

## Government ignores plight

OTTAWA (CUP) - The federal government has rejected calls to administer emergency treatment to Canada's critically swollen postsecondary institutions.

As tens of thousands of qualified students get turned away from universities and colleges across the country, finance minister Marc Lalonde says his government already contributes more than its share to education.

But Pauline Jewett, NDP critic for post-secondary education, insists the government must respond to the "national state of emergency" for Canadian youth.

The situation of Canadian youth has reached crisis proportions," Jewett told the House of Commons Sept. 13. "Jobs are not there, and now entry to postsecondary educational institutions is being denied thousands upon thousands of qualified students in the country.

She said unless the government took emergency steps, "the principle of accessibility, which I thought the government believed in, is going to be almost totally eroded."

The federal government's six and five restraint program has cost post-secondary education about \$102 million across the country, she said in a Sept. 14 interview.

Meanwhile, another summer heavy unemployment for young people has led to massive enrolment increases but Jewett said short-funded institutions cannot handle the increase.

She said the NDP will put

heavy emphasis on the education crisis this fall.

"I want to get (the Liberals) to understand that a very important principle is at stake," Jewett said. 'I think the Liberals are sensitive on that issue. There must be some Liberal cabinet ministers who believe in equality of opportuni-

Ontario has been the country's worst-hit province for turning away qualified students.

But Richard Balnis, a researcher for the Canadian Federation of Students' Ontario region, says accurate figures on the numbers of students who are qualified to attend university or college but have been rejected are impossible to obtain.

## St. Jean cooks

by Gilbert Bouchard

Faculte St. Jean students are enthusiastic about the communal kitchen facilities recently installed in their seventy-three year old

Last year the students voted to close down the residence cafeteria in favour of the kitchen facilities. Housing and Food services then installed twenty cooking elements, four ovens, four refrigerators, one freezer and one microwave oven in two kitchens.

Renee Michaud, a Residence Monitor, is quite satisfied with the changeover. She remarked that up till now the kitchens have been kept clean, and the students have encountered no problems.'

Students have adapted remarkably well to the situation, and Michaud says that the changes have "eliminated rushes on the facilities by spreading out the meals. Supper, for example, will go from four o'clock to eight o'clock at night." The kitchens are open 24 hours a day.

Students have had to make some concession: they must share cabinets in which to store food stuffs and utensils (cabinets come equipped with locks) and each person is required to do some task at least once each eight or nine day period. Duties shared include taking out garbage, sweeping up the area, wiping the counters and scouring the sinks, etc. And once a month, students are expected to clean out the ovens and fridges.

The Faculte Residence Association has also raised its fees by five dollars in order to establish a fund for purchasing soap, cloths, spices and other household items. This will eliminate the need for the students to buy these items and will save storage space by eliminating redundancy.

The students pay a reduced rent. A single room costs 147 dollars a month, and a double costs only 100.

## Correction to story

Last Thursday, the Gateway incorrectly published a statement explaining an increase in the federal loan limit from \$56.75 to \$108.00 The statement should have read "from. 56.25 to \$100.00." This incorrect information was received from our esteemed Student's Union President Robert Greenhill. In the future we will try to use more reliable sources.

Also, for purposes of clarifica-

tion, the maximum amount (\$6800) which students may apply for has not been changed. The only difference now is that money will be taken out of federal coffers

instead of provincial reserves. Finally, if students wish to recieve an extension on their loan's six-month interest-free period they must apply to the bank for the federal interest relief; it is not automatic.

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