

**Unfamiliarity, sexism cited**

**Atlantic NUS Worker Resigns**

by Francis Moran

A combination of unfamiliarity with the Atlantic Region, sexism and a number of personal reasons have culminated in the resignation of Bev Crossman, National Union of Students (NUS) fieldworker for the Atlantic Region.

"There were a number of factors that contributed to my resignation," Crossman said in an interview from her home in Regina. "It is difficult to assume the responsibility (of representing NUS) when you don't know the area. A lot of the reasons for resigning were pretty personal and there was also some sexual harassment and sexism, such as you encounter in any job situation."

Applications for an Atlantic Region fieldworker are now being accepted by the national office in Ottawa and a new person should be appointed soon. Crossman, meanwhile, heads to Ottawa herself to help the national staff organize and sort the files for the region.

When asked what her major focus was while in the Atlantic Provinces, Crossman said she

concentrated largely on stirring up interest in national issues on the campus level.

"The most important issue was to get people actively participating in the NUS campaign for the accessibility of education," she said, adding that the Students' Union of Nova Scotia's campus committees could be very effective in this area.

"I tried to acquaint people with the organization (NUS) and how the students, and not the fieldworker, are actually NUS."

"The major thing that needs to be done in the Atlantic Region is developing a strong voice for students and having them active on the national scene and the provincial scene as well. Student leaders who were at the conference have a good idea of what needs to be done and they will help those who weren't at the conference."

Crossman felt that the new fieldworker would be better off coming from the region rather than from outside because of the very real regional disparities and culture differences that exist between any regions of the country. "He or she must be given time to

adjust to local politics and the ways in which student leaders get things done."

By way of conclusion, Crossman said that she enjoyed working in the Atlantic area but really hadn't had an

opportunity to adjust to the differences in the region. "I really liked the Atlantic Region and the people I met and the people I worked with, but there were so many other factors involved."



**Council Briefs**

by Sheila Mills

Important business was tabled at the October 21st Student Council meeting due to a particularly low attendance, and an overload of council resignations.

By-elections will be held to fill the positions left vacant by Law rep, Mike Lynk; Arts rep, Denise Roberge; and Science Rep, Debbie Naugler. Jeff Armour was elected to be the new Commerce Rep.

None of the appointments for council committees was filled except the Course Evaluation Committee with Don McFaggen and the Scholarship committee with Caroline Zayid. The Health Plan, Sport and Recreation, Parking, Library, Bookstore and Scholarship Committees still have vacancies. Dene Palmer and Elva Hammerstrand were elected to Senate Council.

On Saturday, Oct. 27, 9:30 until 2:30, the President, Treasurer and Entertainment person of every Society are urged to meet at the council chambers for a Student Leadership Conference to discuss how each Society could play a more effective role in University life and in its relations with DSU.

SUNS is also being faced with the resignations of B.J. Arsenault, Treasurer, and Janet Mrenica the member largely responsible for all Public Relations work. The next SUNS conference will be on October 28 at Saint Mary's University.

In NUS, Janet Mrenica, the NUS Co-ordinator and Bev Crossman, the NUS Atlantic Fieldworker, have officially given their resignation.

This year's Open House will take place on the 16-18 of November. More council co-operation is necessary and at least ten Dal students are needed to go into metro schools to publicize the Open House. 5200 Dal volunteers will be employed as Tour Guides throughout the week. A meeting for all those interested in working for the Open House will be held on Mon., October 29, at 7:30 in room 216 at the SUB.

The W5 program on "Foreign Students" was condemned by council and CTV is being asked to clear up any misconceptions arising from their program.

The Grants committee gave a Conference Grant of \$250 to the Ombudsman and the assistant Ombudsman. \$600 was granted to the Dalhousie Engineering Society, \$350 to the Malaysian Singaporean Society, and \$850 to the Debating Society.

**You Mean I Wasn't?**

All across Canada women celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the 'persons case'. The case of Henrietta Muir Edwards vs. the Attorney General for Canada, was a landmark decision because it granted that women were persons under the British North American Act of 1867. Women were for the first time eligible for appointment to the Senate.

On October 19, 1927 Henrietta Muir Edwards, the Vice President of the National Council of Women for Canada appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada demanding to know "Are women eligible for appointment to the Senate?" On April 28, 1928 the Supreme Court answered in the negative.

The grounds for refusal were based upon section 24 of the BNA ACT. "The Governor General shall from time to time, in the Queen's name, summon qualified persons to the Senate. . . ." The Supreme Court claimed that the term 'persons' referred specifically to men. Thus the exclusion of women from the Senate. It was not until October of 1929 that Viscount Sankey ruled that the term 'persons' was ambiguous and could refer to either men or women.

Not only was this a definite victory of women's rights but it illustrated that the Canadian Constitution was a "living tree" capable of growth in accordance to the attitudes of the public. After little more than a decade of voting rights for women they were to have equal status with men in the Senate.

**CORRECTION**

In the article "National Anti-Nuke Demonstrations" on page 1 of the October 18 issue of the Gazette, Elizabeth May was misquoted. She was referring to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, not Atomic Energy Control Board in the quote: "I suggest . . . (Atomic Energy Control Board) should be taken out and buried."

Cathy McDonald

**Cont'd**

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job is monitoring the situation of foreign students in Canada, questioned the origins of the W5 figures.

"I spend most of my working day reading about foreign students, and I don't believe I've ever seen any such figures. Everything the AUCC said is accurate as far as I'm concerned."

According to Lumb, the show received about 150 telephone calls and "a couple of hundred" letters in response to the program. Slightly more than half were in favour, he said.

He said W5 would be preparing another program on the issue "sometime in the future—probably in a few months."

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