

Lakehead administration backs down

Termination of professor's contract not insisted upon due to technicality

THUNDER BAY (CUP) — The administration at Lakehead University has backed down in its attempts to fire sociology professor Victor Wightman.

In a letter received by Wightman Monday, administration president William Tamblin told the popular professor that "It has been decided not to insist upon the termination of your contract under the terms of the notice given by my letter of January 29, 1970."

At that time, Wightman was told that "budgetary considerations" had made his dismissal from Lakehead necessary. Wightman was reportedly fired on the recommendation of department head Cecil French, who declared that his decision was backed by a majority of faculty in the department.

Subsequent investigation indicated faculty had not been consulted in the dismissal.

Wightman had supported a counter-bookstore set up in Thunder Bay to fight the high prices in the administration's bookstore—a move the Lakehead administration regarded as an affront.

Wightman was also heavily involved in a two-day November moratorium against the Vietnam war.

According to the administration, the rescinding of Wightman's notice of firing came as a result of a technicality: Tamblin's letter of January 29 did not reach the sociology professor until February 2—two days after regulations declare such letters can be received

during the academic year.

Wightman's firing had prompted large-scale protests at the Lakehead campus, climaxed with a two-day university-wide boycott of classes February 12 and 13, in which 50 per cent of Lakehead's 2,500 students were reported to participate.

If they don't get you one way, another will do just as well

MONTREAL (CUP)—Where there's a will, there's a way, the Quebec justice department decided Wednesday, Feb. 18, as the department ordered the re-arrest of three Quebec unilingual leaders freed due to lack of evidence supporting charges that they took part in a riot.

Reggie Chartrand, leader of the independentiste Chevaliers de l'Independance, and Laurier Gravel, vice-president of the Ligue pour l'Integration Scolaire were freed Tuesday, Feb. 17, by chief judge Andre Fabien, who ruled there was not enough evidence to try them for charges of resisting arrest, refusing to disperse after reading of the Riot Act, and inciting to riot in connection with a September 10 demonstration in the Montreal suburb of St.-Leonard.

Raymond Lemieux, president of the LIS, was freed February 12 on the same charges, plus one of sedition. The same reason was

In addition to a review of Wightman's firing, the students were demanding a total restructuring of hiring, firing, promotion and tenure procedures at Lakehead, increased representation of students on hiring and firing committees, and full access to all relevant information on hiring, firing and promotion.

given for his release.

But the three will go on trial anyway, it was announced Wednesday. The reason: dismissal of charges at a preliminary hearing does not constitute an acquittal.

The great Emily Post debate at council

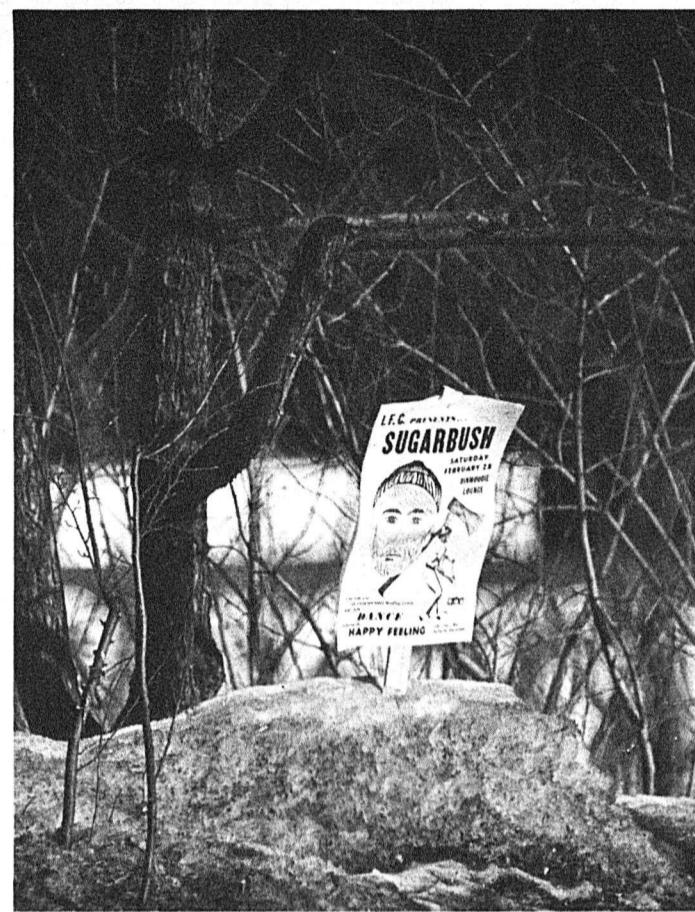
MacInnis: I would like to announce that Jeff Caskenette was seen Tuesday at lunch in a suit and a tie, and he even used his knife and fork properly.

Caskenette: And I would like to announce that Mr. MacInnis was very cool at the lunch. He dropped seven peas off his knife and quite deftly scooped them up and put them in his suit pocket.

MacInnis: And Mr. Caskenette was so surprised that he dropped his handful of mashed potatoes.

McCallum: Will you guys cut it out and come to order?

Honorable members: Boo!



THE THING WITH THE BEARD is not a student radical. But it might be a fraternity man who hasn't washed for a week in preparation for Sugarbush. This annual sweat-out takes place on Saturday and the men of IFC will saw logs, tug on ropes and impress their friends. And if that isn't enough, there's a band too. Dinwoodie Lounge, 7:30 p.m.

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