# STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL PRELIMINARY BUDGET, 1968-1969 

The following is a brief summary of the budget proposed by the SRC at the last ouncil meeting. It is printed here to give students an indication of the finar.cial priorities set by their student council, for them.
A cosplete statement will be published by the Brunswickan later this week A complete statement will por or warrant, printing more than a summary at this time.


## Sixty cents worth of civil rights

It was twenty minutes to ine and I had to be at the corner of Fulton and Nostrand by five after. It was raining, the generator had fallen out of my car, and I was on Foster Avenue, sort of in the heart of Flatbush. So I had to get a taxi.
$\qquad$ to an ageless tradition in New York, farther up that wellknown creek then I could ever have imagined, for experience had long taught me that if you even looked dark-skinned you simply did not entertain the idea of getting a taxi in Flatbush. They locked all doors when they saw you coming, and if you got the opportunity to get around to the driver's side he told you he didn't "want to go over there". Then he would speed off before you had time to pull him out the window and beat your civil rights out of him.
Anyway, this night I really needed that taxi, and I decided that regardless of traditions and precedents, I would get one. I stood at the corner of Foster and New York Avenues in the pouring rain. I had fripared myself well for my ture before leaving home.

Two taxis flew by, and I went through the motions of hailing them; both slowed, scowled, and accelerated. Then, as I saw the traffic light turn red, I slinked behind a UPS van and waited as a taxi cruised to a stop at the light. Then I darted out and quickly pulled open the back door. But the light had turned green again, and as the driver took one look at me, he drove off at about 40 miles an hour with the door open, and I was sent reeling up against the curb. was happy it was dark and there were no passersby; it coul have been embarrassing, eve for me.
waited. Oh, we blacks never mind waiting

The light was red and another taxi was coming to a halt. I eased out again, but this time the driver saw me and quickly reached owas ten mined the door. It was ten minutes to nine and the light was still red. I darted around to the driver's side and put my pian into action. I pulled the littie revolver from my pocket and eased it up hehind the left ear of the driver, and with the opened the back door.
"Dig It" I said swinging gun. They would never believe
"Dig It," I said, swinging quickly into a frightening veran inch before I get inside and I'll blow your goddam brains all over the street" over the street.
He froze, and I quickly climbed into the back seat. I put the thing back
coat pocket. He waited.
"Fulton and Nostrand," told him.
old him.
He had regained himself.
"I don't go over there" he said. "I'm on my supper break, mister. I don't want no trouble. I gotta wife and three trouble. 1 gotta wire and to support. Waddya wanta kids to support. Waddya wanta over there."
In exasperation 1 brought out the silly thing again and out the silly thing with it. Besides, there were cars lined up behind us, and they were honking horns and yelling.
"Fulton and Nostrand," I
"Fulton and glancing quickly at said, and glancification card I added an extra "Guinea." He turned off Foster onto New York Avenue and we were on the Avenue
way. H You
"Yay. "You gonna get yourself into a lot of trouble, mister," he said. "You know that?"

I smiled and pocketed my
s in Grants Town, Nassau Bahamas, I thought. Just like in the movies. The big time. New York. Oops! We neared Empire Blvd. and 71st Precinct, nd the driver was slowing down, even though we had the green light. The gun was out again and up behind his ears. It was the first time during the entire episode that I was really frightened. Anyway, he sped past the station, and I settled down again.

Then with childlike curiosity said, "You prejudiced, bossI said,'

He grunted. "Just don't like being forced. You coulda asked me nice."
"You locked your doors," said wearily. "Mister, you realize how many taxi driver ock their doors that way in New York City every day? You know how many black people in New York are waiting at this minute for taxis?"
"You don't force yourself
"The law says you have to
ake me where I want to go
within the city limits."
"A guy can't make money ff you people."

So, the shoe pinched there. laughed. Who would ever think that prejudice could ever be an economic necessity. The poor guy-poor, stupid bastard who probably went diligently to Mass every Sunday, contributed to the Muscular Dystrophy fund, and had a daughter who was exorbitantly
beautiful and loved him very much.

He pulled over at the comer f Fulton and Nostrand. The fare was 85 cents. I gave him the exact change and got out of the cab after easing an extr ollar on the seat next to him He'd find it later, I thought.
I stood near the cab. He ooked at me with all the blood and venom of his ancestors, and as he pulled away he shouted at the top of his lungs: "Nigger! Dirty, rotten niggers all!"

1 smiled, and taking the gun from my pocket, dropped it into an ash can. I had paid 60 cents for it at Woolworth's, and had forgotten to give it to my nephew. I looked at all the beautiful black people scurrying about me in the rain. So many of them bought and used real guns. I assimilated.

