

Bulletin . . .

The University administration took another shot at Norman Strax yesterday.

Early yesterday morning Strax was handed a court injunction by the university.

The injunction will supposedly effectively cause Strax's removal from Liberation 130, his former office in Loring Bailey Hall. He and close to 50 students have been sitting in at the office since Thursday night. They were still there last night. There were always at least ten people in the office.

They have been protesting his suspension from the university. Strax, a nuclear physics prof, was suspended after several demonstrations at the Harriet Irving library protesting the compulsory use of ID cards to sign books out. The ID card system was introduced this year.

The library protests were sponsored by Struggle for a democratic society, a group dedicated to radical action. Strax was active in the demonstrations.

Three University of Toronto mathematics profs phoned Strax this morning and indicated their support for him. They said they were going to contact the general secretary of the Canadian association of university teachers concerning the Strax case.

New Brunswick premier Louis Robichaud and administration president Colin Mackay received wires today signed by 14 U of T profs supporting Strax.

"The whole Canadian academic community would suffer if Strax's case is handled repressively," said the wire.

"We the undersigned urge police not be called, that students not be expelled and that Strax be reinstated."

The incident is now being covered nationwide by CBC. This is the first time that the sit-in and reaction to it have reached the national scene.

The injunction came less than 24 hours after Strax had received notice of a board of governor's subcommittee meeting to review and report on the circumstances of the suspension. Strax was informed in a letter from the board Sunday morning that he could appear before the subcommittee if he wished.

According to the injunction Strax is restrained from trespassing on university property and from inciting or encouraging students to disobey any rules of the university.

Informed sources say that the University of Maine chapter of students for a democratic society at Orono, Maine, is sending a contingent to support Strax.



Norm Strax (second from left) and demonstrators discuss tactics as the sit-in continues in Strax's former office. They are protesting Strax's recent suspension and the administration's failure to give valid reasons for it. Looking on are demonstrator Doug Perry and Brunswickan reporter Lynnnda McDougall.

- Brunswickan photo by Ken Tait

"Strax better than successor," say students asking his return

Dr. Norman Strax's fifth year electrical engineering class approached him Friday afternoon to tell him, "We want you back as our prof." Ken MacLaggan explained Sunday that the four members of his class agreed that Strax was a good professor. What he did outside his class time was irrelevant to his academic work.

MacLaggan said that his first reaction on hearing that Strax was to be his professor was, "Oh, No!" This feeling was caused primarily by Strax's in-

volvement with mobilization, an organization with which the class members do not sympathize.

After attending Strax's lectures, however, MacLaggan became "quite impressed." He knew what he was talking about and made it quite interesting. He's the sort of guy who can make a class interesting," he said.

"Personally, I don't sanction his outside activities," said MacLaggan. "But he has never tried to interject his political views into his class."

Admin suspends Strax; protest sit-in continues

Dr. Norman Strax was suspended by the administration last Tuesday morning.

Administration president Colin Mackay refused to give specific reasons for the suspension.

"The reasons are obvious," he said at a Thursday press conference.

Strax and several students are staging a sit-in in his former office, 130 Loring Bailey Hall to protest the suspension. Strax was given until Thursday morning to vacate the office. The sit-in began Thursday night and continuing as the Brunswickan went to press Sunday night.

Sunday morning board-of-governors secretary Chester Mahan and physics-department head Al Boone delivered Strax a letter from the board. The letter says the board supports Mackay in the suspension.

"The board, before taking action, has constituted a subcommittee of two faculty members of the board who were not involved in the suspension, together with the president of the University of New Brunswick teachers' association, to review and report on the circumstances of the

suspension," said the letter.

The letter invites Strax to appear at a subcommittee meeting in the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel Wednesday afternoon. Profs E. C. Garland, engineering, and G. A. McAllister, law, are the two faculty members. Chemistry prof Doug Brewer is the association president.

Strax's comment on reading the letter was, "Why don't they meet here (130 Loring Bailey Hall) rather than the Lord Beaverbrook?"

Most of the demonstrators said they were not members of struggle for a democratic society. SDS is a group dedicated to radical action. Strax is active in the Maritime region SDS office.

The demonstrators said they were there solely to protest the alleged infringement on Strax's civil rights.

Boone handed Strax a letter from Mackay Tuesday morning at ten and immediately relieved him of his class.

The letter informed Strax he was suspended and that he was relieved of all his duties and responsibilities as a faculty professor. All of his privileges

were also withdrawn. Strax is a nuclear physicist.

The letter gave no reason for the suspension.

Last Monday night members of Struggle for a democratic society demonstrated against compulsory use of ID cards to sign books out of the library. The library was closed one hour early on instructions from Dr. Gertrude Gunn, chief librarian.

"The library was closed because it couldn't operate," said Dr. Gunn.

"The specific difficulty was that we had three members of SDS in."

At the time registrar Dugald Blue said that this was the last time it would happen. He said there would be action taken before morning.

SDS had demonstrated at the library last Friday and Saturday. The library was closed three hours early Friday night. Strax was involved in all three demonstrations.

Wednesday 25 people demonstrated in front of Mackay's office. They carried placards demanding reasons for Strax's suspension.

The demonstrators in Strax's

office issued a statement today saying they were protesting Strax's suspension and the fact that he was given no reason, for it.

It said that Mackay must show valid reason for the arbitrary suspension, they Strax must be re-instated if no valid reasons are forthcoming and that Mackay give written assurances that the membership of the board of governors will be changed to make it representative of the New Brunswick people.

Mimeographed copies of the statement and two other leaflets were distributed on campus by SDS sympathizers. One leaflet said a prof should be suspended for academic incompetence not his political views.

Friday afternoon four fifth-year electrical engineering students told Strax that they preferred him to his successor as a physics prof.

"We want you back as our prof," they said.

Student reaction to library closings and ID-card demonstrations became increasingly violent this week, particularly against Strax, whom many regarded as SDS's leader. One stu-

dent said Strax should be kicked off campus.

There were threats to Strax and other demonstrators Monday night. Students were cooled down by registrar Blue and physics prof Theodore Weiner.

Wednesday night there was a lively discussion between SDS members and sympathizers and students opposing them.

There were other suspensions in the aftermath of ID-card protests. Dave Hallam and Clay Burns, both philosophy 4, were active in the ID-card demonstrations at the library. Both have had their library privileges suspended.

After the library hassle Monday four students had run-ins with security police.

Security chief Barnett confiscated Brunswickan photographer Henry Straker's film Monday night.

Tuesday night Barnett was taking Burns to the security office when students John and Mike Robinson stopped him to find out the problem.

While they were talking to Barnett, Burns left. The chief accused the Robinsons of interfering with him and threatened to charge them.