

French club opens little café

by Margaret Little

Dalhousie University's French club is preparing to open a little café on Le Marchant Street in the third week of October, said Animateur Khadidja Dali-Ahmed.

"Everyone is invited — including students who do not take French courses but wish to brush up or learn French for the first time."

Students who hit a hunger-spell during those long hours at the Killam Library are invited to drop over to the friendly atmosphere of the café and taste the selection of natural foods and espresso coffee, urges Dali-Ahmed.

Besides the café project, the club is lining up monthly dinners where members can

taste and prepare a variety of cuisines — "tout en français, naturellement."

The infamous "Vins et Fromages" will continue throughout the school term, attracting the mice and grapes of the university crowd. Again "tout en français."

For those students who desire to learn conversational French but cannot fit it into their schedules, Dali-Ahmed thinks she has the answer.

For one hour on Wednesday, from 12:30 to 1:30, Dali-Ahmed, from Claremont, France, will help students improve their French while eating lunch at the Student Union Building's cafeteria.

An alternative or an addition to Wednesday's lunch class is

an informal French conversational get-together at the Grad House on Friday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Students are also invited to join the students living in the three French houses on Le Marchant Street for intramural volleyball.

A trip to the College de Ste. Anne, une pièce du théâtre de Molière, une soirée de film, a raffle, a second hand sale, des boîtes de chansons, une soirée des crêpes (pancakes), and une partie a Halloween et Noël, are among the French Club events for the school year.

"Everyone is invited," says Dali-Ahmed. "All you have to do to become a member is participate."

Foreign Students: BC MLA calls for differential fees

VANCOUVER (CUP)—A BC MLA has issued a report condemning foreign students for not being "equipped to participate in our North American society."

The report, which social credit MLA Jack Davis has distributed to university heads and boards of governors, calls for differential tuition fees for foreign students.

Davis said September 29 he developed the report out of concern for accessibility for "our own people" at universities in BC.

"Why should they (foreign students) get a free ride while Canadians are turned away from classes? Why should we subsidize foreign students?"

The report has shocked

many student groups, some of which are preparing replies. Doug Fleming, a Simon Fraser University Student Society officer, said he felt the report was "disgusting".

The report, which said he intends to present to the BC legislature in the spring, uses many of the arguments presented by the CTV public affairs program W5 in January, when the program claimed foreign students were denying Canadians access to university. The show's producers later had to apologize for inaccuracies after a nationwide series of protests.

"In engineering at UBC today," the report states, "foreign students make up about 20 per cent of the typical class. Many of them don't

speak English when they arrive. They can't write English and they certainly haven't been through our high school system. . . but somehow they are accepted by our university system, accepted when our own people are turned away.

"And few of them ever mix with the rest of the university community. They stay in their tight little groups. They rarely engage in extra-curricular activities. They are not really equipped to participate in our North American society."

Davis, admitted his statistics were not always sound. He said he obtained figures such as the 20 per cent foreign student enrollment in UBC engineering from three UBC engineering students.

Davis said he did not bother to check his figures with the UBC registrar or with the university ministry officials.

The president has said he wants to see more visa students at UBC.

But Davis said he is prepared to override the universities' wishes concerning differential fees because universities naturally want more students because it increases their funding.

"The universities are the last places to consult about whether differential fees are a good idea," he said.

Davis is recommending foreign students pay between \$6,000 and \$8,000 in tuition fees.

Davis said "I'm not racist, I'm being entirely logical. Call me a nationalist if you like".

Davis was fired from his provincial cabinet post by Premier Bill Bennett when it became known he had been using first class government airplane tickets — to fly economy, and had pocketed the difference. Following his conviction on charges stemming from the airplane tickets, he resigned his seat as an MLA. He won re-election in 1979.

Dal Student Union

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Journalists cash in

WINNIPEG (CUP)—News is so slow in Winnipeg these days that student journalists have taken to stealing books to create a story.

And security is so lax at the University of Manitoba that these journalists have been able to get away with their theft.

Four reporters from the university student newspaper, the Manitoban, entered the University of Manitoba student union book exchange and came out with over \$200 worth of used text books. Not a penny came from the reporter's pockets.

Security at the book exchange was so lacking that it appeared the looting could have gone on all day.

The books were taken through the front door of the book exchange and through a partially hidden back door opening to the outside. The

door had not been locked.

Kris Anderson, UMSU director of student services, said he had been aware from "day one" of the security problem. Anderson said he did not take any action because "it didn't seem all that necessary".

"I just didn't think the situation was that bad," he said.

Dozens of students witnessed the theft, but none made any move to stop the reporters, one of whom was carrying a box full of books. Another walked out quite openly with six large textbooks in his arm.

Anderson said he felt the security problem was not

serious because "people are basically honest".

Nevertheless, he said he would take "appropriate steps" to ensure the thefts do not happen again.



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