voted down proposals aimed at giving the Maritimes fair representation.

Although the subject of fees was only touched on during the conference, Maritime delegates were upset at talk of a \$1 per student levy.

If accepted, Dal would pay more than \$6,000 in fees — without much control over how they'd be used.

Long said "it would come down to paying money to something we didn't have control over."

S. D. Clark and Clairmont form alliance

"House-cleaning" in Soc. dept. coming

Last week the GAZETTE covered the continuing story of the Department of Sociology by reporting the prospective appointment of Professor S. D. Clark as the new departmental chairman. Our background information on Professor Clark outlined his experience as Departmental Chairman at U. of T. and his ouster by a coalition of disgruntled senior faculty, junior staff and graduate students. The picture of Clark during his tenure in Toronto was one of a patriarch who lost his grip on his subordinates through miscalculation of the limits of tolerance.

In attempting to follow up on Clark's fortunes since his arrival at Dalhousie as a highly paid McCollough visiting

professor we have learned of some very revealing speculations. It has been suggested that Clark's willingness to be invited to take over from Chairman Don Clairmont is related to Clark's feelings of rejection by his Toronto colleagues. In interviews with a number of undergraduates, graduate students and faculty in Sociology, the following outlines of the motives behind the new order emerge.

Chairman Don Clairmont has been subjected to a great deal of internal criticism lately by junior faculty, who feel they have been eliminated for the most part from Departmental decision-making. A new graduate program for 1972-73 was instituted: only seven M.A.

candidates signed up for Sociology this year whereas the 1971-72 enrollment was approximately 25. Since September 2 of the seven graduate students have left the program — one resigning his place under protest, the other dropped from the program for alleged inadequate performance, despite vigorous protests from several faculty members and graduate students.

At the undergraduate level, enrollment in Sociology for 1972-73 is off nearly 25% from last year. With an increase in staff from 16 to 21 this is certainly a potentially dangerous situation.

In the face of negative reactions Clairmont seems to be attempting to ease his plight by supporting the aspirations of

Clark. Clark's injured self-image and Chairman Don's anxiety have provided the basis for an alliance of convenience.

And so the stage is set for the ensuing drama. The prospects are strong that Sociology and the University are in for yet another struggle. There are, in fact, some suggestions that the theme of the coming drama is already apparent: Clairmont may be forced to conduct a "house-cleaning" operation among students and faculty. It is widely felt in the Department that the Administration would welcome efforts to get rid of "certain" faculty members.

Perhaps this is only idle speculation. But the current state of affairs suggests otherwise.