

The following telegram was addressed to all Dalhousie students, care of the Gazette.

CANADIAN NATIONAL • CANADIAN PACIFIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS

EFH596
 EFH597(251257)
 QASS208 47 FR
 TDQC MONCTON NB 1-25 1254P HNE
 AUX ETUDIANTS DE DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITE
 A/S DALHOUSIE GAZETTE A 3H 4J2
 DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY HALIFAX NS
 BT

CANADIAN NATIONAL • CANADIAN PACIFIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS

FELICITATIONS POUR MANIFESTATION DU 24 JANVIER CHEZ LES COUPURES BUDGETAIRES QUI COMMENCENT A SE FAIRE RESSENTIR. PROCHAIN PAS DE L'ADMINISTRATION SERA SANS DOUTE CONTRE LES ETUDIANTS AUGMENTATION DE SCOLARITE. N'ABANDONNEZ PAS LA LUTTE MEME SI LE GOUVERNEMENT ETUDIANT EST AVEUGLE AUX PROBLEMES REELS DES ETUDIANTS.
 LA FEDERATION DES ETUDIANTS DE L'UNIVERSITE DE MONCTON
 PAR JOSEPH LABELLE

Moncton, N.B., January 25
 Students of Dalhousie University
 Halifax

Congratulations on demonstration January 24 about budget cutbacks which are beginning to be felt. The administration's next step will certainly be against the students (tuition increases). Don't give up the fight, even if the student government is blind to the real problems of the students.

Joseph Labelle, for the Federation des Etudiants de l'Universite de Moncton.

AWOL

To the Gazette:

Dear Mr. Chairperson,

It is with grave concern that we find ourselves writing this letter. As you know, during the last six months, student leaders throughout Nova Scotia have worked together

towards a common goal—a voice for the students of this province. In November, this work resulted in the birth of the Students' Union of Nova Scotia. This was done at a conference in Wolfville. Your Students' Union was not represented at this conference. We find it difficult to accept that a university the size of Dalhousie was unable to find at least one student who would be able to attend.

the Dalhousie Gazette

The Dalhousie Gazette is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union. The views expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editor or the staff. We reserve the right to edit material for space or legal reasons, or if it is considered offensive to our readers.

The deadline for advertising is the Friday noon preceding publication. Articles and letters are due Monday noon. No unsigned material will be accepted but anonymity may be granted on request. Letters should not exceed 500 words and must be typed on a 64 character line.

The Dalhousie Gazette, Canada's Oldest College Newspaper, is a founding member of Canadian University Press. Our office is on the third floor of the Student Union Building. Our mailing address is The Dalhousie Gazette, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4J2. Telephone (902) 424-2507. The subscription price is \$9 per year (26 issues). ISSN 0011-5819

Editorial board: Danièle Gauvin, Alan Adams, Matt Adamson, Elissa Barnard, Nigel Allen

Entertainment coordinator: Eric Simpson

Sports coordinator: Micki Martinello

Advertising and business manager: Matt Adamson

Staff for this issue: Gail Picco, Mark Simkins, Valerie Mansour, Brent Melanson, Glenn Walton, Barry Sinervo, Maria Rey, Michael Cormier, Kyle Jolliffe, Marc Allain, Ron Stang, Sheena Masson, Susan Johnson, Chuck Piercey,

Susan MacLeod, donalee moulton
 Steve Trussoni, Mike Burns, Judi Rice,
 Richard Samuel, Bobby Pinto and
 John McLeod.

It is our understanding that the Students' Council at Dalhousie has approved in principle this new organization. If this is true, it is only natural to expect participation in SUNS. However, this has not happened to date. This very weekend, SUNS met at Université Ste. Anne for the purpose of organizing our efforts in opposing the seem-

my education.

I pay a great deal of my hard-earned money to attend this university and while I am saddened and angered at the Administration's actions during the strike, I am furious at not being allowed in a building for classes that I pay all too dearly for. The two actions are equally immoral and deplorable. As a student, I am

torialization is NOT reporting; it has its place, but not in the quantities offered.

Because of the greater circulation of the Gazette than the University News, the pro-strike faction had a field day. I feel that I must try to give you this student's views and opinions, or at least a capsulated version of the same.

The first thing I would like to comment on is the (doubtless rushed due to deadlines) report on the "student support of the picketers"—the students' failure to attend classes. Sure, there may have been a few supporters, but the massive absenteeism is better explained by students deciding, for one reason or another, to take a five day weekend. Why go to class when it may be cancelled and you need only skip Thursday to have a mid January break? Also, the things that have occurred elsewhere when people crossed picket lines may have had the effect of helping the students to decide that the better part of valor is the most attractive course. What these people failed to realize is that the strikers are still the same ones that were out there before. They would not change who or what they were just because of a slight change in tactics.

The strikers' flashy slogan "the right to strike" is another interesting case. Granted, as a union, they have a legal right to carry out a strike; however, most students failed to realize their own rights. They have a legal right to either cross or not cross picket lines at their own discretion, provided they did not have to push through the line. Where the line was spread out, or (as was my experience with the line around the one building that I had classes in) not too militant about stopping everyone, this was the correct course. Where this was impossible, the concept of going around the line was best. The picketers are (were) not allowed on University property as long as they were on strike. All you need do is find a clear area to cross to the lawn nearest the building, and cross. Once on Dal property, unless you were an absolute idiot and tried to provoke something, you would be legally safe. Any threats could result in a case of assault, and any physical molesting is a case of battery. After talking with most of the law students I know, I can say that this is pretty much the way the law goes.

The only further note to add would be that trying to force your way through a solid line of people, by car or otherwise, would constitute provocation, giving the picketer the legal right to self-defence.

In closing, I would like to say that a student who wished to go to classes could have, if he/she had known their legal rights. As they pay about \$3000 per year to do so, I feel that they would be wasting their money not to do so, and judging from the number of previously pro C.U.P.E. people I know that have turned against the union, although not necessarily the strikers, I feel that there is a very good chance that you no longer

continued on page 6

Letters

ingly inevitable tuition fee increase. Once again, Dalhousie was not represented. Once again, over 7000 students have not been able to express their concerns. This is a discouraging situation.

It appears that your Council has not been properly informed about the activities of SUNS.

The time has come for Council to find solutions to this serious problem. It is our view that it would be extremely detrimental to the interests of Dal students if their student leaders do not make an effort to guarantee representation at future SUNS meetings. We are all students. It is only by working together that we may effectively address our common concerns.

We remain...

Yours sincerely,
B.J. Arseneault
 on behalf of SUNS...
 College of Cape Breton
 St. Francis Xavier University
 St. Mary's University
 Acadia University
 King's College
 Mount St. Vincent University
 Université Ste. Anne

Neutrals

To the Gazette,

Both sides of the CUPE strike have been printed and argued time and time again. However, the third side, the silent majority, has not been examined.

This third side is that of the neutral. Many of us see much good and much bad in the arguments of the Union and the Administration. A recent Union pamphlet claimed that if you crossed the picket line you are 'for' the Administration, or if you stayed outside the picket line, you are for the Union. Neither is true. If I am for anyone in this strike, it is

becoming the victim in a battle not of my making nor of my choosing.

In addition, I dislike being used. The Administration encourages me to cross picket lines and do my own cleaning while on campus. On the other hand, the Union urges me to join their picket line. If all else fails, bring on the students because they sure build up the size of a crowd for the TV cameras. I am disgusted with the attitude of both groups. This strike has degenerated into a name-calling match and a contest to see whose name makes the news most often—Hicks or Cunningham.

I really don't care who wins or who loses. All I care about is getting my education. Granted, this is a selfish attitude, but get me through my final exams and papers, and I'll worry and care about every single moral question raised by this strike. By June, I might even be ready to worry about Biafra, and Uganda, and at least two of Idi Amin's wives.

Won't someone please start an Inaction group for us neutrals?
 Joan Astle

Objectivity

To the Gazette:

Your articles about the C.U.P.E., local 1392 strike have caught my eye for the last several issues. However, I find myself taking a much different view than yours.

Basically, what I disagreed with were the absolute "support the strikers, down with management" line of so many of them. Proper journalism requires objectivity—a commodity sadly lacking in so much of the campus press coverage of the strike. Edi-

Council Elections

Nominations have been re-opened for teams running for **President and Vice-president** of the Student Union. Other positions open on Council are:

Arts 2	Pharmacy 1
Dentistry 1	Science 2
Medicine 1	Senate 2
Nursing 1	Law 1

Nominations close Friday (Feb 2) at 5:00

People interested in working the polling stations (Feb 14) 8:30-6:00 contact Election Chairperson Tab Borden—council offices 2nd floor SUB.