

Council Fights Sexism

by Mary Pat MacKenzie

"Chairman" vs. "Chairperson", at least as it appears in the Student Union constitution, was the hottest issue at the Council meeting on Nov 17. The Communications Board had recommended to the Council "that all usages of the words 'chairman', 'he' and 'his' in the Dalhousie Student Union Constitution be amended to read 'Chairperson', 'he/she', 'him/her' and 'his/hers'". A motion, introduced by Mr. Hart, caused heated debate among the Council members. Mr. O'Connor stressed that the Council must put first things first - they should investigate the jobs, policies, etc. of the Union to determine whether or not there is sex discrimination. He mentioned all the positive actions this Council has taken re: women's rights and issues.

Councillor Dayton Medicine stated that the discussion on this motion signified a "gross lack of awareness on the part of this Council". It was suggested that a committee be set up to look into aspects of sex discrimination that may exist in the Union but the Community Affairs Chairman, C. Dyke, said that this would be as good as useless since things tend to get lost in committees. The motion was passed 13 - 4 with 3 abstentions. Mr. Clahane



Lorne Richardson

then moved that the committee be set up despite its possible deficiencies but this was defeated by Council 6 - 4 with 9 abstentions. The 4 in favor were women while those against were all men. Though the original motion to delete all sexual references from Union regulations and correspondence was passed, it takes a two thirds majority to amend the constitution so Councillor W. Broeren (Grad Studies) moved that Council do this. She was seconded by Wayne Gillis (Law) but the votes cast in favor (10 - 6, 2 abs.) did not constitute the necessary two thirds.

The Grants Committee recommendations that the Political Science Undergrad Society and the Pharmacy Society receive \$300. and \$500. respectively was passed without any major difficulty. The Political Science Society outlined their pro-

posed programme - to enhance the Political Science Reading Room with more periodicals, to invite relevant lecturers to speak to the society, and to approach various high school students about the possibilities of entering the Political Science program at Dal.

Bill Smith spoke on behalf of the Pharmacy Society stressing the need to expand the programs now in existence. He mentioned that the Society would like to attract more guest speakers, interest more incoming students in the faculty, and educate the general public on matters directly related to the whole field of pharmacy.

Dan O'Connor introduced a motion that Council endorse the community group who will be recommending rent control and related aspects of housing to the new City Council. Council was given a brief outlining the plans and suggestions of the group. Mr. O'Connor pointed out that 55% of the Halifax population are ten-



Wilma Broeren



Barry Ward

ants, not homeowners. The student population of Halifax is one of the groups who would most benefit from rent control and strict enforcement of minimum housing standards. The Treasurer, Barry Ward, argued that by endorsing such a group Council would be helping to kill incentive for any further housing developments in Halifax. It was pointed out by Mark Crossman that Quebec has had rent control for a long time but it has not stopped construction. Helen Spinelli, Co-editor of the Gazette, pointed out that in New York rent control does not kill building incentive, rather it keeps the rent on older housing units from skyrocketing.

Mr. O'Connor's motion to endorse and publicize the group's work was passed 15 - 1 with 1 abstention.

A motion to examine and possibly change the date regulating Student Govern-

ment was introduced by Dan O'Connor. He pointed out that the present term of office limits the Council to only a few months of effective legislation. As it stands now the new Council is elected in Feb. and takes office on March 1st. This means that the Council really only has the fall months in which to pass and implement legislation. A possible alternative would be to have the Council elected in Feb. take office on the first of May though they would be able to make their necessary appointments in March and April. The old Council would continue through to May with the day to day business of the Union. Mr. Richardson pointed out a strong advantage to this would be that the new Council would have the chance to learn from the old one and would not be starting out on May 1 totally ignorant of Council functions.

The motion to examine and make recommendations for the next regular Council meeting was passed 14 - 0 with 2 abstentions.

Sandy Walsh was nominated and unanimously approved as Intro-Dal Chairperson; Charles Gosling was approved for the Theatre Committee and Gary Seaman for the Scholarship Committee.

The quorum was lost at 9:30 so Council adjourned.

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CIC Wants Canada Back

by L.T. Donovan

Tuesday, November 12 at the Meehan auditorium Dr. Robert K. Page, Chairman of the Committee for an Independent Canada (C.I.C.) focused upon the energy policy of Canada. The C.I.C. are an organized group of Canadians with 10,000 members-including one-fourth of the members of Parliament-with 40 chapters across the country. They seek to (1) mobilize the energies and the voices of Canadians worried about foreign control, (2) educate other Canadians about the threat to Canada's autonomy and, (3) show the country's leaders the extent of public need for a meaningful policy of independence.

In his lecture Dr. Page outlined the policy of the C.I.C. (1) to form a national energy policy to define the needs of Canada and determine the actual amount of reserves we have.

(2) according to present accessible oil reserve figures there will be an oil shortage in Canada within the next 18-24 months if oil exports are not cut. Therefore the C.I.C. want Canada to negotiate with the United States on the phasing out of all oil exports, so there will be enough oil for Canadians. Regarding the oil problem in the east, the C.I.C. says that instead of importing oil from overseas and levying a tax on western oil in order to subsidize the east, we could cut oil exports to the U.S., build the Montreal oil-pipeline to supply the east with oil and keep the revenue in Canada.

(3) The C.I.C. urges the enactment of legislation to control foreign investment. France is concerned with the amount of foreign ownership in her country- the level there is 10%. On the average, 80% of the foreign

owned industry in Canada is American owned. Sure there was a need for foreign investment at one time but this is no longer true. Studies have shown that we are "financing our own sell out". In the issue of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce magazine, **Survey of Current Business**, American economist R.D. Belli shows that during the year 1968 of all the money used by American subsidiaries operating in Canada, to take over Canadian firms and expand their operations, 94% was Canadian. The height of ridiculousness.

Therefore the C.I.C. seeks the creation of an integrative unit to influence the major oil industries, to stimulate public control over large profit making organizations and to promote Canadian investment in Canada. To promote Canada for Canada's sake. (4) Due to new sociological,

macroeconomic and other problems the 15 year old National Energy Board is suffering from organizational difficulties. Therefore, a restructuring of the energy board is needed in order to discover solutions to immediate problems.

(5) Conservation policies must be considered; such as a national policy on efficient public transportation; an evaluation of our throw away society, new packaging, and the allocation of our crucial energy needs.

At present the C.I.C. are in battle over the MacKenzie Valley pipeline project and the James Bay project, hoping to prevent them from being constructed as they are to the betterment of the U.S. not Canada. The main objective of the C.I.C. is to conduct a continuing educational program to alert Canadians to the actual situation and use the man-

power and ideas of Committee members all across Canada to the end that Canada will remain an open but autonomous country. To promote Canada for Canada's sake.

One may wonder why the C.I.C. are not a political organization as so many of their aims are political. Dr. Page says that being a political organization would limit the growth of the C.I.C. The C.I.C. is made up of a variety of people, with very different views on how to solve the problems before us. The main aim at the present time is to use the democratic process of petition and public pressure to show our leaders that Canadians want Canadian autonomy. Dr. Page did say that the C.I.C. has not eliminated completely the idea of becoming a political party. It just looks as if the time is not quite ripe.