

## Place of residence your choice

# Students may vote here

OTTAWA (CUP) — Canada's Chief Electoral Officer said today (September 19) that enumerators had stepped out of their line when they prevented students from registering to vote in their university constituencies.

J. M. Hamel said enumerators "were going beyond their terms of reference" last week, when they subjected University of Western Ontario residence students to lengthy interrogations about their independence from their parents.

"I talked to the returning officer in London West last week, and I quoted from your article what I had said: that it was for the student to decide where he considered his ordinary residence to be," Hamel told CUP. "Nothing in the Election Act authorizes students to go through a complete interrogation."

London West returning officer, John Kerr, had said single students living away from home who wanted to vote in London must declare themselves independent of their parents and be able to prove it. By Sep-

tember 16 only 285 residence students had been enumerated out of a residence population of more than 4,000.

Hamel was not aware of a similar problem at Devonshire House, a professional students' residence at the University of

14) the local returning officer accepted Hamel's statement to CUP, and said "we will make every endeavour to ensure every student who wants to vote here, can."

By September 16, students said that only four of 80 students in one residence wing had been enumerated but the returning officer said he didn't know enumerators used improper procedure.

"I am determined to allow every student who wants to, to vote here," he said. "If necessary, I will ask the authorities to extend the enumeration period."

Hamel explained the problems have occurred because all 95,000 enumerators across Canada couldn't be expected to interpret guidelines from his office in the same way.

Although memoranda which Hamel sent to local returning officers drew a sharp distinction between students "away from home" and those "on their own", the chief electoral officer said his recent statements do not represent a retreat from an earlier policy.

"The only additional question

we can ask a student is whether he would be willing to declare his university residence to be his ordinary residence under oath on election," he said.

Under the new Canada Elections Act, students no longer have the choice of being enumerated at their parents' home riding and where they live while at university. Instead, they may vote by proxy in their parents' riding if they cannot appear on election day or for the advanced poll.

Hamel denied reports that proxy voting procedure is cumbersome. He said students can pick up both "Form 47" (the proxy form) and a statement from their university registrar certifying their status as students at the registrar's office. They must mail the completed forms to the proxy voter in the parents' riding, who then must take them to the local returning officer. Only a person registered to vote in the some polling division can act as a student's proxy voter.

From the student's end "the whole thing could be taken care of in less than five minutes," Hamel claimed.

Dalhousie University will remain open for classes and other business on election day, October 30, Dr. Henry D. Hicks, the president, announced.

Hicks said a number of inquiries had been received by the university as to whether or not election day would be a holiday. This will be the first general election since the voting age was lowered to 18, and most university students will be able to vote.

Hicks said the new voting regulations were such that they gave everyone eligible to vote an ample opportunity to do so. It was important, however, for enumerators to know where students would be on election day and since a holiday was not declared, students away from their home constituency could now be enumerated in the Halifax-Dartmouth area.

Hicks added that he had discussed the matter with the presidents of Saint Mary's and Mount Saint Vincent universities, and they also agreed that election day would not be a holiday.

"There was a rumor that students were going to be subjected to a means test," Hamel said today. "But we simply cannot demand that. It is none of our business where a student gets financed. We don't care."

Toronto. Enumerators there last week told students that "accepting money from parents means the student must vote in the parents' riding."

But the next day (September

### General strike imminent

# Quebec law students protest bar exams

MONTREAL (CUPI) — A general strike of Quebec Law Students against the Quebec Bar now seems imminent, following a meeting on September 23, at the University of Montreal.

An ultimatum from the University of Montreal students demanding the restructuring of the Bar Examination was

ignored last week.

Consequently, Law Students at the University of Montreal, the University of Sherbrooke, Laval University, the University of Ottawa and McGill University are considering strike action.

William Friedman, President of the McGill Law Undergraduate Society, has called a meeting for 8:30 a.m., September 25 at which he will ask for student support for the strike.

If they agree, they will join more students who have

already begun picketing the Palais de Justice.

Bar Examinations have been scheduled during the time of demonstrations, yet the doors have already been barred by angry students.

The lawyers' Guild, however, has a police permit to demonstrate between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The major objections of the striking students aimed at the structure of the Bar Exams. Six tests given both morning and afternoon on three consecutive days, each last three hours.

Fifty-eight per cent of those tested in Quebec earlier this year failed.

The strikers hope to pressure

members of the Bar into restructuring the exams at a meeting planned for next Tuesday.

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The Dalhousie University Parking Committee has established new rules concerning the use of the parking facilities of Dalhousie University.

According to this committee, "parking in University parking areas is a privilege and not a right and is restricted to vehicles bearing valid parking permits." To obtain a permit, an applicant must register and pay the required fee at the Traffic Office, Central Services Building, Room 108. The office is open from 8:30 a. m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

No warning tickets will be issued this year and vehicles without valid parking permits will be ticketed by the city police. Currently the fine is \$5.75.

The university assumes no responsibility for any vehicle issued a permit nor does it undertake to issue permits to all applicants.

Information concerning eligibility for permits, fees, offenses, penalties, et cetera, may be obtained at the Traffic Office or by calling 424-3344.

**RESERVED PARKING SPACE**

Location: South of Arts and Administration Building entrance

For further information contact Dalhousie University Traffic Office Rm 108, 1236 Henry St.

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**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**  
Jazz 'n' Suds — Green Room, 9 p.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1**  
Folk Mass — Council Chambers, 7 p.m.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3**  
Films on Art "Clarence Schmidt: the Woodstock Environment" and "Visual Arts" — Dal Art Gallery, lunch hour.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**  
Film Society — "The Old Fashioned Way" and "The Fatal Glass of Beer" with W. C. Fields — Cohn Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6**  
Improvisational Revue "The Proposition" — Cohn Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

Jazz 'n' Suds — Green Room, 9 p.m.

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