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Students must learn to do without

by R. Metcalfe

Prime Minister Trudeau held two press conferences in Halifax last week and when questioned at one about student aid he said students will have to learn to cut back as well as everyone else. The Prime Minister was speaking to a group of community newspapers when questioned about the repercussions of the federal economic controls on student aid.

The government will not consider any increases in the federal student loan program throughout the duration of price and wage controls, the Prime Minister said. Asked if the federal guidelines on government spending cutbacks could be used by the Provincial governments to cut aid to students the Prime Minister agreed that this could happen. However, Trudeau added, students in this country must learn to do without the same as everyone else and should not be considered an exception to the rules.

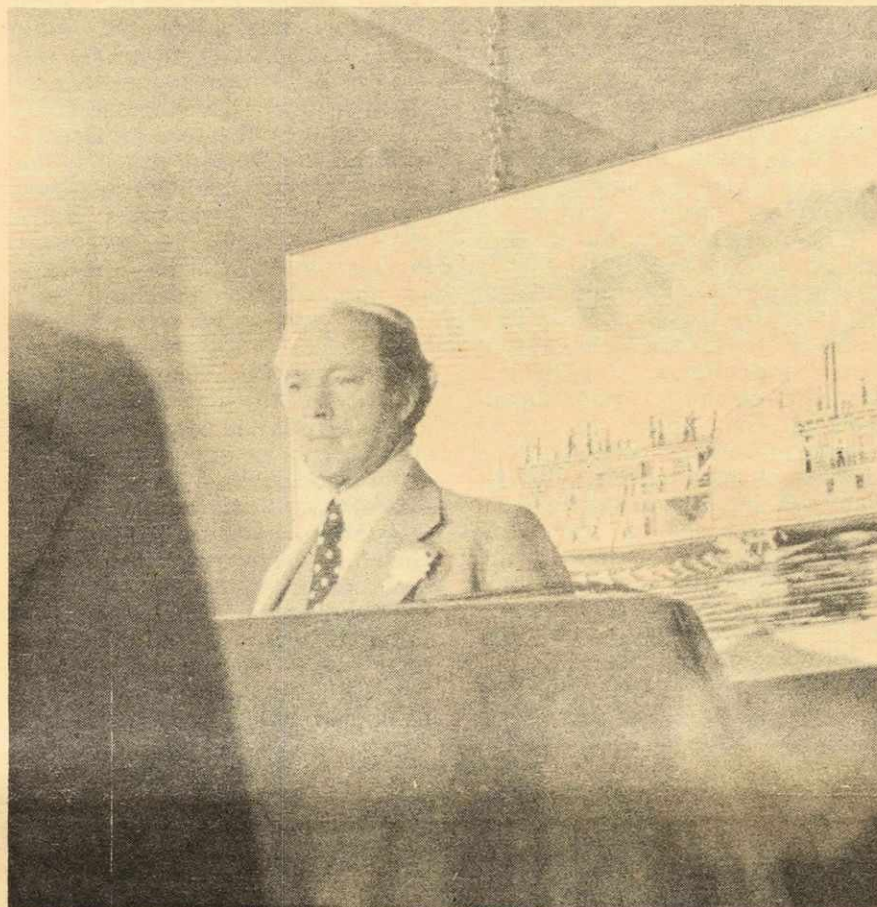
At both meetings between the press and the Prime Minister questions were asked about regional disparity and the new regulations. Obviously people in this area are concerned that the wage and price control rules will adversely affect the Maritimes. Trudeau maintained that this will

not occur and that there is enough leeway provided within the guidelines for wages in this area to keep up with the rest of Canada.

Asked why he feels that Canadians are willing to abide by the regulations, as he said in his dinner speech on Thursday night, Trudeau said he is getting this feedback from both his ministers and from the provincial premiers, notably from Premier Regan of Nova Scotia.

Trudeau's response to a question about Canada's feelings about being excluded from France's six country economic conference was that there were no hard feelings and there would be no political repercussions. The Prime Minister regretted that Canada was not invited but stated that he had received a letter from the French President explaining why Canada was excluded and he understood the exclusion.

Trudeau acknowledged that labour is not happy with the new federal regulations but said that negotiations between labour and government will continue. The Prime Minister takes it as a good omen that labour is still willing to talk and has not closed its doors to government.



Trudeau responds to questions from the press.

MacEachen opens Centre for African studies

by A. Bishop

External Affairs Minister Allen MacEachen officially opened Dalhousie's new Centre for African Studies in a brief ceremony last Friday.

The Centre, which offers an interdisciplinary program in African studies, draws on members of the History, English, Anthropology, Political Science and Economics departments of the university under the direction of Dr. P.D. Pillay (History).

Speaking at the official opening, Mr. MacEachen said where once African nations' relations with

Canada concerned mainly aid, present day relations are entering a new stage where there is a need for understanding specific needs.

There was a definite need, he said for the academic community to take part in the formation of Canada's foreign policy. As complexities of foreign policy grow, he said, there is a need for an input from all sectors.

The official opening was also attended by Peter Afolabi, Nigerian High Commissioner to Canada who noted the growing Canadian interest in African affairs represented by the inauguration of the Centre.

He said the formation of the Centre had the support of the African diplomatic corps in Ottawa.

The centre marked its official opening by sponsoring a day-long series of seminars dealing with various topics related to the emergence of African nations.

A publication program, the Dalhousie African Studies Series is

a joint venture between Longman (UK) and Dalhousie University Press. The first two volumes, **Black Loyalists in Nova Scotia and Sierra Leone**, by James Walker and **Tradition and Exile**, edited by Rowland Smith of Dalhousie, are to be published shortly.

The centre had its own offices at 1391 Seymour Street.

Forum on Grad problem

by M.P. MacKenzie

The student Union Support Committee held an open forum on Wednesday to discuss the problems between DAGS and the Student Union. The support committee had proposed an alternate scheme to the grad students on Monday (see Bruce Russell's letter) but the alternate scheme was rejected at a DAGS meeting on Monday night.

The discussion at the forum ranged from the difference in attitude to student monies between DAGS and the Union to the possibility of finding a totally different scheme from any suggested thus far.

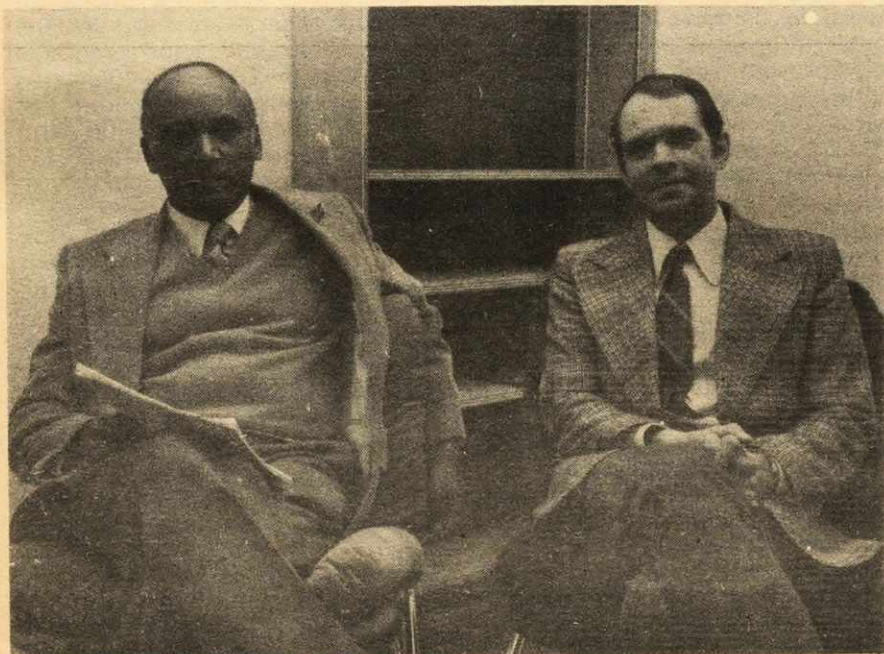
The Student Union sees the student fees as student money undivided into categories as to its source. DAGS sees a certain amount of the fee sum as being graduate student money over which DAGS should have control. The student union will and does provide cash to societies for worthwhile projects and programs but the ultimate control of funding still belongs within the Union. DAGS

wants control over its share of the money (\$10 per student) without any Council control.

Both sides stressed that they were trying to avoid discussion of secession as an option even though the grad students decided at their Monday meeting to hold a referendum on secession. The referendum will be held on December 9 and will include three other questions: to maintain the status quo, to accept the support's committee's latest proposal or to continue demanding a \$10.00 refund on fees.

Though they did not go into detail as to what plans they had for the money they are demanding the grad students are contending that they should not have to approach the Student Union on a monthly basis to request money for their programs. The Student Union maintains that this is not necessary - presumably large projects of a worthwhile nature will be planned well in

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Dr. P.D. Pillay, Director and Rowland Smith, Publications Editor, of the African Studies Centre.