

## Another kick in international pants?

by Geri Geldart

The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission has advised Dalhousie University to review their hiring practices of non-resident students without valid employment visas. In a letter to Vice-President A.J. MacKay, the commission advises that if "a study reveals students to be illegally employed, both they and the employer could be liable to prosecution and fines. In addition, such students would not be eligible to, and extension of, their student status in Canada."

In a memorandum circulated to all departments on campus, MacKay wrote "it is my understanding that the regulations are applicable even in the case of regular or casual part-time employment offered to students, whether related to their academic programmes or not." This excludes graduate students employed as teaching assistants and post-doctoral fellows. He has requested these departments to "ensure that

for any work for which payment is made, the student candidate is a 'Canadian resident'.

In response to this tightening of legislation, Uday Jain, President of the International Student's Association, said that in the past it was the practice in Canada and elsewhere to hire non-resident students for part-time low paying jobs on campus without any formal permission from immigration authorities. This permission is rarely granted. Jain feels that such students in Nova Scotia tend to remain here for several years and thus add significantly to the local economy. "The unemployment problem in Canada relates to the full-time well paying job market. There is often a shortage of labour for part-time low paying jobs."

The high cost of education and this recent restriction tightening on non-resident students will place considerable hardships on international students.

## Rape issue controversial

by Valerie Mansour and Danièle Gauvin

Although they have not received complaints of recent rapes on campus, a spokesperson for Halifax Rape Relief has told the *Gazette* that the issue cannot be dismissed, as the probability "is great".

Last week's *Gazette* carried a story about recent rapes at Dalhousie. A great deal of controversy has since arisen and students have been openly discussing rape and considering ways of making the campus safer.

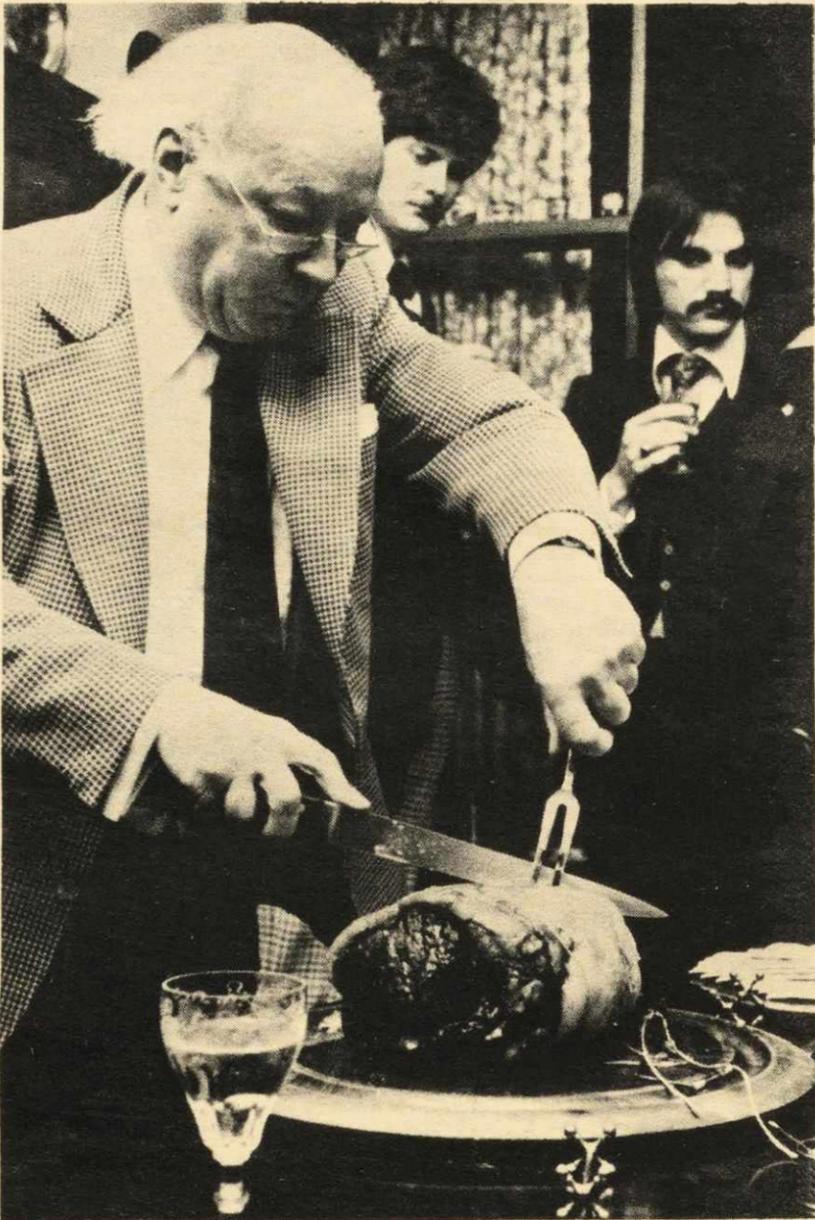
Residents of Shirreff Hall, Dalhousie's women's residence, have adopted a 'better safe than sorry attitude' and many are now going out in groups and couples at night. One student said, "I was no longer being careful at night because I reasoned that in the cold of winter I would be safe from waiting rapists. I now feel safer traveling with friends." Another resident, Perla Arditti, added, "It's too bad that we

The spokesperson from Rape Relief concluded that Dal's ill-lit campus was probably not safe. "I hate to say that women should not walk alone, but as long as rapes continue, women have to take the responsibility for their own protection. We have no choice."

In Canada, only one out of ten rapes are ever reported, due to ignorance, shame or fear of retribution from a society which tends to blame the rape victim for the crime.

have to be the ones responsible for our own protection but I think that going out in groups at night is not that difficult and a lot safer."

In response to the women's concern, Dean of Women, Christine Irvine, plans to have Rape Relief speak to Shirreff Hall residents again soon. The residents themselves have expressed hope that the physical plant staff will improve lighting in areas such as the Dal 'quad' and the Tupper building.



Council members were wined and dined by university president Henry Hicks on Tuesday evening.

## Major campaign to fight cutbacks

ANTIGONISH (CUP)—The Nova Scotia caucus of the Atlantic Federation of Students is planning a major campaign to combat pending tuition fee increases and cutbacks at Maritime post-secondary institutions.

Nova Scotia student leaders decided at a meeting here Saturday to begin the campaign with a large scale education of students on the cutbacks issue through leafletting, pamphlets, and general meetings. The campaign will focus around a regional petition protesting cutbacks and calling for an end to further fee increases.

The caucus felt government assistance to institutions for the next academic year would not be sufficient to meet rising costs, especially since the Council of Maritime Premiers have said they will not meet the request of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission for a 14 per cent increase in operating assistance for next year.

AFS Secretary Coordinator, Tony Kelly, said "estimates of government subsidies range between seven and nine per cent, and that's just not enough. The quality of education is declining," he said, "and should tuition rise again students will be asked to pay more for less."

Nova Scotia central committee member for the National Union of Students, Don Soucy, said it is obvious the provincial governments do not see education spending as a very high priority, since they have been given total control over education. He said students will once again be the victims of

inadequate funding.

Soucy suggested there could be a mass resignation from the MPHEC if operating assistance grants are not increased by at least seven per cent.

Students agreed to approach the administrations of each campus to secure support for their case and request holdbacks on fee increases for next year. "We must fight increases at the source: the government", Soucy said.

Although weather conditions prevented some campuses from attending and there was no quorum, several motions were dealt with. They will be put to a mail-out ballot to the institutions who did not make the meeting.

While AFS expects there may be some progress in the near future in gaining student representation on the MPHEC, it is not seen as a major priority. Kelly said representation would be for information purposes primarily, since it would not guarantee any effective input.

The caucus was presented with a rough draft of a survey on cutbacks at each campus, which will be finalized and circulated throughout the region. Student representatives felt administrations may be curtailing student services with an adverse effect on the quality of education.

The caucus also questioned its involvement with the Halifax-Dartmouth Metro Coalition of Support for the Unemployed, which they believed was dominated by the Nova Scotia Federation of Labor. Members agreed that if the conditions of membership in the

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We're not as young as we look! Yesterday the *Dalhousie Gazette* turned 109. The first edition of Canada's Oldest College Newspaper was on January 25, 1869. Inside this issue are examples of the *Gazettes* of the past.