

Student aid stays in closet

Ministers' conference accomplishes little

the dalhousie gazette

23 September 1976 Number 3 Volume 109



Dal Photo/Walsh

Left to right, Harry Parrott, Ontario, Bennett Campbell, P.E.I., Ben Hanuschak, Manitoba, Chairperson of the Education Ministers Council.

by Valerie Mansour

"The federal government has not been approached to increase its funding of the Student Aid program," Ben Hanuschak, Manitoba Minister of Education said in Halifax Tuesday, September 21.

Hanuschak, the newly elected chairperson of the Council of Ministers of Education, also said that no comparison has been made of the different provincial contributions to Student Aid programs.

He implied that Student Aid was not discussed at the conference. However, Nova Scotia Minister of Education Maynard MacAskill disagreed with Hanuschak and said that the issue was discussed.

Outgoing chairperson Bennett Campbell of P.E.I. said that the two reasons for the meeting in Halifax were: the availability of second language programs and constitutional jurisdiction in Education.

When questioned by a reporter on the policy for subsidizing Post Secondary Education language programs, the ministers were unable to comment as this had not been considered by them.

Informed sources told the **Dalhousie Gazette** that the main reason for the conference concerned the effect on Education of the proposed changes in the Fiscal Arrangements Act.

Referring to the availability of Student Aid in Nova Scotia Maynard MacAskill assured reporters that "No needy student will be without aid."

His comment contradicts the treatment his government has given the program--\$1.5 million was withdrawn from the Student Aid program this year.

At the press conference no specific accomplishments were announced and it appeared evident that only general discussions were held. A source close to the

conference admitted that actually the Education Ministers had nothing to say and simply wouldn't admit it.



Dal Photo/Walsh

Dr. Maynard MacAskill N.S. Education Minister

Dal book prices competitive

by Michael Donovan

This year the Dalhousie Bookstore is under new management. John Graham, manager of the Student Union Building and Director of Housing was replaced as Director of the Bookstore by Dr. Laugher of University Services last spring at the same time, Margaret White, replaced Robert Bland as manager of the bookstore.

A sample survey conducted by the Gazette staff indicated that

prices at the bookstore appeared to be as much or below the prices of comparable books in downtown bookstores. In other years there have been reports of higher prices at the Dalhousie bookstore.

Ms. White said that all books are sold at suggested retail prices. This amounts to a 20% mark-up on wholesale prices. White said that the profit is used to pay shipping costs and bookstore operating expenses. At the moment the book-

store employs twenty-one people. According to her there are six fewer staff members this year than in the past. She said, "the objective is to break even."

In order to purchase books by cheques a student is required to present only a Dal identification card for purposes of verification. In past years three identification cards were required.

A major problem at the bookstore is lack of space. Every year students are faced with long line-ups which have contributed unnecessarily to the hassles of getting organized in

the first two weeks of classes. In other years this problem was partly alleviated by using the Stationery bookstore in the Life Science building for the sale of first year books.

However, all books, this year, will be sold in the main bookstore in the Chemistry Building. It appears that the problem of long line-ups outside the bookstore will be worse than ever. Ms. White hopes to solve the problem by using security guards to organize the line-ups more efficiently. When asked whether Dalhousie has any plans to solve the problem of space in the bookstore, the manager said, "Not at this time."



For some reason this year bookstore prices are comparable with those in the rest of the city.

Inside This Week

Summer Council
Gays in Halifax

CBC Discrimination



Coming Next Week

Health Foods
Theatre of the Ear
More on Student Aid

Dalorama ABCDE
KLMNO