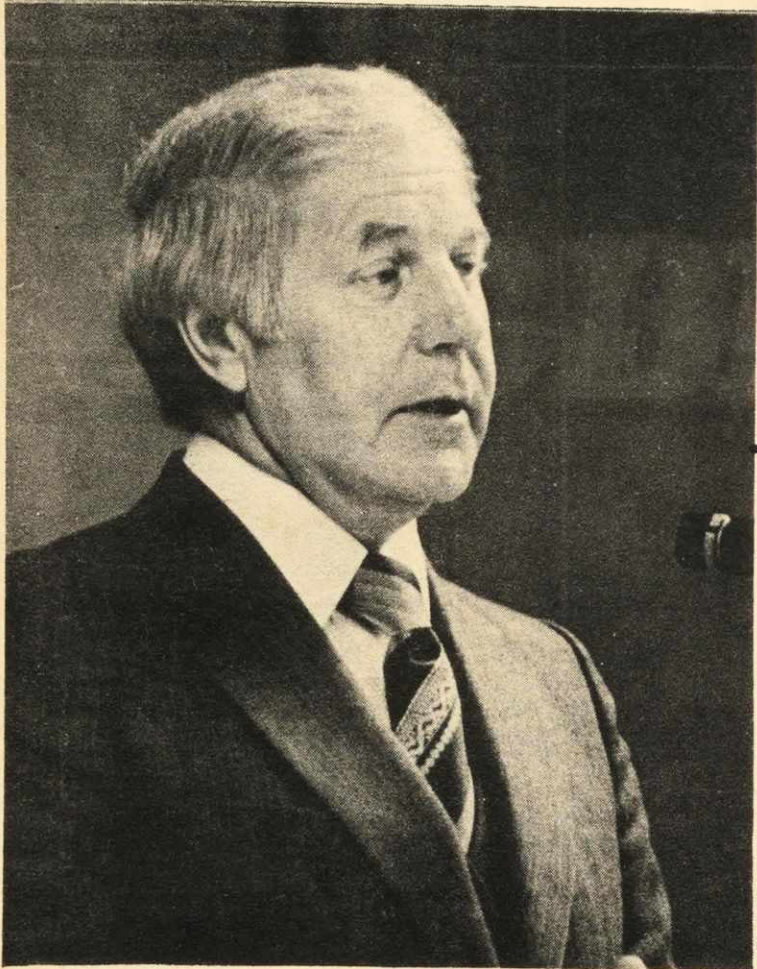


Everybody's doing it



Dal Photo / Deyal

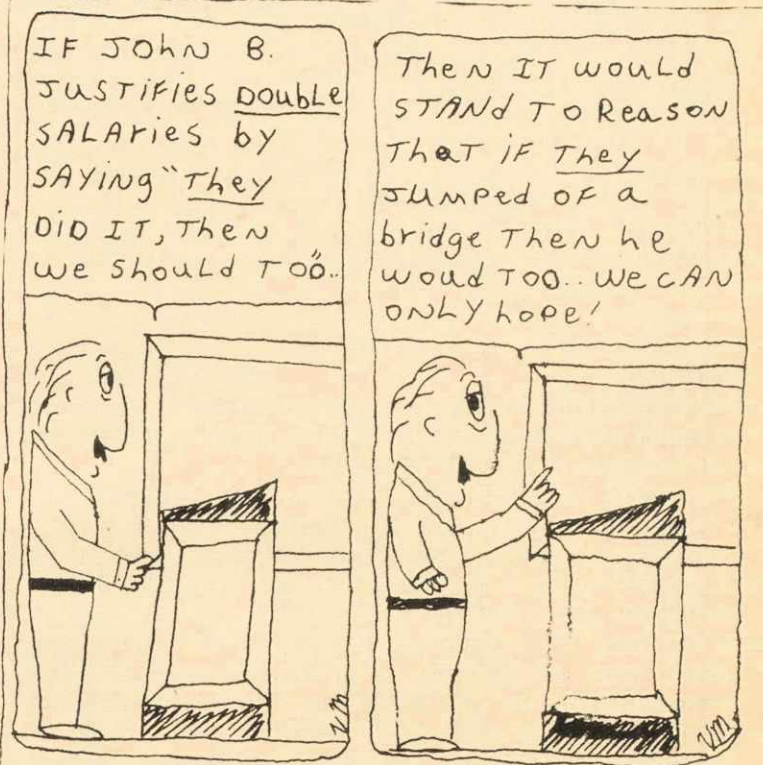
by Alan Adams

Premier John Buchanan said his government will not take unilateral action to ensure that double salaries will not happen again until recommendations are brought down from a commission studying the present legislation.

Speaking at the Law Hour last Thursday Buchanan said "we cannot do anything until the commission recommends what actions should be taken. Only then will we amend the House of Assembly Act which determines salaries." He added "it's not a great deal of money in the overall term and in other provinces it has happened."

Buchanan reiterated his government's funding levels saying "it is a much different situation this year than last." When asked how the province of New Brunswick can contribute more to post secondary education than Nova Scotia Buchanan replied "it is a very difficult thing to convince anyone we should contribute \$30 million more than New Brunswick. I seriously believe the quality of education is a priority of this government. We haven't any intention of eroding the quality of education. Hell, I'm a product of this educational system."

Buchanan indicated that as soon as the individual universities say how much tuition will rise next year "we will



implement a geared up student summer employment programme and student loan programme." He added there has been some problems with the student loan programme in the past and his government "will carry out a commission into the streamlining of this." Buchanan did not elaborate on this.

When questioned about the political firings that have occurred since his government took office he replied "let's

put something in perspective. It is important to understand that in 1970 over 600 people were fired. We complained but were told it was part of the system." Buchanan cited one particular case where a Department of Highways foreman had been the election campaign manager of the Liberal candidate. He justified his firing saying "that man will do everything he can to undermine this government and we can't have that."

Government's response

by Wayne Setter

In response to Premier Buchanan's promises of a geared up student employment programme and an increase in the student aid programme, the *Gazette* contacted the Deputy Minister of Development Bob Carity and Deputy Minister of Education Carmen Moir concerning his proposals

Deputy Minister Carity remarked that there has been no recent student employment programme introduced as far as he knew. He did indicate however there exists a Provincial Employment Programme implemented last fall under the Liberal government

which "boasts a 50% increase of job opportunities and a 40% increase of job tenure resulting in a possible 65% increase of working wages."

Deputy Minister of Education Moir stated that his department is presently monitoring tuition fees for the coming year in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia in order to assess the differences which will be picked up by the bursary portion of the student aid. Moir did not mention if a restructure of the parent's contribution is under consideration nor if income levels of families will be changed for the amount awarded.

Tight squeeze

Graduates will be squeezing into the Cohn this spring with a maximum of only three guests per student because of the Dalhousie rink fire.

The Cohn, now the biggest auditorium on campus, has seating capacity of 1,041, and of a possible 100 on the stage itself. All other alternative locations discussed were rejected by Senate.

The BA convocation at 2 p.m., May 11, and the B.Sc. convocation at 2 p.m., May 10, may therefore suffer from a seating problem, if all graduating students plus the maximum number of guests attend.

For the B.Sc. ceremony, each graduate will receive two invitations, with a star or another distinguishing mark, which will guarantee seats for two guests. Each graduate will also receive a third pass for another guest who may enter

ten minutes before convocation begins.

"There is little possibility of extra tickets being given out if fewer tickets are picked up than the number of seats to be filled," graduation president Srin Pillau said.

No problem is expected at the BA ceremony because of a high degree of predicted absenteeism and a cutback in the number of president's guests and the number of faculty wives. Council passed a motion Sunday night to have the fine for absent graduates removed.

A closed circuit television will be set up within the building mainly for children who cannot be left at home but cannot fit within the auditorium.

Because no changes can be made in this year's arrangements, it is essential to plan ahead, Pillay emphasized.

Rebates in sight

by Danièle Gauvin

"Howe Hall residents are hoping to have the rebate issue settled before they go home at the end of April," said Howe Hall President Bruce Ellsworth last week. Men living in the Hall have been seeking a rebate for residence services normally included in their residence fees which they didn't receive during the 19 week CUPE strike. Negotiations for the rebate are now under way, following Student Council's decision to allow both Sherriff and Howe Hall to use the Student Union's lawyer in their formal grievance against the university.

According to Ellsworth, the main purpose of the negotiations is to arrive at a satisfactory rebate figure for both the Hall and the administration. To this end, both Ellsworth and Nancy Cogger,

Sherriff Hall President, have made the position of residence students clear to the negotiators.

Although no one will disclose the amount being requested by each residence, the figures were calculated on a loss-per-student-per-week basis. "They seem very close to reaching a settlement and all parties appear optimistic," Ellsworth said.

Housing Director John Graham and Student Union solicitor Barry Ward are dealing with the administration, trying to reach a compromise on the amount of the rebates before the students go home. Separate rebates for the two residences are being sought since Howe Hall lost the most services during the strike.

Earlier, Graham had ex-

pressed fear that litigation could become a lengthy debate of up to two years if the administration and the students chose to fight each other in court. Ellsworth feels that such an eventuality is unlikely considering the present state of negotiations, adding, "both sides must be flexible".

Some observers are adopting a cynical view to the situation, arguing that non-residence students are already helping to support residence students with their fees and that they should be entitled to rebates from the strike also. Residence students, however, feel justified in being compensated for months of living in "filth". They appear confident that the administration will be sympathetic to their view.

Back to normal

by Alan Adams

Fifty-three days after returning to work CUPE 1392 and the Dalhousie administration have finally signed a contract.

The signing was delayed by a number of clauses with worker mobility being the most recent. "We are back to

the old operation", said CUPE representative Al Cunningham. "Everybody will be assigned to a specific building and if a vacancy comes open, it must be posted for all members to vote on rather than transfer somebody to that position."

Cunningham added CUPE

will be meeting with officials of Modern Building Cleaners on Friday to iron out a few minor problems but "everything is back to normal as far as the collective agreement is concerned."

CUPE has been working without a contract since last September.