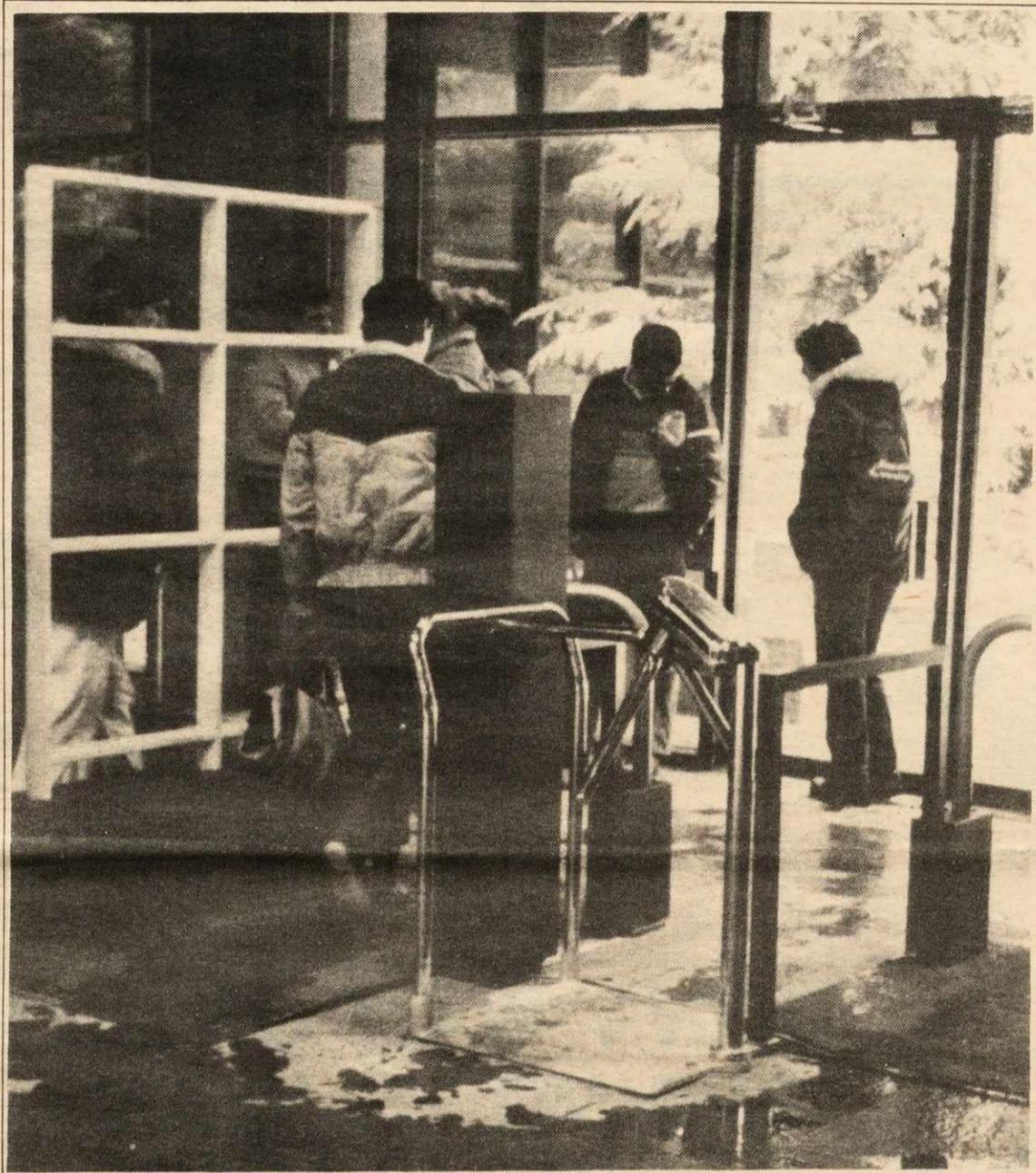


the Dalhousie Gazette

26 January, 1984
Volume 116, Number 16



These students are innocent but the Killam's new security system awaits the guilty.

DSU elections committee resigns

by Ralph English

All five members of the Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) Elections Committee resigned as of January 22 and student council chair Steve Coughlan has since been ratified as the new Chief Returning Officer.

Coughlan said nominations for DSU president and vice-president (internal) will open January 30 and close February 17 in preparation for March 7-9 elections.

Nominations were originally scheduled for January 9-23 in preparation for mid-February elections. DSU president Tim Hill said a postponement was necessary since, with only six days of the two-week nomination period remaining, "not enough people knew about the elections." But "the committee's attitude was not one of urgency," said Hill.

The DSU executive precipitated the election committee's resignation by expressing its lack of confidence in the committee

and its chair, former Chief Returning Officer Michael Tilley.

Tilley believes that successful elections could still have been held in February, and says he fails to understand the executive's reasoning. "It would be disappointing to me if the executive were to get involved because of fear of overzealous scrutiny by council."

Hill said, "If we extended the deadline there would be 13 days left for the nominations to be open." He added a further few days would be knocked off for lag time to put up posters announcing the extended deadline.

Elections Committee members Debra Bell, Ginger Ellison, Ann Hutchinson and Cindy Locke were unanimous in their support of Tilley. They felt "honour bound to resign."

Locke was "very surprised" that Tilley's resignation had been called for. "The executive didn't

give the committee the chance it deserved," she said.

Following the January 9 opening of nominations a full page ad had appeared in the Gazette of January 12, and a second ad was prepared for the January 19 edition. Posters were to be put up and 500 buttons distributed by January 18.

For those who felt the measure was too little too late, Locke points out that there is a constitutional provision which allows for a one week extension of the January 23 deadline.

The new Returning Officer, Steve Coughlan, says the election slogan and buttons developed by the original committee will still be used in the upcoming publicity for nominations.

Hill has expressed disappointment about the postponement of the elections. He said, "The late elections will affect the ability of the next council to get its affairs in order before taking office."

Students pleased, library impressed with new security system

by Benjamin Braddock

"All I can say is it's about time," said a third year Arts student as he walked through the new security system by the Killam Library main entrance.

The new system installed in the library over the Christmas break cost \$38,000, not including the accompanying cost of renovations. Prior to the installation, Commissionaires had to check all bags as people left the library.

The new system in place can detect any unprocessed books as they pass through—even through overstuffed knapsacks. Magnetically charged strips have been placed in the binding of each book. When students check out a book the librarian will demagnetize them, allowing the books to pass freely through the detector at the exit of the building.

The system was activated in

early January. "It is working out very well so far," said Head Librarian William Birdsall.

Birdsall said he has heard many positive comments on the new system. "I think people are pleased because they no longer have to stop, and there is less congestion at the entrance," he said.

Due to the implementation of the new system, the services of several commissionaires will no longer be required in the Killam. Those displaced will be assigned elsewhere by the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, said Security Head Max Keeping.

Keeping said a similar security system is already placed at the Kellogg Library in the Tupper Building, but added he has heard of no plans to install such a system in any of the other University libraries.

© 1984 Hayes/Dal Photo



Students not to suffer due to student loan delays

by Benjamin Braddock

Tuition fees came due this Wednesday but those students who missed the deadline due to late student aid can breathe a sigh of relief. These students will not be charged interest for the delay in payment.

Atul Sharma, Dalhousie Student Union Vice-President (External) announced the decision made by the Univer-

sity Administration following a meeting with Robbie Shaw, Dalhousie's Vice-President (Administration and Finance).

"Mr. Shaw said students still waiting for their student aid won't be charged interest on their tuition payment," said Sharma. They must, however, bring their student aid forms when they pay the balance of tuition to be exempted from the interest charges.