

# Management hopes to repair Co-op's falling image

By MARY-LEE GALLANT

The Co-Op's past reputation of "anything goes" does nothing to help the image of the establishment, according to Mike Robertson, General Manager of the Co-Op. Reorganizing the policies of the co-op has been the major undertaking

of the management this year. The 15 member Board of Directors have been dutifully attacking the situation of indiscreet drug pushing and the excessive rowdiness.

The co-op consists of two large apartment buildings and four downtown houses and they each

have their own house committees. These committees look after such matters as cleaning, cooking and general care of the houses. This system works very well with the downtown co-ops but because of size and large numbers of residences the idea of to-getherness

and co-operation lose some of their shine in the two large buildings on Montgomery Street.

"The problem is how to keep the committees in touch with each other because of the differences in size and structure," stated Vice-President of the Co-Op, Alistair Robertson. High rates of damage to the buildings and co-op property result in large repair bills and the dirty apartments, common rooms and hallways are evidence of disorganization.

In the past years the co-op's reputation has steadily been dropping further into a state of disgrace. "We hope to repair the image of the co-op in the eyes of the university community and not so much for the ideals of the worthy citizens of Fredericton", said Mike Robertson.

In the fall of 1970 the co-op fell into bad times as buildings were in a "high class slum" condition as a result of an unsuccessful youth hostel that summer. Walls were banged up, furniture and walls marked on and elevators screwed up. Drugs flowed freely and indiscreetly through the co-op and it was raided twice by the RCMP. The spring of 1972 brought some improvement as the buildings were put back in order and new policies established. These policies consisted of changes in admission priorities. That is, past residents got first choice and newcomers last. The rule of if you damage any property of the co-op then it was up to you to pay for the repairs was another change. If the damage was untraceable then the whole co-op would share the bill between them. "If the people destroy co-op property then they are only hurting themselves. They

have to pay for it in the end," commented Alistair Robertson.

Another tightening up of policy is in regard to dope distribution within the buildings. "One has a habit of expecting to find drugs in the co-op and consequently it is there," commented Alistair Robertson. He further stated that "We have no desire to ban the use of drugs but where there is use, there are sales. We want only two things: A. more discreet usage. B. more consideration of those around you."

The rules of the house are decided by the House councils and consist of no pets and no conducting of any business on co-op property. These few rules, and very loose control over drug use, may account for the lack of female population. Not only these "minor" discrepancies but also the fact of dirty rooms and the fear of a bad reputation could be deciding factors.

The food depot is the best thing, along with the day care center, about the co-op. Although there has been trouble in the past with excessive shoplifting. "The ones who shoplift are only making it hard on themselves. They have to pay it back through their 8 percent dues anyway," said Robertson. The day care center occupies a full apartment space and looks after the children very efficiently. There are 3 full time staff who are paid by the parents and a local initiative grant.

"The primary goal of the co-op is to provide the students with facilities and to allow them to live in a co-operative manner with fellow students," said Mike Robertson.

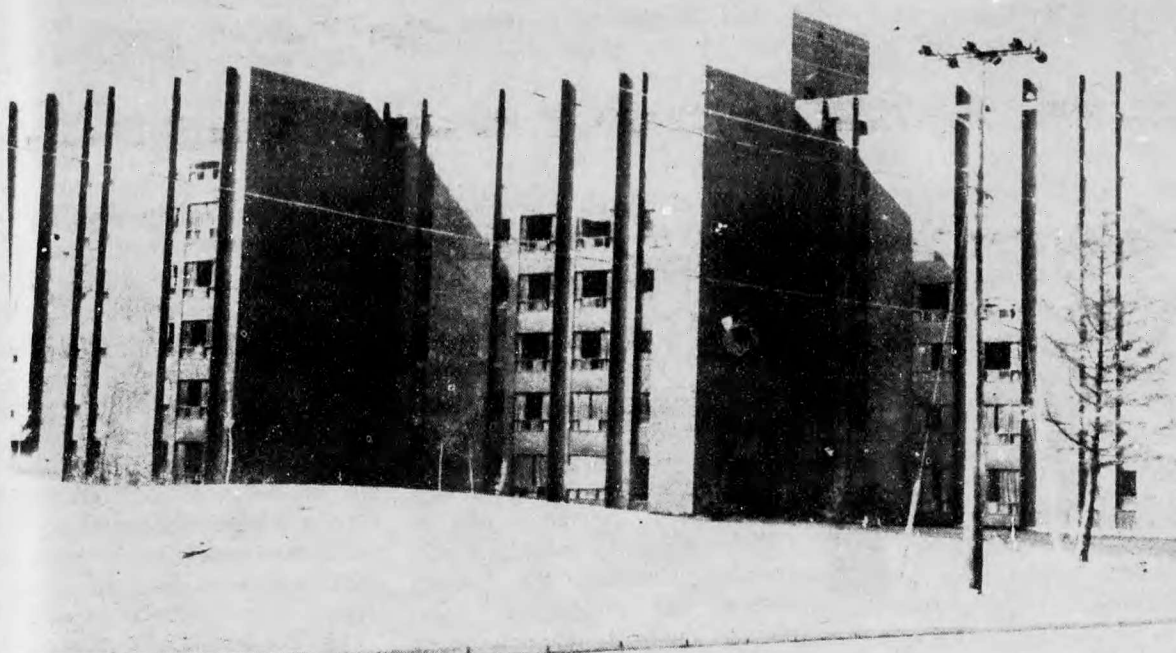


Photo by Ken De Freitas

The management of the Co-Op is waging an attack to end drug pushing and excessive rowdiness in their buildings. Their main hope is to repair the Co-Op's tarnished image.

## L.B. Rink delegation misquoted

By JEFF DAVIES

People who read the Daily Gleaner and take it seriously must have received quite a shock when they looked at Page 16 of the October 11 edition and read the story "Delegation Opposes Use of L.B. Rink."

The article concerned a delegation of Avondale Court residents who had appeared at the previous night's city council meeting to protest the use of the Lady Beaverbrook Rink by organizations other than the university, or, as it was reported in the Gleaner, "wrestling matches, hippies, and bingos."

The four men complained that the large crowds at the rink made it difficult for area residents to park their cars. They felt that use of the rink should be restricted to students.

One of the men, Russel Lambert, was said to have described an incident which had occurred on his property this summer as such: "800 hippies sat within 50 feet of me injecting themselves with hypodermic syringes." Lambert was also reported to have quoted the police as saying they

could do nothing about it because they 'couldn't lock them all up'.

Well, we've read stranger things than this before in "The Voice of Central New Brunswick" so we decided to check with Mr. Lambert to see just how accurately he had been quoted. Here's what we found out; On the night in question, Mr. Lambert was sitting on his sun porch and saw SEVEN young people on his lawn injecting themselves with something. He called the police.

Two officers arrived and saw the young people on the lawn.

They said they could do nothing because there were 800 hippies in the vicinity of the rink that night doing the same thing and they couldn't lock them all up. (There was a dance at the rink that night, which accounts for the crowd.)

Not only did Mr. Lambert see only seven people, rather than 800, as the Gleaner reported, but he also insists that he never referred to them as hippies at the council meeting. The term he claims to have used was "what the police referred to as hippies". So much for the Gleaner.

## SRC in need of a speaker

By RICK BASTON

The Student Representative Council is still looking for a speaker for the Fall Festival, Roy Neale, SRC President, indicated Monday. Colonel James Irwin, who was originally chosen to speak is not available.

Neale said at this time, the Fall Festival Committee are combing a list to find a suitable replacement for Colonel Irwin. He indi-

cated that they are trying to find someone who will appeal to everyone.

He said that the whole thing could be cancelled if they could not find a speaker that they felt had a broad appeal to the vast majority of the student body.

The cost of the speaker will be split between the SRC and other organizations such as the Creative Arts Council.

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