

Roll out the Glasses

by Al McEwan

After a hard day back at the old grind, we decided to go up to the Grawood to cool off with a beer. [For newcomers, the Grawood pronounced whichever way you wish, is the licensed lounge on the third floor of the SUB.] After bouncing up the stairs, we run into the locked hallway door leading into the [in] famous meeting place.

Oh, the sign; "PLEASE USE OTHER ENTRANCE TO GRAWOOD". Well, OK, but why?

My curiosity got the best of me, and I went to find out the reason for the seemingly useless change. Not only did I get my curiosity satisfied in this matter, but on others concerning alterations to the lounge.

The Grawood, it seems, had little in the line of storage space for empties, etc; which every establishment requires. So, in order to get some storage space, Richard Haugen thought it would be a good idea to close the hallway of the former main entrance for this purpose. (Haugen is SUB Affairs Secretary and operates with his company of SUB-dwellers.) Since there are no other offices on this hallway, nobody was put out. The main entrance was then switched to the other hallway, which leads to the former Grawood exit. A minor change, perhaps, but a necessary one; and the cost involved was minimal.

I discovered that this was only the first in a series of alterations to the good old Grawood, and the hallway switch, made earlier this summer, would be the cheapest of the changes.

Due to patron pressure, and Financial realities glassware will be introduced to the lounge sometime during the first week of classes. Students have been complaining for the last two years that those miserable disposable plastic vessels were unfit to contain spirits. John Graham, the SUB General Manager, [the Grawood is named for half of him] was reluctant at first to use glass glasses because, although they were much more pleasant to drink from, they required washing after use, which the plastic jobs did not. So, added to initial cost of the glasses is the cost of owning, operating, and maintaining a dish [glass] washer.

This also meant the cost of bringing in hot and cold running water for the washer, and which the bar staff had wanted in order to prepare mixed drinks without running into the washroom for water.

Other disadvantages of the glass vessels are that they have a tendency to break and a tendency to disappear. The plastic ones, should they break, are easier to dispose of. The plastic ones, should they break, are easier to dispose of. And if they manage to be smuggled out, who cares? They're only destined for the shores of the Basin anyway.

So, it looked as though the disadvantages of glass outweighed the advantages, and it is only now the wishes of the students are being complied with. This is because they discovered that it is more economical to wash dishes than to pay 7 cents apiece for the plastic things.

There is one other major alteration to the Grawood involving longime student's wishes, this one is enlarge-



ment. This has been a major political battleground ever since the lounge first started having to queue the patrons. The students wanted enlargement and the Union Executive didn't want to turn the SUB into a Canadian version of Munich's Hoffbrae Haus. Also, if large scale enlargement were to take place, the GAZETTE offices would be the first to go, being in such close proximity to the lounge, and NOBODY wants that to happen. A compromise was arranged, involving the knocking down of a few walls by the new storage hallway, giving room for 3 or 4 new tables to accommodate about 15 extra drinkers. So now when you come in late on Friday evening, you will only have to wait in a line of 60, instead of 75 latecomers... well, it's better than nothing.

MSI For Students

As fall approaches, when students are preparing for studies at university in provinces other than Nova Scotia or abroad, it is wise for them to remember that, being residents of Nova Scotia, they are entitled to medical and hospital insurance coverage anywhere in the world.

Coverage is provided as long as their temporary absence from the province does not exceed 12 months and that they return home at least once during that period. Exceptions are made and requests for extension of coverage are given on an ad hoc basis.

The Nova Scotia Health Services and Insurance Commission has made arrangements with other provinces so that if a student is not eligible in Nova Scotia, he will be eligible elsewhere. J. G. Hare, Executive Director,

said.

He urged, however, that students check with the Commission since some provinces, unlike Nova Scotia, charge premiums for hospital insurance and medical coverage. A student should know where he is eligible so that he can make appropriate arrangements to provide coverage.

Bearing this in mind, students who anticipate being absent for a period longer than 12 months are urged to contact the Nova Scotia Hospital Services and Insurance Commission, well in advance of the expiry of the normal 12 months absence period. Basic reasons for additional coverage should be clearly specified.

All Nova Scotian students travelling out-of-province, whether for study, vacation or on business should take several medical and hospital

insurance claim forms with them.

These forms, which are available from MSI offices, and when properly filled out and presented to the Nova Scotia Health Services and Insurance Commission, ensure that a person will be reimbursed within a few weeks for payments made to hospitals or doctors outside the province.

MSI, of course, pays only for the services given by a licensed physician and at a rate equal to the payment for similar service in Nova Scotia. Payment for hospital service (out of Canada) are made at the ward rate, to a limit of \$100 per day, plus 50 per cent of the cost above this amount.

To be accepted by the Commission, all claims must be filed within six months after the medical or hospital services are given.

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