

Forestell says**Bad management and slow repairs hindering Co-op**

By FORREST ORSER

"The downtown co-ops have not received a fair share of up keep," says Brunswick House Manager Peter Forestell.

On November 1 the New Brunswick Residence Co-operative limited divested itself of its interest in the Montgomery Street Co-op. Now the organization owns only three houses, in downtown Fredericton.

Forestell feels that while the Co-op organization was responsible for the Montgomery street buildings, the downtown houses were allowed to run down since the Montgomery street buildings needed so much attention.

Forestell complains of generally poor management and in particular of slowness in making repairs.

He points out that at the present time a number of repairs have to be made, including fixing a leaking roof and replacing the plaster of a ceiling.

"Several years ago the wiring in two of the three houses was condemned, and nothing was done about it," says Ann Peters, a member of the Co-op Board of Directors.

Peters forsee a great deal of difficulty in keeping the houses going, and feels they may have to be sold one by one so the organization can meet expenses.

Peters feels that in the past there has been a lack of communication between the Co-op Board of Directors and the downtown residents.

A new Board of Directors, consisting mainly of residents of the downtown houses, will in the future be managing the affairs of these houses.

In Peter's opinion very little has been done by the former Board of Directors to prepare these residents for running their own affairs.

"I don't think the downtown houses are going to be left out in the cold," says Co-op General Manager Mike Robertson.

Robertson says that in the past the downtown houses have their own financially, and feels that unless some large unexpected expense comes up, these houses will be able to survive.

He admits that repairs have not been made as soon as they were needed, but points out that there was a limited amount of money to work with.

The downtown houses are not in perfect condition, Robertson says, but the Montgomery Street building also need a great deal of repair.

He does not feel that the downtown houses have in any way subsidized the Montgomery Street Co-op and points out that by taking over these buildings the University of New Brunswick is accepting a loss of ten thousand dollars.



Photo by Ron Ward

Brunswick House Manager Peter Forrestal claims that the downtown co-ops need repairs and better management.

Hatfield speaks at Aitken

By DERWINGOWAN

Cynicism and a failure to realize that people in society are interdependent on one another is the basic problems with today's society, according to Premier Richard Hatfield. Hatfield was the guest speaker at an Aitken House dinner. The house dinner was Friday, October 22 at McConnell Hall.

The dinner began at 6:30 and lasted for over an hour. The Premier then mingled and talked with the residents of Aitken House.

During the discussions after dinner some of the major topics

discussed included Maritime union. Although he agrees with it in principle, Hatfield believes it will not come about for sometime yet.

The idea of recycling waste paper was brought up. The premier believed this to be economically unfeasible.

Hatfield also mentioned that in his opinion N.B. has the best telephone service in North America, and likely one of the best in the whole world.

Other topics discussed were capital punishment, the then upcoming Quebec Election, highways in the provinces and agriculture in the province.

Student injured at Murray House

By KEN CORBETT

Mary Philpott, a UNB law student, was slightly injured when a section of the plaster covering the ceiling of her room in Murray House fell on her Tuesday night. Murray House is a university ladies residence on the corner of Church and George streets.

A large chunk of plaster weighing about 25 lbs. came loose and struck her directly on the top of the head while she was sitting at her desk. She was immediately taken to the hospital where she was found to have no serious injuries.

Employees from the service building were on hand early Wednesday morning to assess the damage and begin repairs. Although the room had been painted shortly before, the ceiling had not been taken care of at that time.

A house staff member stated that as a result of the accident all ceilings in Murray House will be examined.

Besides the condition of the

ceilings, other shortcomings pose possible safety hazards to the health of Murray House residents.

Students have complained about the only half-built fire escape. Its steps lead out into thin air about 20 feet above the ground. The wiring and heating systems have been

described as unsafe and inadequate. These problems may be due to the advanced age of the structure.

Philpott today stated that although she was somewhat shaken up the only injuries she had were a stiff neck and a sore head.

STU CP's back to work

By TOM BENJAMIN

Norm Delano, chief of the STU campus police, stated his force has returned to work after submitting their resignations last week.

He said conflict arose with their SRC after a "series of foul-ups" concerning a pub on Oct. 20. The CP's received a great deal of criticism on the operation of the pub.

Later in the week the CP's submitted their resignations after

a meeting with their SRC.

Delano said their SRC "came down to reality" at another meeting held Oct. 26.

An agreement was made to "play it fair, and talk things over" said Delano.

A committee will be set up to ensure co-operation. It will have members from the SRC, the CP's, and the student body.

The CP's were given a raise and promised a bonus at the end of the year.

New minimum wage set for 1974

By MYRNA RUEST

The Employment Standards Advisory Board of New Brunswick has arrived at a new minimum wage standard for 1974-75.

The Minimum Wage Act applies to all employers and employees in the Province of New Brunswick.

Previous minimum wages were \$1.40 per hour for all employees except those under the age of eighteen and those employed as waitresses, waiters, bellboys, doormen and assistant bell captains. For these latter two categories the minimum wage is presently \$1.35 per hour. The new minimum wage will be \$1.75 per hour for the first category and \$1.65 per hour for the second two categories.

The New Minimum Wage Act has also changed the number of hours an employee can work before requiring overtime pay. Presently an employee worked 48 hours before overtime pay was

available. After January 1, 1974 a working week will consist of 44 hours and then over time must be paid.

If the employer furnishes board and lodging the employer will not be able to deduct more than \$250 per day or more than \$.85 per meal.

The new Minimum Wage Act must be posted by all employers for employee referral.

According to Employment Standards Officer, H.K.C. Mersereau there are several ways for an employee to get results if he feels he is being unfairly treated monetarily.

Wages paid to piece workers will be no less than the minimum wage for the number of hours worked. Employees who do not work a normal week and are not paid on a commission basis shall not receive less than \$77. per week after January 1, 1974.

The most common method is for the employee to submit a complaint to the Employment Standards Branch. The employees

name can be kept in confidence if he wishes. The Employment Standards Branch will then send an Inspector to carry out a routine payroll inspection.

If an underpayment is found the employer can either make up the deficit or the case will be handed on to the Department of Justice and legal action is taken.

Last year 2,985 Inquires were made and there were 266 complaints from employees. Four hundred and eighty-three investigations were carried out and 593 employees were affected. The amount of monies recovered was \$25,560.03. Mersereau said that misunderstanding of the minimum wage act by the employee was the prime reason for violation.

There are very few Employment Standards Insepectors in N.B. and as a result unless a complaint is made by an employee the violation of the Minimum Wage Act might go unchecked.

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Brunswickan
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