

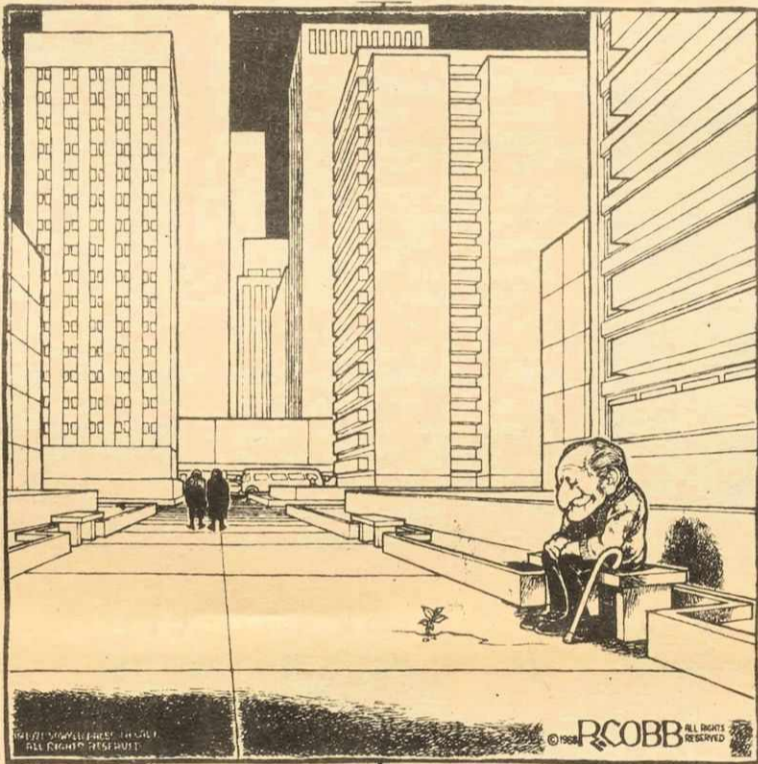
Promoting Bilingualism

This summer as in past summers, Dalhousie will be taking part in the Summer Language Bursary Program. The program which is funded by the Department of the Secretary of State, is designed to promote bilingualism in Canada, by providing courses in both French and English to students whose native language is one or the other. At Dalhousie, the program will primarily be to teach Quebec students further proficiency in English, with a smaller number of English students learning French. It has been quite successful in the past

as both an educational experience and an enjoyable way to spend a summer. Both sets of students are encouraged to mix socially and the results are more than just the mastery of a particular language, they extend to giving them an idea of the cultural differences.

This year, the French department is asking the people of Halifax to provide temporary homes for the Quebecois students. There are to be about forty-five of them and the experience gained can be valuable to both parties. Host families

will be expected to provide light breakfast and supper, and will be granted thirty-five dollars per week to do so. The department is especially interested in contacting families in which at least one person is studying French, however it is not a requisite. It's important, if you are interested to contact Dr. T. P. Carter of the French department as early as possible. He can be reached by phone at, 424-6520, or 423-3373. You may write to him care of the Language Laboratory, Dalhousie University.



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decided to renovate all of the old houses and use them for accommodation purposes.

Glumglower: The whole thing about the University houses is a hairy subject. I can believe that Dal has changed its policies, but I have to believe that the charges they had laid against them had a definite effect upon the change in their policies. It is a good thing that the policies were changed - houses are tied with married students residences on the priorities lists; and I have to admit that they are the best type of accommodation. They provide a very fine atmosphere for small groups of students who wish to be self-sufficient and independent.

Wiseman: Yeah, I dig on that type of accommodation too. You might be interested to know that they are not run on a first come first serve basis.

Glumglower (he just about spills his beer): What?

Wiseman: That's right. The people who are living in those houses are chosen on the basis of how well they will fit into the surrounding community, not on the basis of who's on top of the list.

Glumglower: Meaning it's doubtful that they'll take five single freshmen.

Wiseman: Impossible.

Glumglower: And here I thought Dalhousie was

becoming more impersonal - it's nice to see human judgement still has some use.

Wiseman: Where are you living now?

Glumglower: Fenwick.

Wiseman: Oh, ah. Those conventional apartments are on the very bottom of the housing priorities.

Glumglower: I know, I can see why too. They're impersonal, the atmosphere is conducive only to those who wish to remain in an aura of anonymity, and it reeks of high density living conditions. When a friend of mine first saw it he thought it was a huge phallus.

Wiseman: That all may be true but at least you have a place to live - you were lucky to get into Fenwick - it has a waiting list of over 200.

Glumglower: I realize all that but do we want another monstrosity like it - like Park Victoria?

Wiseman: That would be a mistake. That place would assuredly alleviate the housing situation - in fact it would provide over 1000 beds, but it would be pure horror to live there.

Glumglower: Look, Park Victoria has nothing in its favour. Firstly, and least importantly, the freshmen would run mad in there.

Wiseman: Just a minute - that may not be a valid

point. The University is now considering a policy change concerning traditional residences. They want to guarantee more beds for freshmen, which in effect means limiting the number of years in which a student could return to the traditional residence. I think they're considering two years as the maximum, after which the student must go somewhere else.

Glumglower: O.K. O.K.; so the freshmen might not be that great a factor, but there are numerous others. The conventional apartments like those of Park Victoria are in the lowest demand. The money involved in buying Park Victoria would tie up funds for a long time - meaning that any additions to Howe Hall, of a separate residence of the Howe Hall - Shirreff Hall type could not be built at a time when this type of housing is in high demand. Another problem lies in the heating system of Park Victoria. It was built at a time when energy costs were low; Dalhousie could be saddled with a high heating bill for a long long time. There are other unknown costs which loom menacingly over the heads of those who might risk the purchase. For instance, converting it to student needs is a problem. Of course you have the pro-

blem of what to do with all the people who will have to move out of the building to make room for the students; it will put even greater pressure on the housing situation; and prices will skyrocket.

Wiseman: Dal's ballooning image as a spreading, fuming, gorging corporation will not be deflated any.

Glumglower: It's always been Dal against the South End - it'll always be that way.

Wiseman: Wasn't there a rumour going around about the ownership of the Park Victoria?

Glumglower: There were a number of rumours spread about Park Victoria. The one you're referring to is pure bullshit! - a figment of someone's imagination. Park Victoria is owned by Trizec Corp. which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Montreal based Trizec Corporation Ltd., the largest publically owned real estate company in North America. Their holdings include the Halifax and Dartmouth Shopping Centres, the Halifax Insurance building, the Centennial building, and four huge apartment towers, one of which is Park Victoria. There has been another rumour about the Park Victoria being on a 5 degree slant, and sinking all the time. This one has not been substantiated and can't be used as an argument against the purchase of the building, though it certainly needs looking into before any purchase is made.

Wiseman: At least the Residence Committee came out in opposition to the purchase - they know where it's at.

Glumglower: I'm not so sure they know where anything is at. You're right, they did come out in favour of not purchasing Park Victoria, but they pulled a very shady, ambiguous deal at the end of their suggestions. They say they don't recommend the purchase of Park Victoria, but, if that is the only viable alternative for immediate large-scale relief the committee has no objection to the purchase. Christ-if that isn't sitting on the fence, waffling away - I don't know what is!

Wiseman: We, in our report for the prestigious Dal Gazette, should come out against the purchase.

Glumglower: Goddamn right we will - there's no reason for buying that monstrosity - if they start to build right away!

Wiseman: Yes, the Dal administration has been slow to act haven't they. The student's council has had to prod them continually.

Glumglower: Prod-hell! I think they may have to flog the bastards. There're members of the residence committee who aren't even sure that there is a housing problem. Just a month ago Vagianos said that there was a difference of opinion whether or not "We"

- love that "we" - have an accommodation problem, and if we do have one, what is it? Then Dean Marriott had the gall to suggest that the problem might be one of quality not quantity. Shit - ask my friend who's living in a room with orange crates for shelves, paying \$22 a week if it's one of quality.

Wiseman: Simmer down Glumglower; we have to keep a cool head if and when we write our reports; I hope this is no indication of your hot-headedness. Now you are right about the stupidity of that Vagianos - the need for the housing office is a perfect example of the difficulty of finding housing. The housing office helped alleviate the difficulties - well over 400 or 500 students were able to find accommodation through the office; in the Housing Report by Michael Gardner, the continued existence of the housing office is seen as worthwhile if not crucial.

Glumglower: (somewhat settled down again) Yeah, that is a very valuable organization, but their work will very, assuredly be cut out for them next August. As of now I can foresee only 200 more beds next year unless the University begins to act. The figure 200 might even be too high, because the University houses are being vied for by various academic departments on the campus for office space.

Wiseman: Yes, the English department is moving out of the Killam Library and into valuable housing space. If I remember correctly that Vagianos advised the University to get out of using houses as accommodations as soon as possible, so that they may be used for office space.

Glumglower: (lighting up) That goddamn Vagianos should not be a member of the Residence Committee.

Wiseman: I have to agree - we must recommend the use of University houses for accommodations. It's three-thirty, I better get going I'm going to be late, ah, just before I split, do you have any recommendations that you want me to think about?

Glumglower: Yeah - I've noticed from the minutes of the Residence Committee's meeting that John Graham is one of the more expedient representatives on that committee. Let's recommend that they give the hook to Vagianos and some of those other boobs and get some more people like Graham.

Wiseman: Definitely a good idea. Come over to my shack some time this week - we'll work out the format for our report. I'm living out in Sackville - I couldn't find a place near the University.

He walks out the Greenwood door leaving Glumglower hunched and sulking over a table of beer.