

There's no power to the people at Park Hill

Events in the past few days at one of the city's larger apartment complexes make it obvious that tenants have few, if any, rights in landlord-tenant conflicts.

All electrical power was shut off to 22 inhabited apartments in the Park Hill Apartment complex a week ago by order of the fire marshal.

Power was restored to most of the apartments Tuesday, but the inconveniences experienced by the apartment-dwellers apparently were not taken into account.

The provincial fire marshal ordered the power interruption after an inspection revealed leaking roofs were causing a fire hazard in the three-building complex.

The tenants were given no notice of the shut-off, and were forced to wait three days before they were given any indication of when power would be restored.

The buildings were financed by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and are presently being managed by Mar Sand Property Holdings.

Tenants were unable to contact the company and apparently the company made no attempt to inform the tenants of their status.

The company had no such problems in contacting tenants when a \$20 per month rent increase was announced a few weeks ago. The increase will take effect in February.

The apartments first began leaking about 10 months ago but the company made no attempt to alleviate the problem, despite warnings from the fire marshal that a dangerous situation could result.

Some tenants have lived with the leaks for months with no indication of when, if ever, the leaks would be fixed and ceilings repaired.

The complex, which is comprised of about 150 apartments, has had a history of poor relations between management and tenants since it opened.

When parking conditions

became hazardous at the complex, tenants were forced to sign a petition to have improvements made.

The present manager, hired by Mar Sand, has given eviction orders with as little as two weeks notice.

While the company is responsible for normal maintenance the manager has told at least one tenant he would rather the tenant moved than paint the apartment.

Most tenants are unsure of the status of their leases, since most have expired and the company did not allow tenants to sign another, claiming the expired lease was automatically renewed every 30 days. Tenants have only the word of the complex manager on this, since, as in most cases, the Montreal-based company could not be contacted.

Apparently the original intention of CMHC was to provide the funds to establish low-rental

housing - a type of housing which is desperately needed in this city at present.

CMHC certainly succeeded in establishing the housing, and should be commended for that, but it was negligent in its supervision of the complex.

The problem at Park Hill are symptomatic of the problems of all tenants in this city.

The Residential Tenancies Act under consideration in this session of the provincial legislature is a good start toward improving the situation. However, we question if the act goes far enough.

We feel the provincial government should seriously consider implementation of rent controls in an effort to curtail the rapidly escalating rents in this and other provincial cities. Rent controls should not be considered as an aspect of wage and price controls, but as a method of

alleviating serious housing problems.

In a city like Fredericton, students have a very difficult time in finding adequate housing, as evidenced by the serious housing shortage experienced in September.

We can only predict the situation will be worse next year. Rapidly escalating rents will drive many apartments out of students' ranges, and there has been no large-scale construction to remove the pressure in a city which already does not have enough housing.

The amount of available housing is a determining factor in the number of students who register at this university. If the housing situation does not improve it is likely the decline in student enrollment Statistics Canada predicts for the 1980's will hit UNB before the predicted date.

NICE PLACE YA GOT HERE, TOM = SAFE, SECURE = AN' SO CLEAN = WASH IT EVERY DAY OR SOMETHIN'?!



THE BRUNSWICKAN

Staff This Week

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Tom Benjamin
 MANAGING EDITOR Pat Kirk
 EDITORS
 news Derwin Gowan
 sports Jo-anne Jefferson
 inside Sheryl Wright
 features Ed Werthmann
 PHOTOS Steve Patriquen

ADVERTISING MANAGER Don Mersereau
 AD DESIGN & LAYOUT Judy Orr
 BUSINESS MANAGER Bob Tremblay
 SECRETARY Sarah Ingersoll

Stephen Fox
 Tom Best
 Linda Stewart
 Chris Hunt
 Dave Simms
 Lorne Parker
 Carlotta Bulcock
 Linda Westman
 Jamie Ingrey
 Dawn Elgee
 Glen Argon
 Jerome Kashetsky
 Lynette Wilson

Anne Harding
 Alice Reynolds
 Peter Krautle
 Lorne McIntosh
 Margot Brewer
 Phantom Photog
 Roger Winsor
 Duc Doherty
 Michael Lenihan
 Mary Ann Bramstrub
 Tim Gorman
 Burt Folkins
 Pat Potter

One hundred and tenth year of publication. Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication. A member of Canadian University Press. The Brunswickan, "New Brunswick's largest weekly newspaper", is published weekly at the Fredericton campus of the University of New Brunswick. Opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Student Representative Council or the Administration of the University. The Brunswickan office is located in the Student Union Building, College Hill, Fredericton, N.B. Printed at Bugle Publishing Ltd., Woodstock, N.B. Subscriptions, \$5 per year. Postage paid in cash at the Third Class Rate, Permit No. 7. National advertising rates available through Youthstream, 307 Davenport Road, Toronto. Local ad rates available at 453-4983.



The upcoming SRC president...

marked by one clear fault - the campaign platforms expounding an ignorance of what this city is. I find it difficult to believe that they are qualified for the post.

One candidate has listed the National Union of Students, Canada. That platform is so easy to follow that even a child should be able to understand it. First, withdrawal from the referendum.

Second, the SRC has no residences, and can only receive money from the university.

Third, lowering student fees and reduction in services offered would mean a reduction in funding for all other programs.

Another candidate has promised to establish an SRC forum in the future. Issues will be discussed in a referendum.

Other platform planks for the SRC include lighting on campus with motion picture film on Saturday banking hours.

The candidate has never mentioned a forum in this paper, and the Brunswickan office does not have an editorial board of the paper to decide what to print.

The other planks mentioned are of paramount importance to a student body with these problems.

Voters in this election must be informed. This election is a referendum on the government of the offing which will be elected.

We are facing the possibility of a misinformed, candidate election.

An interesting line of graffiti on the wall of the student union sum up what most students think of the issues, admit it.

The issues are there, the government has ignored them.

The alumni power conference has had some startling repercussions.

Most student leaders have expressed their disapproval of government on this campus.

While I deplore the idea of an alumni association, I sincerely applaud the alumni who are in the operation of this association.

The alumni association has been a leadership conference for students in every way possible.

With the current situation on campus, the alumni association would certainly be an opportunity for the alumni to get involved.

The upcoming student union election on Sunday, Nov. 30 will be a good test of the alumni's influence.

A National Union of Students conference on the campus, and has already undertaken to be undertaken.

Some of the issues the conference are student aid, housing and other issues.

Anyone interested in attending the next meeting at the Atlantic Hotel on Tuesday.

The scheduling of Christmas exams for students than the previous year.

The last day for exams is being pushed back out from Friday to Saturday.

With a large amount of student time to complete their exams many students will find it difficult to afford to fly at all.