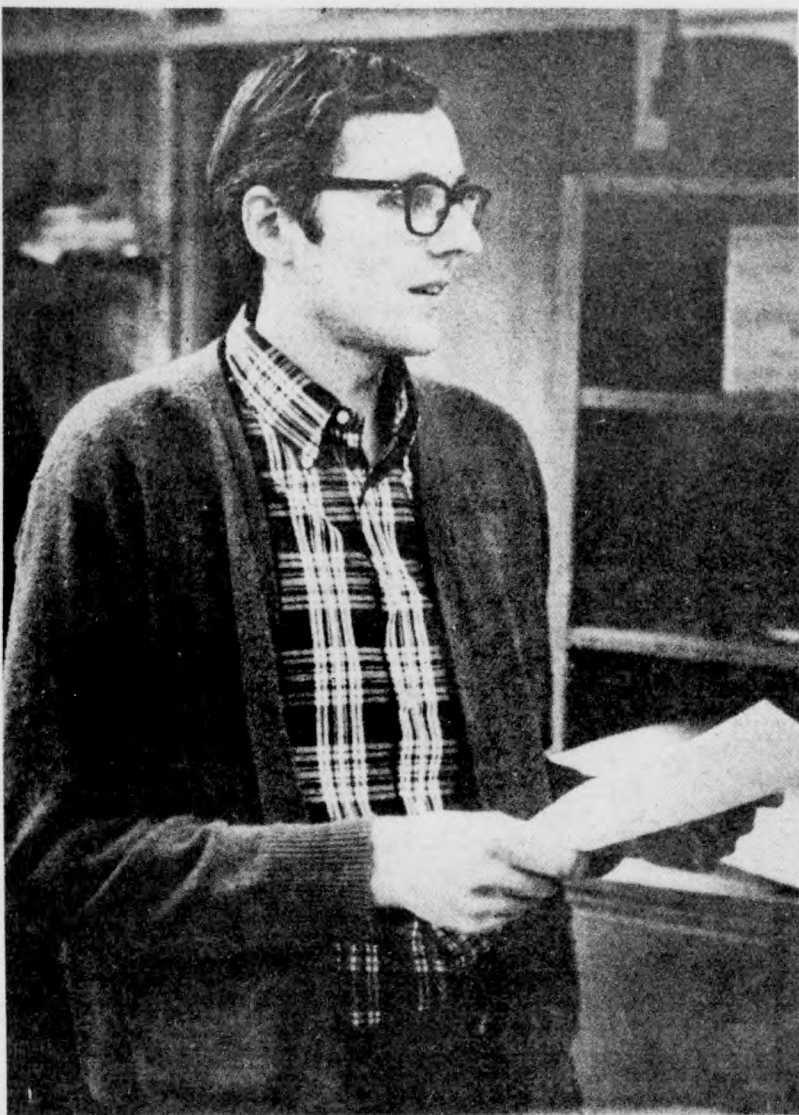


Mac grads end walkout after close Friday vote



McMaster's Graduate Student Union president Tony Kaidai.

After a close back-to-work vote on Friday, the McMaster strike committee of graduate students called off its walkout and began negotiations with the administration. The Union of Graduate Students under president Tony Kaidai agreed to back the committees' demands.

The students first walked out Feb. 7 with six demands:

- McMaster offer a legal contract of employment to graduate students and recognize the GSU as a bargaining unit;

- the take-home pay of all graduate students be no less than before the introduction of new tax laws;

- merit scholarship programs be abolished;

- guarantee a minimum gross income to all graduate students of \$3,600;

- McMaster recognize the GSU, the Faculty Association, McMaster Student Union as the bargaining units they represent to present their views to the Wright Commission.

Kaidai said that the real root of the problem lies with the Ontario government in its recent cutback on graduate aid.

Graduate dean Alvin Lee refused to commit himself on recognizing the GSU as a bargaining unit but felt the GSU had "a very important deliberative and consultative role in those aspects of university policy pertaining to graduate students."

He said the recent \$350 increase in graduate student aid had substantially reduced the inroads or taxes and loss of assisted medicare.

Although Kaidai had said the merit plan of awarding the top 20 percent of graduate students extra money was not desirable, Lee said the majority of these awards would go to incoming MA students and thus not produce the competitive atmosphere Kaidai feared.

Lee said McMaster now paid each student \$3,550 — just \$50 short of the graduate students' demands.



Northern Ireland MP and protestant civil rights leader Ivan Cooper spoke to a York crowd of 100 students on Friday about his involvement on Bloody Sunday. He was accompanied by 20 bodyguards (background) which he says were to protect him from assassination.

Cooper says press has British bias

By ANDY MICHALSKI

Protestant civil rights leader and Northern Ireland MP Ivan Cooper told a York audience Friday that the press covering the events in Ireland were biased towards the British because the majority of their stories were channeled through London.

He said the day of disruption in Ireland last Wednesday was a success. Most students stayed away from school, workers away from their factories and main roads were blocked. The press feels it was a failure he said, because there were no riots as anticipated by the British troops.

A witness to the Bloody Sunday shooting of 13 civilians, Cooper said a march of 20,000 Catholics through Derry was stopped by the troops using CS gas. The marchers then tried to go to a platform 300 to 400 yards from the troops' barricades. The British opened fire on the crowd to draw out suspected members of the Irish Republican Army.

Nine of the 13 casualties were shot in the back or in the back of the head. British troops said four were wanted men.

The MP feels that re-unification of Ireland hasn't been projected to both sides in a positive way. He feels Eire should drop the official support of the Roman Catholic church and its ban on contraception and offer more conciliatory moves to get the six Protestant counties to join.

In the short term, he wants direct British rule over the Stormont government and negotiations between Dublin, Westminster, Stormont and the Northern Ireland opposition.

He felt that internment had been a failure from the first week when 36 people were killed in demonstrations, 23,000 made homeless and 8,000 forced to flee to Eire.

Cooper collected \$8,300 from a Thursday night speech in downtown Toronto. He spoke Friday to some 100 York students in the company of 20 Irish bodyguards.

Star seeks to separate ranks

TORONTO (CUP) — The Toronto Star is a newspaper that has always prided itself on its liberal conscience and its advocacy of the rights of the downtrodden. A memo recently issued by the Star's management suggests that there is a gulf between the paper's theory and its practice.

The memo instructed the paper's editorial staff to eat at the other end of the staff cafeteria from the pressmen. That means the reporters aren't allowed to talk to the printers.

The reason given for this segregation is, of all things, the stains from printers' ink on the hands of the pressmen. The reporters might pick up ink themselves if they sat at the same tables (or shook hands with one of the printers).

This ink, the management fears, could then find its way into the sterility of the newsroom and would generally muck things up.

The more cynical observers at the Star see another reason for the separation of the reporters from the production workers: there has been talk in recent weeks of tighter relationship between the two unions that represent both factions.

These observers see the Star quaking in its corporate boots at the prospect of the reporters and the technical staff forming a common front to fight some common grievances against management.

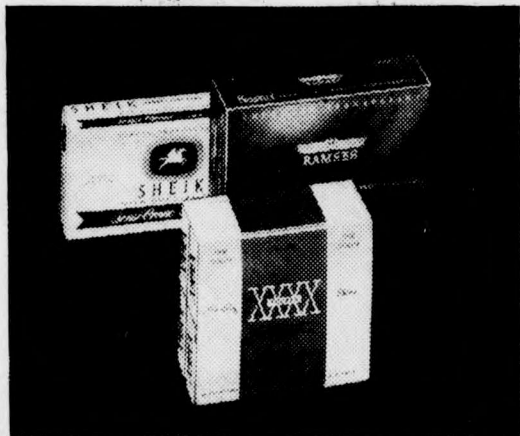
La Presse, Montreal's largest daily newspaper, has been closed down since July when the various unions banded together and agreed that none of the employees would go back until management settled their differences with every union involved.

Confronting that kind of unity among its employees really tests the Star's liberal conscience.

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VOW to run for election

OTTAWA (CUP) — The Voice of Women, a Canadian women's organization, may enter independent candidates or support peace candidates in upcoming municipal, provincial and federal elections, according to the national president, Kay MacPherson.

The organization, formed in 1961, has stayed out of the parliamentary process until now, concentrating their efforts on petitioning, demonstrating and confronting members of Parliament and corporations concerned with the war industry. They have also recently taken stands on women's issues such as abortion, day care and family planning.

MacPherson said the non-partisan organization has to do more to make their views known by participating in the parliamentary system, "at least for the next few years". She feels it is an important move now, when half the population is represented by one woman in the House of Commons and political parties show little or no concern with peace and women's issues.

The independent candidates would run to demonstrate their right to do so, not necessarily in the hope of being elected. Their role would then be one of confronting other candidates on women's issues such as day care, MacPherson said and bringing up such issues as the Canadian arms industry, Canadian support for the Americans in Vietnam, Canadian involvement in NATO (whose members are demonstrating "expansionist ideas" in Africa) and Canadian support for white racist regimes like that in South Africa.