

Newsletter publication only result of conference

OTTAWA (CUP) - The publication of a national student newsletter was the only thing national and provincial student organizers could agree on during their meeting October 30.

Despite attempts by the National Association of Quebec Students (ANEQ) to wring a commitment to mass action from the organizers, the delegates from the National Union of Students (NUS) and several provincial groups, did not respond to the call for agitation.

The newsletter will be a four page tabloid. Target date for its first appearance is sometime in January.

No editorial structure for the newsletter was determined at the meeting. Its content will be devoted, in a large part, to the NUS student aid campaign.

But the newsletter, and promises by those present to communicate regularly with each other, were the only concrete results of the session.

ANEQ, fresh from student mobilizations over Montreal transit increases and, last year, bursaries and loans in the CEGEPS, tried unsuccessfully to persuade representatives of NUS, the Atlantic Federation of Students, Ontario Federation of Students, Saskatchewan students, and the British Columbia Federation of Students to adopt a perspective of building the student movement around mass actions based on a concrete program.

ANEQ surprised the meeting early, with a resolution calling for unity and mass action. The organizations should form a united

front around the issues of loans and bursaries, the Federal Government's Green Paper on Immigration and wage and price controls, ANEQ's Secretary General Pierre Laroche said. ANEQ hoped that by December 8, there could be a student strike staged around the demands.

"Sounds like a bomb has been dropped," said one surprised delegate of the ANEQ resolution.

"Everyone is trying to cope with it," replied Dorothy Kent, a member of the NUS central committee.

John Shortall, OFS chairperson agreed to participate in a mass action with ANEQ. But no specific date was set. Nor was any place chosen.

Each provincial organization was doing the most it could with the resources it had, said Shortall. Most organizations were involved with student aid as an issue, he said adding that OFS was also engaged in other issues.

But there was a need for contact with other provincial movements, according to Shortall. OFS wants to find out what ANEQ is doing, he said, and better communication would result in a better chance that the two organizations would be able to hold mass actions together in the future.

The debate then moved into the areas of mass student actions versus communication between provincial student organizations.

If all the organizations in the room parachuted into British Columbia, claimed BCSF rep Debra Lewis, they might be able to

organize a strike in six months.

But the task would be extremely difficult, because students don't link local problems with problems being faced by other students across the country, she said.

Only a handful of people were ready to organize anything, she said. "Everyone's spread too thin. It's difficult to organize on anything other than local issues," she claimed.

Saskatchewan representative Elspeth Guild said it would be "suicide" for NUS to become involved in a mass action program. If it did, it would be difficult to convince the west to remain in the union, she warned.

NUS representatives were plainly cautious over the resolution. Fieldworker Miguel Figueroa stressed that NUS was involved in other valid forms of political action, other than mass mobilization.

Work needs to be done on local organizations which will help students see events from a common point of view, he said. He cited research and building provincial associations as two other major priorities. "Lobbying" the government is also one of the organization's most important functions, he added.

Many organizations have joined NUS only because of its research facilities, he said, citing the University of New Brunswick as an example.

"If we move immediately in that direction (towards mass action) we run a very substantive (sic) risk of alienating" large sections of the membership, he claimed.

This year, student organizers

should deal with theoretical questions. Next year, they could do concrete work, he said.

"We don't need issues," said Elspeth Guild. "We have issues coming out of our ears."

"We need a base to keep it going," she said.

"I think we have to get down to something more fundamental." Communication was the main problem, she claimed.

"Communiquer, communiquer!" moaned Laroche at one point during the discussion. "Communiquer quoi? Je suis? Tu es?"

Although ANEQ attempted to press for a concrete platform on which to build the new Canadian

newsletter, none was suggested.

ANEQ also tried to persuade delegates to commit themselves to attend another conference in December, to have further discussion on issues around which to organize students.

ANEQ said they would be in favour of a national newsletter as long as it was not done simply for the sake of circulating paper.

The Quebec organization claimed students would become involved in mass actions if there was something to organize around and someone to do the initial spadework. Then student organizers would surface with the student protest, ANEQ claimed.

Food evaluation finds UBC fare 'unhealthy'

VANCOUVER (CUP) - A University of British Columbia grad student is testing food in the student union building cafeteria for bacterial contamination.

Mark Muller said October 27 his evaluation of hamburgers, tuna fish, sandwiches, and milkshakes will be the first ever test for unhealthy amounts of bacteria in cafeteria food.

"I was shocked to find out they were not doing routine analysis of SUB food", he said. "The inspectors never look at food bacteria counts."

Muller said he is most concerned about SUB snack bar hamburgers which become susceptible to bacteria growth when they are left near human body temperatures under an infra-red lamp.

Even if the amount of bacteria in the meat is very small it can multiply rapidly and make the food unfit for consumption, he said.

Municipal health inspector Susan Aikman confirmed that food served at SUB cafeteria and other campus food services outlets has never been tested.

"I would like to do lots of food samplings around UBC but our

labs just do not have the facilities", she said.

Aikman said previous inspections which occur annually, have only dealt with serving and handling of food services fare, not with the bacteriological purity of the food.

"I think our tests are probably very superficial", she said.

Aikman and Muller, who collected samples together, agreed it will be difficult to determine if foods are dangerously contaminated because there are no federal standards for bacterial levels in cooked meats.

Muller said, "The whole hassle is interpreting results. All I have to go by are proposed standards."

UBC food services head Robert Bailey said food services is constantly checking its operation for cleanliness. He said there has been no evidence in the past of food contamination.

Muller criticized the BC government's "primitive" food standards and health regulations.

He said municipal organizations are left to do most of the testing of food outlets despite their inadequate facilities.

Calls for papers' unity

QUEBEC CITY (CUP) - CEGEPS and University newspapers must unite to better promote the interests of students.

So said more than 70 delegates representing 34 student newspapers in Quebec at the founding congress of the Presse Etudiante Nationale (PEN) meeting in Quebec City November first and second.

The new organization has given itself the task of organizing the student press in Quebec to help mobilize students in their opposition to the government's educational policies. In this they will work closely with the Association Nationale des Etudiants du Quebec (ANEQ).

ANEQ represents more than 70,000 students in post secondary institutions in Quebec.

Delegates at the founding Congress repeatedly underlined the fact the PEN must have very close ties with ANEQ and that there could be no question of one ever being in opposition to the other.

"There is only one student

movement, and we are both part of it, any effort to weaken or do away with the other," one delegate told a crowd which cheered every intervention in favour of unity with ANEQ.

Although some delegates expressed doubt as to the wisdom of not allowing more autonomy for the newly formed press organization, the PEN voted with only two dissenting votes to unconditionally support ANEQ in its efforts to fight for students' rights.

PEN will be divided into seven regions, each with an executive responsible to maintain communications with each other and the national executive which will have its headquarters in Quebec City.

PEN will be financed through money raised from the members and may have a fund raising campaign in the spring.

The first priority of PEN will be to set up a network of communications between the members and to establish information bankers at the regional national level where articles and data of importance would be kept for use by the newspapers when needed.

Preside

VANCOUVER (CUP) - The federal and provincial governments have failed to provide adequate inexpensive housing for students, according to the student council president at Capilano College in Vancouver.

In an interview November 6, Bill Bell pointed to the scores of high priced condominiums currently springing up across the road from the college, literally a stone's throw away. The units will be out of the price range of the average student; from \$40,000 to \$70,000.

Reform so equal pe

WATERLOO (CUP) - The exploitation of women workers will only end when both male and female labourers own the means of production, a University of Waterloo audience was told October 29.

Nan McDonald, spokesperson for the Communist Party of Canada (CPC), said the exploitation of women as evidenced in the disparity of wages between men and women is rooted in Canada's economic system - monopoly capitalism.

Though women may make some gains in the present system by pushing for social reform, they will never be "emancipated" until the means of production are owned by the Canadian working class,

Quang still

OTTAWA (CUP) - Almost four months after being ordered deported, former South Vietnamese General Dang Van Quang is still in Canada. Immigration Minister Robert Andras said October 30 he does not expect to make a final decision on the general's expulsion for a "few months".

The United States has refused to allow Quang to enter as an immigrant, a refugee, or as a special case, Andras told the House of Commons.

Quang arrived in Montreal on a special ministerial permit on May 15 after the fall of the South Vietnamese government.

He applied for landed-immigrant status, but an investigation which

Housing const

CALGARY (CUP) - A \$27,000 report recommending the construction of a 1500 bed-unit housing project has been presented to the University of Calgary student council.

The recommendation came from the Student Housing Commission, and proposed building low rise apartment type housing on the football field.

The study was done by the student commission in consultation with a local planning firm.

The cost of the study was shared with the university Board of Governors paying \$5,000 and the student council \$22,000.

According to student council

• SUB Cafeteria goes ••

• METRIC

• Subs By The Centimeter Or The Meter Or The

• Kilometer, Whichever You Prefer.

• 8¢ per centimeter (20¢ per inch)

• \$8.00 per meter (\$2.50 per foot)

• \$800.00 per kilometer (\$7.20 per yard)

• Ham, salami, bologna, pickle & pimento, mock

• chicken, lettuce, tomatoes, onion, cheese, pickle.

• Thursday, November 27th.

• both cafeteria lines

• 11:30 — 1:30