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## Hicks denies rumor

# Tuition hike still possible

by Ken MacDougall

To listen to both sides, one would get the impression that CJCH Radio and Dalhousie University president Henry Hicks were at war.

CJCH, if you recall, first broadcast speculations that tuition at Dalhousie would be going up about \$90 per student for the 1972-73 school year.

Henry Hicks categorically denied that tuition hikes had even been considered by the administration. He also used the opportunity to lash out at the "irresponsible" newsmen of the station.

CJCH news staff were naturally stunned by the onslaught from Hicks.

They still say tuition will go up next year, and further state that the University Grants Committee is going to give Dal only \$18.5 million this coming year, which is far less than what Hicks is probably expecting.

Last year the university asked for approximately \$21 million, and got only \$17.5 million, and then only after Student Union president Brian Smith arranged a meeting with Finance Minister Nicholson and Premier Regan and got a commitment for an additional \$500,000.

This must have irritated Dr. Hicks, who not only couldn't get any promise from the Liberal government for more funds, despite his close affiliation with the party (Hicks is an ex-Liberal premier of the province), but couldn't even get to see Nicholson.

All this light comedy and rivalry, however, has absolutely nothing to do with the students of Dal, who are naturally concerned about the possibility of having to pay even more for their education next year.

Dalhousie is already the most expensive university in Canada to attend, and the thought of paying even more next year doesn't sit too well with most students. Many have stated flatly that they will not be back if tuition goes up again.

Dalhousie's financial problems stem from their building fever, which saw the Life Sciences Building, the Arts Centre, the Killam Library and the Thermal Plant built in the past two years. Operating costs for these buildings have

just started to hit the university this year, and caused the jump in tuition by \$100 last year.

The Regan administration does not place the same high priority on university spending as did the previous Conservative administration. Hicks, in an interview with the GAZETTE, pointed out that in 1966-67, the province was paying 1.33% of the provincial budget to the university, while in 1970-71, the government was only contributing 0.95% of their budget to Dal.

However, Nova Scotian government contributions in that same period rose from \$2.2 million to \$4.2 million. The balance of the University Grants Committee's contribution comes from Federal government equalization payments.

The university is expecting an additional enrolment next year of 10% above this year's figures. This would mean an increase of approximately 25% over the past two years.

Last year, Hicks explained, because government contributions to the university were not as great as expected, there was no additional hiring of academic staff. This meant that the quality of teaching here must have suffered. This year, the university is gambling on an increase in the contribution from the Nova Scotia government, and has authorized the hiring of an additional twenty professors. This still isn't an increase of 10% in faculty, Hicks added. Faculty at Dal number about 300 at present.

Speaking at the Law School February 3rd, Premier Regan was asked by Smith whether or not, in light of the adverse financial situation the province faces this year, the government is prepared to apply financial pressures to the universities of the province so that the money spent by the universities would be spent on people, not on buildings that were architect's dreams.

Premier Regan's answer was, "Yes". Despite Regan's pledge to put pressure on universities, Dal appears to be headed for financial problems this year. The only way it would seem possible for the university to raise extra money would be



Dal president Henry Hicks denies tuition raise rumors.

bob jeffries/dal photo

to jack up tuition.

If fees do go up again, there may be a small war on campus. The first announcement of the speculated tuition hike brought out protest signs in Howe Hall and Fenwick Towers. After such a vehement denial of the rumours, Hicks may have left himself wide open to student ridicule should he attempt to

raise fees.

In the meantime, we will all wait patiently for the official word from Nicholson's office on the precise amount Dal can expect from the province. Then we shall wait patiently for the word from the Dalhousie administration on the possibilities of tuition going up again next year.

## New Morning campaigns against death drugs

by Bruce M. Lantz

As a result of the recent deaths of several people in the area, New Morning Collective has organized a campaign against "Death Drugs". The drugs in question are methedrine (speed), heroin (smack) and methadone.

Although heroin is not a major problem in this area right now, methadone is and has resulted in the deaths of at least four local people. It is dispensed by doctors and drug stores supposedly to help addicts "get off" heroin. Actually methadone is itself addicting. It

is relatively easy to obtain — by proving to the doctor that you have made frequent injections of some drug into your system. This only encourages speed freaks and those not really in the addiction stage to apply for this "legal" drug.

New Morning has stated that this campaign is necessarily coming from a base of people because the organized forces of control centre their activities on the softer drugs: marijuana, hashish and hallucinogens. This is the easier way and, in the opinion of New Morning, it is just another way to keep a large

segment of society disorganized and under control.

New Morning Collective and the others who have established the present campaign are speaking in schools and drop-in centres on the necessity of forcing dealers of these drugs to stop. The primary concern at the moment is to arouse mass support and then attack the legal pusher — the medical profession.

As the program gets completely underway it will take some positive measures. One of the first of these, according to New Morning spokesman Mike

Malich, will be the establishment of alternate forms of entertainment.

People are doing these drugs and engaging in other negative activities simply because they have nothing to do but loiter on the streets and in restaurants. After they are educated to what this does to them and for establishment oppression they will be able to engage in constructive activities that will bring the revolution much closer. The masses of people that are presently destroying themselves off will be organized and able to follow a consistent

program of action against the capitalist state.

This program of educating people to the dangers of these drugs, the necessity of direct action, the isolation of those responsible and then the exerting of mass force against these elements is designed to help the people organize themselves — something that the use of these drugs has prevented, and to show who the real criminals are.

Anyone who is willing to lend support to this cause should contact New Morning Collective at 1106 Barrington St. or phone 423-3242.