

Job outlook bleak

by Valerie Mansour

Students seeking employment in the near future will find a shortage of jobs. The government has cut back on expenditures, and, as usual, there are not enough jobs to go around.

The impact of the Opportunities for Youth cutback is apt to be great. An average of 2,156 students were employed with three projects throughout the years that they were available in Nova Scotia. It seems apparent that many students will be without jobs, thus being unable to afford university next fall.

The government will again be sponsoring the Student Summer Employment and Activities Program. SSEAP '76 is the federal government's effort to provide summer employment for students. As indicated in the summary, the amount of money they are allotting this year is drastically lower than that for 1974. 1975 figures were unavailable, but it is known that students were much better off than they will be this summer.

The \$24 million program involves eight federal departments providing 17 programs with twelve thousand jobs. However, few of these programs are new except for their titles.

The Minister of Manpower and Immigration, Robert Andras, has said that with persistence most students will find work. However, it seems that more than persistence will be needed to find success due to the extent of the government's cutbacks.

Kay Horne, the manager of the Campus Manpower Centre, says that those students who will be satisfied with a traditional job which offers minimum wage will have the least amount of trouble. Waiters and waitresses, groundskeepers, baby-sitters and retailers are always in good demand.

The Centre is trying to provide alternatives for students, but finding employment will hardly be a matter of choice.

Since last November they have been working on career-oriented programs for the summer, but their involvement in this area will end along with the conclusion of classes. At this time another Manpower location will deal primarily with this section.

The Campus office is mainly concerned with finding full-time employment for graduating Dalhousie students. Business students have been most visible at the Centre and demand for them is good. It is a more difficult task to find employment for those with a general arts degree, due to lack of specialization. Students who do succeed in finding full-time employment usually do so in the area of general administration.

There appears to be a lack of science students making use of the office's resources, and health pro-

feSSION students also have other means of finding employment.

Forms are available at the Campus Centre for students going into the teaching profession, so that they can individually write to various school boards. Acceptance on these jobs are left late in the year since schools don't realize the number of their teachers who will be returning until the April resignation deadline is met.

Not enough students are making use of the Campus Manpower Centre. This could be due to a lack of knowledge of the office's existence since they haven't got the funding for extensive advertising. However, they do own eleven bulletin boards on campus and frequently post helpful notices.

The Campus Centre is short-staffed this year as they have only three full-time workers. January has been the biggest month where they were dealing with up to three hundred students per day. These students applied early for their jobs, but it is only now that definite offers are being made to them.

The Centre finds it hard to get feed-back from the graduating students. Only about twenty-five per cent answer the surveys, thus making it difficult for the office to conclude on the extent of success they are having. Last year appeared to be a good year according to the results that were returned.

Occasionally students do find the ideal job. An occupation which interests them, has good pay, practical hours, and perhaps, opportunity for travel would satisfy any job seeker.

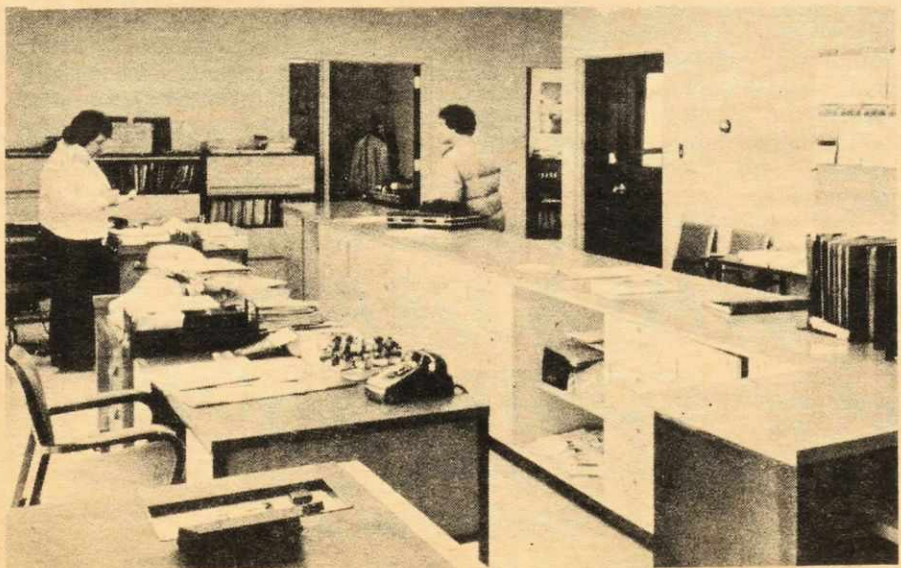
Students who do use the office's resources use them frequently. The main problem being encountered lately is that many employers want their workers to leave the area whereas students often have reason to stay in the local region.

The Campus Canada Manpower Centre is hoping that more students would come up to the fourth floor of the SUB for assistance with job hunting. Personal Information Forms are available to be filled out.

A great deal of energy and patience appear to be the main prerequisites for finding a decent job this year. It also helps to realize that Dalhousie students have a very good name on the National job market.

A small committee of Dalhousie Student Union members recently have met with finance minister for Nova Scotia, Walter Fitzgerald, to discuss the employment problem and the extent of its effect. Results of this meeting will be detailed at a later time.

	COST
SUMMER '74 PROGRAM	65,907,000
SUMMER '76 PROGRAM	23,949,800



The student manpower centre on the fourth floor of SUB is dying to find you a job, either full-time or summer. Dal photo / Walsh

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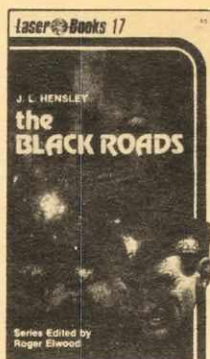
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