

Students reject review, bargain for concessions

By JENNY JOHNSON and
PAUL KELLOGG

Legal proceedings will not be started against the university administration for increasing residence rents 13.5 per cent last May, an increase some have called illegal.

This was the result of a poll conducted two weeks ago in all undergraduate residences except Bethune. It was initiated by the ad hoc Student Bargaining Committee, composed of CYSF president Barry Edson and a representative from each college and residence council. Of the 523 who responded to the poll, 317 called for an "out-of-court" settlement.

The rent increase was considered to be illegal because the administration failed to comply with three conditions outlined by the Ontario Rent Review Board

regarding any increase in residence fees. They neglected to consult a representative body of residence students before the increase was officially announced, submit a statement with the rent review officer certifying that this consultation took place, and give due notice to the students.

Because of this apparent failure to comply with the legislation, students could have pressed for rent rebates and had the administration fined for what could amount to millions of dollars.

Instead, the bargaining committee will be pressing for concessions from the university administration.

First on the list is a restructuring of the Budget Preparation Committee, giving it 50 per cent student representation. Getting this concession is viewed by Edson as the most important possible out-

come of the negotiations and, according to Edson, is "in the bag" except for the final signatures.

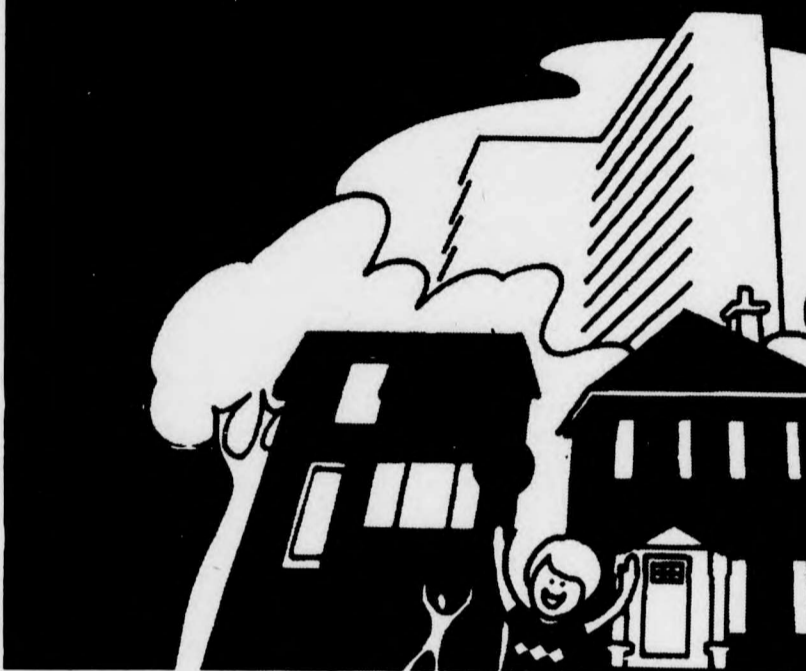
"The administration is making these concessions" said Edson, "because they've seen the folly of their ways. If students had been involved in the original discussions, the university wouldn't have had the legal problems they are presently being confronted with."

According to Harry Knox, assistant vice-president business operations, there are no undergraduate students on the Budget Preparation Committee in spite of repeated invitations from his office. "They're free to sit on the committee anytime they wish" said Knox.

Knox, the administration's representative in the negotiations, disagreed that the changes the student committee is going for are in the bag. "It hasn't been finalized yet, we're having another meeting this Friday" he said.

Another concession being sought is a restructuring of the Master's Residence Committee giving it the power to determine rents and giving students 50 per cent of the committee's votes.

RENT REVIEW



Environment students get 3 council seats

By PAUL KELLOGG

For only the second time in CYSF's history, students in the faculty of Environmental Studies will have representatives on council.

The last time the faculty was represented was 1973-74. "It didn't change things much, though," said Bob Freeman, one of the new representatives. "The three representatives only showed up at two meetings, then nobody saw them again."

Acclaimed to council along with Freeman were Barry Sookman and Bernie Ferrier.

Until 1971, Environmental Studies students were represented on council by the three graduate representatives. In that year, environmental studies students voted to pull out of the Graduate Students Association and maintained that this constituted withdrawal from CYSF as well.

CYSF and the university administration maintained that environmental students were still a part of CYSF. The controversy was resolved, at least temporarily, in 1973, environmental students electing three representative to CYSF. Part of the arrangement was changing the allocation of the per-capita student activity fee from \$10 for CYSF and \$5 for the graduate societies (GSA and EUSA) to \$5.50 and \$9.50 respectively.

Despite the fact they number only 290 Environmental Studies students are entitled to three elected representatives, on council, the same as all other constituencies. "Any college, faculty or school" is entitled to elect three according to CYSF's constitution.

"I'm going to look into the constitution and see if their representation can be changed," said CYSF president Barry Edson. He stated that it was inequitable that they should have the same number of representatives as the other constituencies, all of which number between 1,000 and 1,500.

"They should be represented," said Edson, "but maybe each representative could be given half a vote or something."

Generations will pay thousands, as Waterloo residence mortgaged

WATERLOO (CUP) - In at least one residence at the University of Waterloo, 75 cents of every dollar paid in fees is going to pay off the mortgage on the residence, according to a study done by the campus' estranged newspaper, the Free Chevron.

Generations of students will pay over \$1 million on a \$300,000 loan used to build the 70-bed Minota Hagey residence, the study shows.

The residence was completed in 1968 at a cost of \$632,000. Despite administration assurances that the funds would come from

donations within the Kitchener-Waterloo community, it was necessary to take out a mortgage in February, 1969.

To date, interest payments have consumed over \$305,000 so the university still owes \$311,000, the Free Chevron says.

Residence fees have risen to \$460, per term from \$285 in 1968-69 and occupancy rates have been consistently low. Based on average year-round occupancy, the residence has stood empty for two of its eight years.

In spite of increasing costs and

low occupancy, the average surplus of total fees less operating costs has been \$120 per occupied room per term, the paper says. This surplus, augmented by \$180,000 from general university funds, has gone to an unknown debenture holder.

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