

Conclusions:

We submit

- (1) That university residences are important to sound education at the university level;
- (2) That at least 25% of students should be accommodated in residences;
- (3) That funds available as grants and gifts will not be sufficient to meet the needs for instructional buildings, and consequently if residences are to be built, funds on loan must be available;
- (4) That the universities will have to recover the cost of loans out of revenue from students in residence;
- (5) That there is a limit to the additional charge which can be loaded on students;
- (6) That this limit means either (a) low cost construction, (b) low rates of interest, (c) long-period amortization, (d) some subsidy from grants or gifts, or (e) all of these.

The conference on "Canada's Crisis in Higher Education" held by the National Conference of Canadian Universities in Ottawa, November 14-16, 1956, 'resolved that Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation legislation and regulations should be amended to allow the Corporation to loan money to the universities on the most favourable possible terms to permit them to construct residences for students and housing for married students and staff on a self-liquidating basis.'⁵ The subject was discussed again at the June 1957 meeting of the National Conference of Canadian Universities, and a similar resolution was adopted.⁶

Subsequently there was an exchange of letters between the Executive Secretary of the Conference and the Minister of Public Works which indicated that what would be required is amendment of Section 16 of the National Housing Act. The Minister stated in his letter of June 6, 1958 that 'The whole question of housing at colleges and universities is currently being studied and is one aspect of the housing problem that will be examined very carefully when possible amendments to the National Housing Act are being considered. (Copies of this correspondence are attached as Appendix IV).

It is our confident belief that residences for university students are important, not only to the students and the universities, but to Canada at large, and that the nation would be helping itself to solve the urgent problems of its rapid growth if it made the building of student residences less difficult financially for the Canadian universities.

Consequently, we recommend that the Senate Standing Committee on Finance recommend to the Government of Canada that the National Housing Act be amended so as to permit loans for the construction of university residences.

Submitted on behalf of the National
Conference of Canadian Universities

by

Andrew Stewart, President

W. T. R. Flemington, Vice-President

T. H. Matthews, Executive Secretary

(For References and Appendices I, II, III, IV and V see end of today's proceedings.)

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Stewart.

Senator ISNOR: I wonder if Dr. Stewart would tell us what university he is associated with.

Dr. STEWART: I am the President of the University of Alberta, and President of the National Conference of Canadian Universities this year.