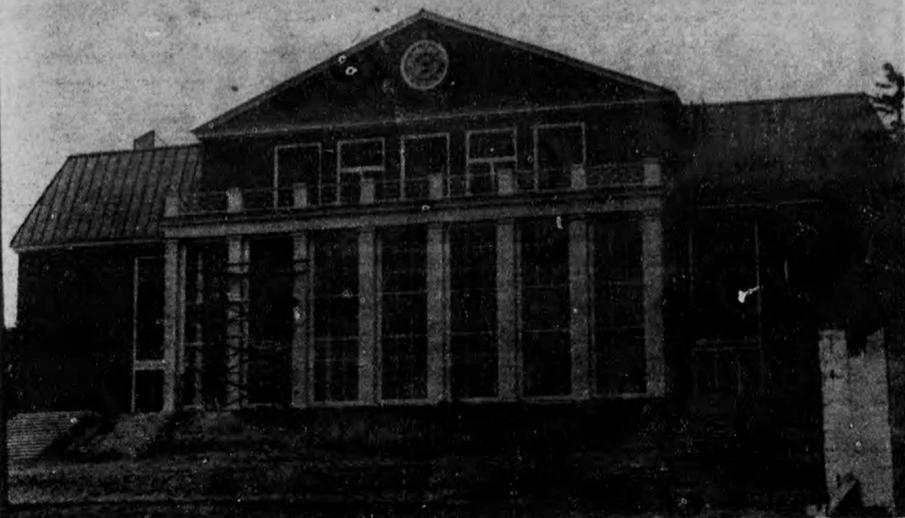


UP AGAINST THE WALL

Student power in Canada and around the world

by Roger Bakes



A late Christmas present for the campus, the SUB will hopefully be completed in January. A few errors, such as a lack of plumbing in some areas, and an extra wall here and there, have slowed things up, but then, anybody can make a mistake.

No sinks, no seats, no students -- SUB should open in January

Fantastic fubars have delayed general use of the Student Union Building for some time.

"The furniture was ordered only a week ago," said Gary Davis, acting chairman of the SUB Board of Directors. "Last year's SUB committee was given quotes on furniture last November. They forgot to order"

There are a number of structural defects in the building. The barbershop is still minus all plumbing. The Brunswickan darkroom is minus sink. The darkroom has only one door instead of the two required to prevent light leaks into the room. And that one door is outside in the hall rather than leading into the Brunswickan office next door.

Radio UNB Foiled

Radio UNB was to have one of its studio windows overlooking the SRC chamber. There was supposed to be a portable wall at one end of the chamber. When the wall was in, the space was to be used as a music-listening room. When the wall was out, Radio UNB announcers could have a view of SRC meetings in the chamber. But a solid wall has been put

in and Radio UNB has a first-rate view of the music-listening room.

There are no washrooms in the office wing of the building. There are only staircases leading to and from all the entrances and exits, but no ramps. This is of little service to people on crutches and in wheelchairs.

The whole building should be open in January. The office wing will be open in October.

The cafeteria in the central wing is divided into two areas. The tables and booths in the main dining area seat 250 students. There is seating for 150 behind the dining hall. Two doors lead from the hall to the patio.

"This will provide a pleasant dining atmosphere in the spring and summer," said Davis.

There is a coffeeshop which is as large as the dining area in the Memorial Students' Center. "It will remain open until 2 a.m., or as long as anyone is there," said Davis.

Two small dining rooms will be reserved for formal and informal occasions for small groups or clubs. One has a capacity for 60 and the other 30 students.

The confectionary shop, dry

cleaning depot, barbershop, billiards room, two TV rooms and a spacious lounge are on the second floor.

The ballroom is on the third floor. The ballroom's outdoor balcony is inaccessible because insurance against accidents on the balcony is too high.

SUB Administration

The acting board is presently writing a constitution for the functioning of the building.

According to present plans, a board of governors will manage the building. There are four UNB students, two from TC and two from Saint Thomas on the board. The students will be chosen by the SCR's of their respective institutions. There are also two UNB administration reps.

The board will be independent of the SRC's and of the administrations.

Students will form a program committee whose terms of reference are set by the board. The board will also hire full-time managers for the building.

Students chose the surprising exterior design, Georgian brick, from a choice of two red-brick designs.

Glendon tries free-learning school

TORONTO (CUP)—Academic Dean H.S. Harris and student union president Jim Park debated Wednesday (Sept. 11) at Toronto's Glendon College while over 350 students and professors argued about whether the formal course structure really helps students to learn.

It was all part of Glendon's new approach to freshmen orientation called "Liber'ation '68" by student organizers.

The people-generated classes would be open seminars for any member of the college whether administration, faculty or student, he said. They would not be evaluated and their content would be controlled by each class's members.

Since Monday the union has suggested to Glendon undergraduates, especially freshmen, delaying enrolment in courses until they had experimented with the union sponsored people-generated classes and so the variety of straight courses in the Glendon curricu-

lum. According to university regulations it is possible to change courses until Oct. 15, and the union officers reason that it would be safe for students to delay enrolment also until that date.

"We're not urging people to boycott classes or walk out of classes," said Park. "We're asking people to question the way they are being taught, and to be prepared to participate in a freer environment."

Approximately 50 per cent of the college's faculty of 70 participated in the meeting. In some cases, they seemed to be more favorable to the students union proposals than some of the students.

At one point, Michael Gregory, chairman of the Glendon English department lashed out at a freshman who had sarcastically questioned the difference between courses laid down by the administration and people-generated classes.

Gregory replied angrily, "If people here — students and faculty — want to set up an alternative to what we have, the idea has to come from some people. In this case, the officers of the union have been the ones who have started to generate ideas for viable alternatives first."

At the close of the meeting, union president Jim Park said the union had achieved the main part of what they had set out to do in "Liber'ation" week.

Registrations started Wednesday and although Park has been trying to get students to delay this act he did not sound disappointed when he said he expected most students to enroll in courses according to schedule and tradition.

"We have accomplished the most important thing," said Park. "We are now starting to think, really think, about education and its role in corporate society."

The annual Congress of the Canadian Union of Students at Guelph last week produced major policy statements and a four-point program dealing with student autonomy or Student Power. The four-point program concerned itself with the restructuring of university government:

"The Canadian Union of Students, in its efforts to democratize the university, asserts that:

(1) Students must have effective control over all decision-making bodies in the university and that faculty and university employees should have adequate representation.

(2) Other members of the above-mentioned body must be representative of all social-economic strata.

(3) Department heads must be elected by all members of the department concerned, including students, who should be eligible for this office as well.

(4) All decision-making within the university must be open and any closed decisions must be publicly justified."

One resolution called for "an end to all advisory committees of students without direct decision-making power, and to student participation as a minority of any decision-making group. Students must form their own committees, articulate their own demands, and engage in bargaining with the administration and/or faculty controlled bodies.

Openness of meetings, equal access to information, and abolition of the Board of Governors were also demanded.

The CUS resolutions indicate that the time for change is now — this year. President Claude Bissell of the University of Toronto sees things slightly different. He feels universities in Canada have about two years to keep ahead of student power. Bissell expects marches and sit-ins rather than rioting.

Since Canada is not militarily involved in Viet Nam and has no major racial problems, student demonstration will not have the same emotional involvement of their American counterparts.

Bissell feels that Universities ought to be aware of student complaints and demands before they manifest themselves in a violent manner.

He says, "If the university accepts solutions under duress it is co-operating in its own undoing."

Bissell also says concerned students belong to two groups. One is made up of "fanatically committed members" whom Bissell calls extremists or saboteurs; the other is a less radical group of activists.

He emphasized the importance of the activist group to the university, saying, "The only thing to fear is apathy and indecision."

This was the world situation this summer regarding student unrest:

Argentina — Students struck on the 15th of June, the day which gave birth to university reforms. The Argentina police for University reforms. The Argentina police were placed in the alert at the end of June after many massive protests on the part of students in various cities.

Peru — A 24 hour strike at all universities was called this summer by the National Union of the Peruvian Students in a show of support for San Marcos' University's student government and the whole student body. These associations had demanded resignations of the vicerector who is said to be responsible for various irregularities in the final examinations.

There was also violence in Lima when students protested a budget cut on the part of the government.

Italy — There were four major riots in eight days as police stormed over three Universities and chased out several hundred students and artists who have been occupying the buildings in a protest against government inaction on proposed reform measures.

Japan — 50,000 students at Ankara University barricaded themselves in University buildings. Deans postponed exams and said they would review the students' demands. Student leaders declared that their demands dealt with University matters only;

Uruguay — A state of siege was declared at the beginning of June for all of Uruguay in order to control the wave of protests by students and work stoppages in the public sector. A large number of students and workers were injured and more than 100 were arrested.

Brazil — A thousand high school and university students fought with police in downtown Rio on June 19 in a demonstration for more funds. On June 23, Federal authorities indefinitely suspended classes for all 16,500 students at Rio de Janeiro University. All state high schools were closed.

Columbia — Soldiers equipped with tank trucks invaded the University of Bogota at the beginning of June in order to suppress the protests of students that had been taking place since the arrest of their fellow students. The student demonstration at the same time for the application of University reform. Professors and labor unions protested against the measures employed by the government leading up to a confrontation of the students and the army. More than 20 have been injured and 150 have been arrested up to this point; three army cars were set on fire.