

Investigation committee meets students disapproval

MONTREAL (CUP) — Support spread at Sir George Williams University over the weekend for an immediate reconstitution of the contentious hearing committee investigating charges of racism levelled at biology professor Perry Anderson by six black students.

More than 800 students voted overwhelmingly at an open meeting Friday that the administration disband the committee and allow the contending parties to create a mutually agreeable replacement.

Just an hour earlier, a like number of Commerce students and faculty voted the same way.

The school's Student Council and Science Students Association have also rejected the present five-man committee.

The defiant students holding the university's computer centre for the fifth day called on students who support them to "pressure" the administration into meeting their five demands.

They include disbandment and reconstitution of the committee, amnesty for three students facing charges, consideration for organizers for academic time lost, and no reprisal or punitive measures against the occupants of the computer centre.

CHARGE: EXTORTION

Erroll Thomas, one of three blacks charged with extortion, forcible detention and conspiracy to forcibly obtain a signed statement, was remanded Friday to preliminary hearing on Feb. 14. The charges arose from an incident in vice-principal John O'Brien's office two weeks ago when black students allegedly forced him to sign an apology over confusion with a letter he sent to Anderson.

Two others, Kennedy Frederick and an unnamed person are also charged.

A black spokesman called for direct action, including other occupations, to escalate the conflict. He reiterated the occupant's determination to stay put until their demands are met. There are some

300 students—black and white—holding the centre.

Thursday night, the executive council of the school's teaching association—representing half the 400-man faculty—announced "full confidence" in the impartiality of the hearing committee and in O'Brien.

In a special meeting Saturday, the faculty of the school overwhelmingly supported the administration position in the affair and voted confidence in O'Brien.

The executive of the evening students association has also announced support for the administrative position.

BITTER ARGUMENT

Saturday 15 students, disgruntled over Student Council inaction during the affairs, staged a short-lived occupation of the council office, six floors beneath the computing centre.

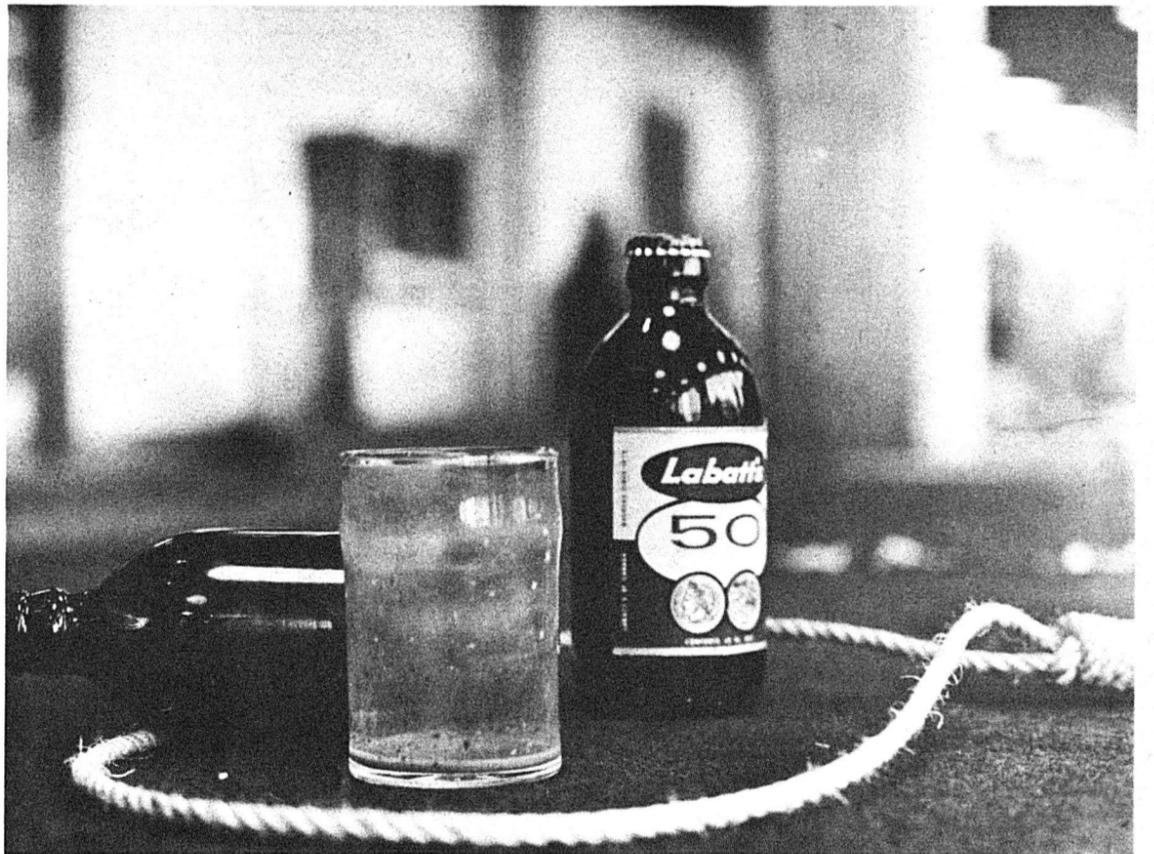
They left the offices after several hours when their ninth-floor compatriots asked them to, saying the council occupation would just confuse the issues. They moved in early Saturday morning in order to force the resignations of the Student Council and said they would like a student government that is willing to "confront" the administration.

The Friday noon meeting lasted about two hours and produced bitter argument over the occupation. A motion calling on the protesters to abandon the computer centre as a gesture of good will was debated at length and taken off the floor just as it was coming to a vote.

NO SHOWDOWN

It was clear the occupants and militant students at the meeting would not accept the motion, and rather than risk a showdown on the floor, the movers of the motion withdrew it.

The occupation, meanwhile, began to draw more external support. About 200 students from McGill University marched through downtown Montreal as a gesture of



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... in the pub-for-sub campaign

solidarity, ending their parade at the Sir George computer centre.

Official support has also come from the student councils at Laval, McGill and Université de Montreal, who sent 40-student delegation to visit Thursday evening.

The black students have called a rally of the Montreal black community for Monday evening to explain the issues to that community.

And meanwhile, Wallace Nesbitt (PC-Oxford) last week suggested in the House of Commons that federal grants to foreign students who "cause disorder" at Canadian universities be withdrawn.

Nesbitt said he was referring directly to the Sir George situation where a good number of black students involved come from the Caribbean.

UGEQ scraps referendum

MONTREAL (CUP) — L'Union Generale Des Etudiants du Quebec has scrapped its plan to hold a province-wide student referendum on "the national question".

Instead, the question of a possible union stand on the political future of Quebec will be decided by the annual congress of the organization in mid-February.

Wednesday night, executive members of the Conseil Central National (UGEQ's governing body between congresses) announced they are Independentistes and will spend the coming week making their views known.

They stressed they have no policy-making powers and that the final stance would be decided at the congress.

"We do not want people to believe that all Quebec students are separatists," said acting president Louis Falardeau, "But we say anyway, so it will be clear, that the members of the executive have opted for independence."

The referendum proposal was set last congress, but a committee es-

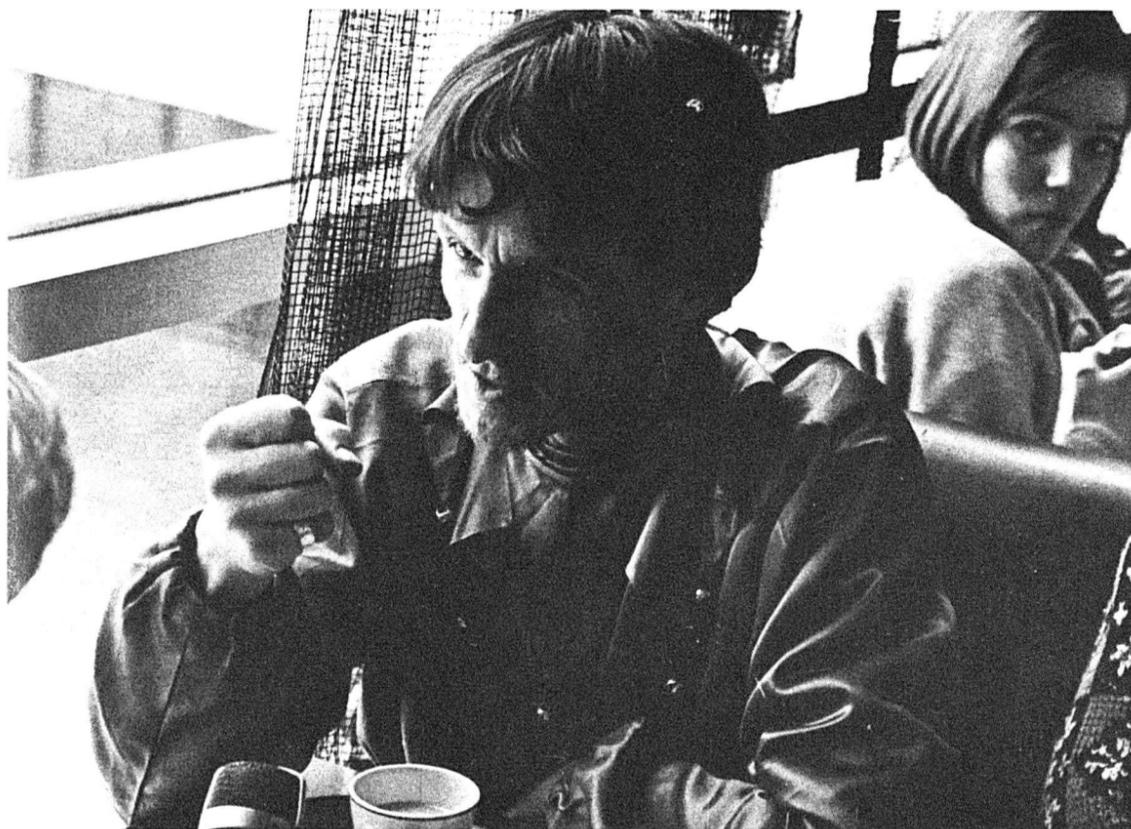
tablished to work out the details gave up after months of fruitless argument over the ballot's wording.

Official notice

Applications are being accepted from Students' Union members wishing to attend the following conferences (expenses will be paid by the Students' Union):

1. Fourth Annual Intercollegiate Conference on Canadian-American Relations at Michigan State University at East Lansing, U.S.A. from Feb. 21-23, 1969, (one delegate will be sponsored).
2. Conference on Canadian Affairs at University of Winnipeg, Manitoba from Feb. 27-March 1, 1969. Topic: Canada: A Lament for Two Nations (two delegates will be sponsored).

Applications should be submitted to the receptionist, 2nd floor SUB no later than Wednesday. For information contact David Leadbeater, SUB.



FIST FULL OF HOPE—Vancouver's celebrated town fool Kim Foikis clenches his fist to emphasize a point to a friend. Foikis was here for Con/Fusion and his extraordinary outfit was the object of the intensive gaze of a campus sweetie (check over Foikis' left shoulder). According to informed sources, Con/Fusion was an unqualified success—thanks to people like Kim Foikis, who say there really is hope left in the world.

International Week Agenda

AFRICA AND AID, Wednesday noon, SUB lobby:

Rhodesia: Professor Greene: The Takeover of Rhodesia by Ian Smith. Ashwin Shingadia: Indian Student from Rhodesia.

Biafra: Professor Koplou: Research in Africa. Mr. Udokang: Nigerian student.

PEOPLE-AID, HELP OR HINDRANCE—A FORUM, Wednesday, 8 p.m. TL-B1:

Speakers: Bruce Bailey: National Director of Canadian operations, CUSO. Dave Catmer: Former Aid Administrator for 6 years in India. Al Bromling: Eugene Dextrase, and David Njire.

VARIETY SHOW, Thursday, 8 p.m., Lister Hall:

Alberta Ballet, Folk Dances, Drums, etc. Tickets at Information Booth or at Door. 50c.

Thursday, 4 p.m. SUB: Robert Thompson (MP—Red Deer)—Canada and the Pacific Region.

Friday—Middle East Teach-In 12-2 p.m. in SUB theatre.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER AND DANCE, Saturday Feb. 8. Dinner: International Cuisine, 5 to 7:30 p.m. Room 142. Dance: International Music, 9:30-12 p.m. Athabasca Hall. Tickets: \$3.25 (\$2 for dinner) at Information Desk.