

Grawood construction ending

When is an enlarged Grawood lounge not really an enlarged Grawood lounge?

"When it's a multi-purpose room," according to SUB building manager, John Graham.

What is a multi-purpose room you ask?

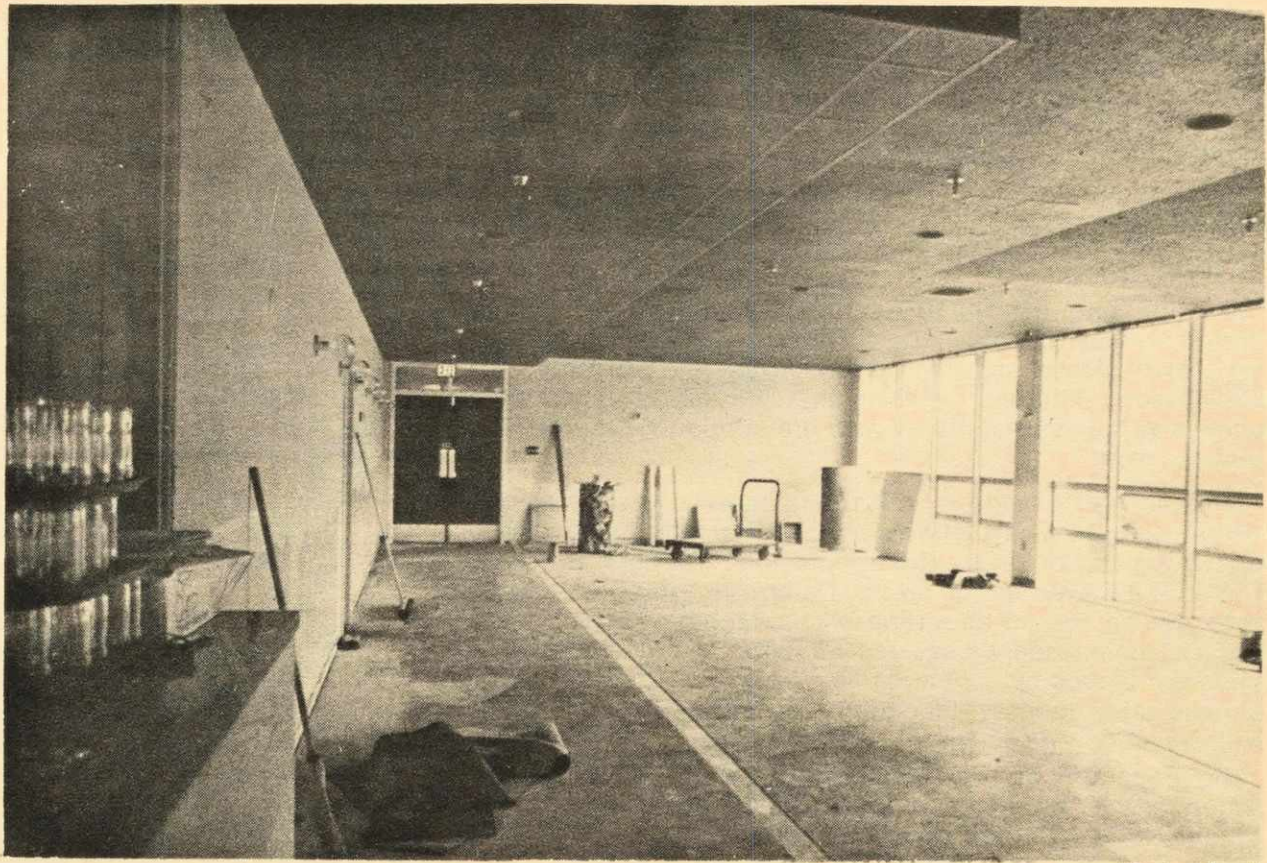
A room that is a pub but really isn't - kind of.

In April, the Student Council allotted Atlantic Business Consultants \$1,000 to conduct a study into the feasibility of expanding the Grawood Lounge. The survey, which involved phone calls and personal interviews with 100 students, was to determine interest in having the lounge enlarged.

The study included students' attitudes toward the Grawood, as well as their suggestions for improvement, a general description and financial analysis of several possible alternatives.

In their report, ABC recommended that the Grawood Lounge be expanded to include the area which was occupied by the **Dalhousie Gazette** offices and the adjoining hallway. The lounge would have a seating capacity of 215 people, hopefully eliminating the line-ups that occurred there during the latter part of each week.

It was also recommended that live entertainment, primarily folk and jazz, be provided during the school year. The consultants suggested that no expansion of Grawood's food services occur at this time.



Dal Photo / Dayal

Student Council approved the expansion at their June 7 meeting. As construction nears completion, what we have added to the Grawood is not simply an expanded drinking section but a "multi-purpose" room, to be used for private luncheons and meetings for small university groups.

At a meeting, May 24, the SUB Management, with the consideration that the university does not want any additional campus drinking areas, approved of the multi-purpose room. Since more meeting space was needed in the building and because the excess demand for Grawood facilities is only for thirty

week-ends of the year, the multi-purpose room was seen as the obvious solution.

At the meeting Graham predicted that the room will be used 82% of the time as a separately booked facility and 18% as an extension to the lounge.

Strikers boycott

MONTREAL (CUP) -- A nationwide boycott of the products of Robin Hood Multifoods has been called in the wake of the shooting of eight strikers by goons at the company's plant July 22.

The boycott, launched by the Confederation des Syndicats Nationaux and supported by the Canadian Labour Congress, follows Robin Hood's decision to lay off 50 of the Montreal plant's unionized workers. The CSN claims the action is just another move in the

company's plan to take advantage of an Anti-Inflation Board inspired strike by reducing work at the unionized plant and transferring it to non-unionized plants elsewhere.

Meanwhile, charges have been reduced against the three private security guards hired by Robin Hood who shot and seriously injured the strikers.

There are indications that the boycott, levelled at Robin Hood Multifoods of Scarborough and

Niagara Falls, and Fortress Island Formula Feed of Newfoundland, will spread beyond Canada as CSN representatives met with officials of the International Federation of Labour. Robin Hood is a subsidiary of the multinational International Multifoods Ltd., which has operations in the U.S., Britain, Venezuela and Mexico.

The shootings came only days before provincial legislation which would make it illegal for companies to hire scab labourers during a strike. The incident occurred when strikers, enraged by taunts and jeers from the goons guarding the scabs, broke through a fence at the Robin Hood plant and tried to reach a fire hose to spray the security

guards with water.

As 150 tenants of a public housing project across the road watched, the guards put down their clubs and chains and picked up shotguns. When the strikers continued to advance, they levelled their weapons and shot into the crowd.

Earlier in the day, the Montreal riot squad had tried to break up the demonstration using nightsticks.

Products manufactured by Robin Hood include Robin Hood flour and cake mixes, Coors prepared meats, Bick's pickles, Brodie XXX flour, Stouffer's frozen foods, Rose Brand preserves and Celebration cake mixes. Mister Donut shops is also part of the company.



Housing crisis

by Donna Treen

Conflicting reports have been received from student leaders as to the existence of a housing problem at Dalhousie this year.

"As far as I'm concerned, there is no housing problem at Dal this year," Housing Secretary Sheilagh Beal said this week. "The problem lies with the students who expect to come to Halifax with a room just waiting for them. I can understand this happening with first year students, but when these people have been to Dal before and haven't made their own arrangements in advance, then I consider it their own fault."

The Housing Secretary said no one has approached her yet looking for accommodation. However, Overseas Student Co-ordinator Harvey MacKinnon has been dealing with many students who are having problems.

"New overseas students often have a difficult time finding accommodation for many reasons: from a

shortage of money to problems with language. Many students want to get into residence, particularly graduate houses and married quarters. These places, unfortunately, were full a long time ago and have ridiculously long waiting lists. So this is the type of housing we really need."

"Students who just arrived from overseas, and those from the rest of the country, cannot be expected to arrive early to find accommodation. Money is always the key factor -- they could stay in the Y or a motel, but for how long and for how much?"

The World Fisheries Exhibition created a problem this year for people looking for temporary accommodation. The Dalhousie Alumni Association pleaded to its members to provide temporary accommodation for incoming students. Arrangements were also made to house students overnight in the McInnes Room, but as of yet a need for such action has not arisen.