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## N.U.S. Supports Your Pocketbook

SASKATOON (CUP) - The National Union of Students (NUS) has decided to launch a campus-directed campaign on student aid in Canada.

At a three-day conference held in Saskatoon on October 11-14, the 60 NUS delegates discussed the possibility of a "student campaign." The campaign's purpose is to increase the student loan and grant ceilings in order to make a university education more accessible to the poor sections of the Canadian population.

It was decided that this year's campaign should be more campus orientated since each institution would want to handle its campaign in different ways.

NUS also wants campaigning to take place on all campuses in Canada, not just the 23 post-secondary institutions that belong to NUS. With a Canada-wide, all-campus campaign, all students will benefit and NUS will prove to be the voice of all students.

Specific suggestions for the campaign included informational pamphlets, posters, public debates, setting up campus committees, and

students press coverage. Most of the delegates agreed that there was a need for a grass roots approach - discovering what the students felt. And that information should be exchanged between campuses on the student aid campaign and student response.

A lobby campaign conducted in the past few months by the Central Committee of NUS was felt to be only partially successful. The lobby consisted of letter-writing and presenting briefs to government officials asking that students be allowed to deduct student fees and educational materials from income tax and that students be granted an increased deduction for the cost of living allowances.

NUS and the two national students unions that preceded it, NFCUS and CUS were and are concerned with the problems of student financial aid.

CUS was partly responsible for the implementation of the Canada Student Loans Programme (CSLP). However, the CSLP is unsatisfactory in many ways and NUS, with its campaign, hopes to have changes made. Their main desire is to have

financial aid programmes standardized across the country.

This would require federal administration of the CSLP instead of the current ten provincial administered programmes. Standardization of the CSLP would hopefully eliminate regional disparity.

A motion was passed calling for increased student aid, via additional grants - not loans, thus reducing students' total liability for educational debts and encouraging students from lower class backgrounds to attend university without fear of huge debts to pay back after graduation.

Other motions passed included: reducing the age of independence to 18 for student loans; tying the student aid programme to a cost of living index; subsidizing the interest rates on student loans and making part-time students eligible for student loans.

One problem facing NUS is a lack of money. A motion was passed that fees be raised from 30 cents per student to \$1 per student. Some concern was expressed over this increase in that delegates felt a fee increase referendum (required by the

student unions' constitutions) would not pass on their campuses.

However, it was pointed out that the Ontario Federation of Students has recently raised its fees from 40 cents to \$1.50 per student with six out of seven campus referendums being successful.

Another problem facing NUS is its low membership. Only about one-quarter of Canadian post-secondary institutions are members of NUS and no Quebec institutions are represented. NUS is attempting to resolve the problem by conducting an accessibility campaign on student aid - a subject which touches all students, and secondly by negotiating with the Francophone institutions.

The next NUS general meeting, to be held in May 1975 at Glendon College will deal specifically with the Francophone question.

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## Purdy purdy darn good

by John Pritchard

I like Al Purdy! His gross sense of the ridiculous appeals. A clown from the start, Purdy pulls up his baggy pants, lights up half a cigar and starts his rap. Great clouds of smoke are quickly drawn up and away by the efficient air conditioning of Seton Academic Centre, the only thing about that "palace" that was efficient! Somehow the cafeteria never got the message to serve coffee in the faculty lounge.

Purdy told us he was bored as this was the sixth reading in a series, and although his delivery was "low key", you try reading aloud with a cigar in the corner of your mouth, he proved to be anything but boring!

Unfortunately I did not have the means to invite Purdy out for a drink, and Zigler had him in conversation most of the time. However I did reminisce briefly with him of Wards Island (Toronto 1960), of Milton Acon when he was still married to Gwendolen McQueen, and of a girl named "Vickey". In those days Purdy could not afford

to stay in Toronto, but would drop into the Bohemian Embassy once in a while to share his wit with us before retreating to "where is it?", Ameliasburg, Ontario.

Henry and Gerry should have been there to give Purdy the red-carpet treatment, even though he is self-professed N.D.P.! Purdy

enjoys Canada and is truly well-deserving of all monies flowing to him from Canada Council. Anyone who went at the invitation of Castro to Cuba, and sat in the shade rapping with Pierre "The Prince", before the latter went into politics, deserves a better reception than what was accorded!

### U OF MANITOBA STUDENTS TO PETITION PROVINCE ON STUDENT AID

WINNIPEG (CUP) -- The University of Manitoba Students' Union plans to prod the provincial government into action on the current state of the student aid program.

A petition being circulated by the UMSU Academic Affairs Commission is asking for study into the two areas of concern: the long processing time for loans and bursaries, and the inequities that result from the criteria currently used for selection.

The late arrival of many student loans has been a perennial complaint of appli-

cants. Paul Graham, Academic Affairs Commissioner, claims that as of last week 1,000 tuition fee payments have had to be deferred because the expected government vouchers have not arrived.

As well, Graham speculated, "many students who have paid their tuition out of their own summer earnings expecting to receive aid early in the academic year, must be getting hungry by now."

He also questioned the validity of the criteria used to determine an applicant's eligibility.

At present, students are listed as 'dependent' if they live at home and 'independent' if the don't. Dependent students are expected to receive support from their parents and therefore receive less money from the government.

Graham holds that there are many students living at home whose parents "cannot or will not pay their tuition," and who consequently, "receive not enough or no aid at all."

There are also, he said, "obvious cases of students receiving aid that is totally unnecessary," resulting in, "rip-offs of students and taxpayers."

"We want a study to come up with some more realistic criteria."

The provincial government, is a press release said that much of the delay was due to students filling out their forms incorrectly and to the larger number (15,184) of applicants this year. Last year there were 11,000.

Universities Minister Ben Hanuschak said he expects all current applications to be processed within three of four weeks. Only 9,400 applications have received replies so far. More information is being sought for 1,400 others.

## Who Moved The Decimal Point ?

BIG BOSSES GET BIG RAISES--LIKE \$102.35 an hour

OTTAWA (CUP) - Most workers feel if they could negotiate a wage increase of \$102.35 a month they would be doing pretty well. How about an increase of \$102.35 an hour?

That was the boost Robert Helman, president

of American Brands got recently when his salary jumped from \$87,000 to \$299,897 a year.

But he's just a piker when it comes to some salary increases.

Chairman John DeButts of American Telephone and Telegraph, was rewarded for his loyal service with an increase from a paltry \$80,000 to a more respect-

able \$325,000 or an hourly increase of \$117.78.

Less flashy increases went to Chrysler's Lynn Townsend, who went from \$311,000 to \$393,000 or a mere \$39.74 an hour increase; and Rockwell International's Willard Rockwell, who got \$54.32 more for every one of the 2,080 hours he may have toiled...up to \$432,333 from

\$310,330.

But the smallest increase was given to the man with the biggest salary-- Harold Geneen of IT&T.

Poor Harold only got a .42 cent an hour increase. But that left him with an hourly rate of \$391.48 and a year's total of \$814,288... and a man could live on that.