

Politicians flout AIB rules

by Mike Marshall

On September 13, 1976, Liberal Senators Irv Barrow and Henry Hicks, trustees of the Liberal trust fund known as the Hawco Agency, agreed to bestow an additional secret payment of \$3,000 upon Liberal Premier Gerald Regan, in clear violation of the spirit of the Liberal Anti-Inflation Programme all three men were publicly committed to supporting.

Two weeks later, the Dalhousie Board of Governors—including Hicks, and the other Liberal fund trustee, Frank M. Covert,—decided to force Dal cleaners to payback \$400 each

guidelines and that all Nova Scotians must suffer a little to beat inflation. Betty Warrell, Vice-president of one Local of CUPE hospital workers at the time, was not surprised to learn how Regan had "suffered" through the AIB years.

"Thems that has, gets," she said bitterly.

Halifax journalist Ralph Surette, who had plenty of opportunities to observe the Regan style in his years of Premier, said it was typical of Regan to claim publicly that he was totally behind the Anti-Inflation program and then ask his supporters for an additional \$3,000 to fight inflation.

public but some of his get-togethers, such as one for the New England Governors at Digby Pines, left even Liberal Premier Alex Campbell complaining about the extravagance."

When contacted, President Hicks was surprised that the Regan payment might have been against the spirit of the AIB, but admitted he personally had never liked the fact that federal politicians get automatic pay increases, even at times when they were demanding that lower paid Canadians tighten their belts. He felt that all should suffer—"If we have got to fight inflation, the shoe should pinch somewhere." But he admits that he has never given back his senatorial increments, in the spirit of such public sacrifice.

Hawco trustees Barrow and Covert were both 'out of country' and could not be reached for comment.

Comment

in an Anti-Inflation Board (AIB) ordered rollback because, according to Hicks, you have to "play the game according to the letter of the law and the spirit of the law. Whether you like the law or not, you have to obey it."

Al Cunningham, negotiator for the cleaners' CUPE local 1392, remembers the game and the way it was played then, all right. "Publicly the University was all sympathy for the poor cleaners having to pay back the money when most were making about \$7,000. But when we found a way through the AIB rules to save some of the money in private, their negotiating team refused to go along until we finally got the AIB to come down and prove it could be done. He said the University made it clear it wanted the cleaners' paybacks to go towards the new Dalplex."

Supposedly the AIB Program was to hit hardest on high income people such as Premier Regan and make special exceptions for people like the Dal cleaners, some of whom were being paid half the wages of municipal workers in Halifax. Instead this rollback was the first of several frustrations culminating in a long, bitter strike.

Nova Scotia's CUPE hospital workers were also supposed to be exceptions to the AIB guidelines. After all, they were the poorest paid hospital workers in Canada, making \$270 less a month than their counterparts in New Brunswick. One typical employee had worked at the hospitals for 26 years and was making \$2.71. He brought home \$386 a month after deductions and on this had to feed a family of six.

All through the summer of 1976 they fought the Regan government in a long strike that caught the public's sympathy because of the imaginative ways the workers brought their plight home to the Cabinet. But Regan claimed he could not offer more because of the AIB

"He always liked to play the poor boy from Windsor in

Violent sick joke

by Pam Berman
of the Dalhousie Gazette

"Such things as ogling, bum pinching and catcalls are really just lesser forms of rape. . . and they have far reaching ramifications that extend beyond the walls of Howe Hall."

—Mary Cann,
a Dalhousie student

For those of you who feel that the "Cameron House woman give-away" and the Dal Engineers' planned "Stag and Stein" strip show are just isolated incidents of high spirited male 'fun' and are not worth harping on about, think again.

Dalhousie is not the only university that has experienced such things as strip shows and strippers being drawn for a door prize. Engineers on campuses across the country have arranged activities and published papers that have deliberately flaunted sexist attitudes as well as obnoxious, crude, and invariably violent acts towards women.

Yes, violent. Underlying all those so-called jokes and 'humorous' male activities is a violence that not only creates vulgarity and pornography but rape and wife beating. The victims of rape and battered wives are the result of a society that permits the degradation of women. This occurs in a variety of ways, including pornography no matter how soft or hard core the porn manages to get.

One instance of the kind of hard core pornography that undermines the status of women has just been unleashed at Acadia University. The Acadia Engineers decided to copy some of their fellow Canadian engineers and put together a paper that totally demeans women in every way. Titled the "Godiva Spread"

the paper has exactly that on the front page and goes downhill from there.

The article (one of the milder items) on the "Stress Analysis of a Strapless Evening Gown" depicts women as nothing more than mindless bodies dressed up to lure and trap men. Besides dehumanizing women, the entire page shows the engineers as being only interested in the determination of the size of a woman's breast and sadly reflects the emphasis that society as a whole places on a body.

The importance that is placed on women's bodies instead of their intelligence or creative abilities is exemplified within the job market. A woman who will strip for a living is paid three times as much as a woman who works in a bank or an office. This preference for naked women instead of career women is in reality a preference for the total domination of women whether they are in the home or out in the work force.

This same attitude of domination and aggression holds back the legislation on 'equal pay for work of equal value', a better child care system for working mothers and strengthens sex stereotyping of jobs. It begins by turning off women from entering into certain fields of study such as engineering because of openly hostile and sexist viewpoints and ends up in a total bias against women in those careers.

Sexist incidents, such as the Acadia Engineers' paper and Dalhousie's strip show craze, occurring across the country on a number of universities are nothing less than the rape of women's rights. Attitudes that allow the dehumanization of women by approving or condoning this behavior ex-

WANT TO TRAVEL CHEAPLY?

Hostels provide one of the most inexpensive forms of accommodation, and you can have access to 4500 of them in 50 countries.

International Hostel Memberships can be obtained at the CUTS Travel Office, Dalhousie SUB, or at:

The CANADIAN
HOSTELLING ASSOCIATION
6260 Quinpool Road, Hfx.
Tel: 423-8736

CONTACT THE C.H.A. IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED IN ANY KIND OF OUT-
DOOR
ADVENTURE TRIPS

SELL YOUR BOOKS

CLOTH OR PAPER
WHETHER USED ON
THIS CAMPUS OR NOT.

WE WILL BUY
ALL TITLES HAVING
RESALE MARKET VALUE.

SELL THEM AT:
THE UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
WED., THURS., FRI.,
APRIL 16 to 18, 4 am - 4 pm.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

SUMMER LANGUAGE
BURSARY PROGRAM
MAY 14 - JUNE 25

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

invites you to participate in a unique bilingual atmosphere while visiting the Canadian West.

The Department of the Secretary of State offers bursaries to full-time students for the study of French or English as a second language.

For information and application form, write to:

Mr. J. Roland AuCoin
Assistant Director, French Curriculum
Youth Education
Department of Education
Box 578 - Trade Mart Building
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2S9

