

Strax Faces Deportation Hearing

by tony schroeter

Doctor Norman Strax, a landed immigrant from the United States, and an ex-professor of UNB may be deported from Canada because he was convicted and jailed in Fredericton for obstructing a police officer in his line of duty.

The incident occurred on July 20, 1969 about 1:00 a.m. Willard Parsons, a one armed ex-coal miner from Minto and a CSOS member active in summer "park curfew action" was making a speech in front of the park after having a "little bit" to drink. "The police had previously harassed Willy", said Strax. "He was definitely not staggering drunk though."

Wayne Young, a Fredericton Police Officer, "grabbed Willy and started marching him off, pretty fast, to the Police Station." Strax was sitting with some high school students in a Fish and Chip shop behind the park, watching the arrest. He and three kids went off to follow the police officer and Parsons to the station.

"I took three pictures on the way to the station", said Strax. "I never got closer than 10 feet from them."

"When they got to the station, Parsons didn't want to go inside with them. "So, Wayne Young and Russel Ducette (another constable) got him through the door and started beating him up." Strax said they punched him in the stomach, hit him in his one arm and pushed him against the wall where he collapsed with blood all over his face. His arm was broken in two places from the beating.

"While they were beating him up on the landing inside the door, I stuck the camera in and took a picture. The cop,

Young' came out and told me I was under arrest for obstructing a police officer. I went with him, but first I threw the camera to one of the kids."

Six o'clock that morning the police told Strax that they had laid another charge of assaulting a police officer. They claimed that he had pushed Doucette down the stairs and in the process had hurt his back. Doucette had to have an operation on his back later.

"Both charges were chosen so that I couldn't have a jury trial," complained Strax, "and the court decided I couldn't have a lawyer from outside of New Brunswick." Very few N.B. lawyers would take the case, and the ones that would wanted Strax to promise not to lay charges against the police. "I couldn't pay them anyway," he said.

Strax conducted his own trial. "When I cross-examined the cops, their stories on assault were inconsistent." Constable Doucette had been in the hospital six times before because of his back. The crown prosecutor dropped the charge of assault after he heard the evidence. "This was essentially admitting the police were lying," said Strax.

"The judge decided that taking pictures at night with a flash was obstructing a police officer. He said it was a violation of a person's rights to take his picture without his permission. When an officer is doing his duty this is obstruction," said Strax.

"The result was that I was convicted of obstruction and given 14 days in jail." Strax said that on the day that he was leaving the jail he was met at the door by two plain-clothed RCMP officers and escorted to the

immigration office.

"I was put in a room with an immigration officer, D.M. Parent, and a stenographer. He (Parent) announced that we were going to have a deportation hearing then and there. If they had decided to deport Dr. Strax "then and there" he would have been immediately taken to the border and disallowed re-entry under any circumstances.

Strax demanded that his lawyer, Clayton Ruby, of Toronto, be present and said that he couldn't get there that evening. "So, he gave me three weeks to get my lawyer and was going to keep me in jail during that time." After arguing with Parent, Dr. Strax was allowed to post \$300 bond and to go free within a fifteen mile radius of Fredericton. He had to report to the immigration officer every Monday. "One Monday I was sick (Strax has severe Bronchitis) and couldn't go. Two mounties came out to my cabin and I was kept in jail for three days."

The deportation hearing for Dr. Strax has been postponed several times and will now be held at 11:00 a.m. on Feb. 5. "Whether or not I have my lawyer there depends on if I can raise the plane fare."

A landed immigrant may be deported if he has been convicted of any offence under the criminal code, or if he has been an inmate of a jail. "You are only supposed to be deported if your offence was defined as 'Moral Turpitude'. This has never been defined."

If Mr. Parent issues a deportation order, Strax will appeal it in Ottawa. "I suspect that we will win in Ottawa. Past cases of even physical obstruction were not considered serious enough for deportation. In general, there is

more hope because it is in Ottawa, not the Maritimes where the final decision will be made."

Dr. Strax elaborated, "I want to stay in Canada. If they hadn't tried to deport me, I might have left because of my health. But I think it is important to win the case, because otherwise it might start a precedent of kicking out people for political reasons. I

like New Brunswick. I like its natural beauty and the people in the rural areas. I live in a cabin in the woods."

"I think they will do anything to get me deported. It seems they think that I am extremely dangerous. I think that is foolish. It's going to happen whether I am here or not. I mean that the left movement in New Brunswick will get much stronger."

Local Orators Lose

The University of Western Ontario held a debating tournament on Friday and Saturday of last week. Art Robson and Beth Blakey composed a team representing UNB. Twenty teams participated, ten being affirmative and ten negative in all debates. Winner of the affirmatives, Osgood State

from York University, Toronto, lost the tourney championship to the winner of the negatives, Towson State College, Baltimore, in the final round. UNB met four teams, McGill on Friday afternoon; University of Toronto, Royal Military College, and University of Western Ontario, on Saturday, losing to each.

THE FOLLOWING POLLS WILL BE OPEN ON ELECTION DAY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th

Head Hall	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Tilley Hall	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Nursing Building	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Gym	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Loring Bailey Hall	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Carleton Hall	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Forestry Building	9A.M. - 3:45P.M.
Law Building	9A.M. - 6P.M.
Library	9A.M. - 6P.M.
S.U.B.	9A.M. - 6P.M.
McConnell Hall	Meal Hours
Lady Dunn Hall	Meal Hours

ADVANCE POLL SRC ELECTIONS

On Friday, Feb. 6th 12 Noon - 4P.M. in S.R.C. Office of S.U.B.

feedback

The Editor
The Brunswickan

Dear Sir:

The following is the text of a letter written to me at my request, by Mr. Wayne Charters, the Business Administrator of the SRC. The facts in his letter are the true facts regarding the alleged "waste and corruption" charged by Mr. David Landry. The SRC by formal motion has requested that Mr. Charters' letter be printed in the Brunswickan so that the truth may be known. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours truly,
Don Olmstead
Arts Rep.
UNB SRC.

Don Olmstead
Arts Representative
Student Representative Council

Dear Don:

Reference your request for my official comment on the letter by Dave Landry

published in the Friday January 30th, issue of the Brunswickan.

Please let me begin by commending Mr. Landry for his interest in the operations of the Council Executive and administrative practises in general including the Business Office. Such interest is to be encouraged from all students and especially members of Council. However, I feel Mr. Landry's choice of the words corruption and waste was unfortunate.

The allegations of corruption appears to centre around the matter of summer salaries and it further appears that the duties and salary of the Business Administrator and the duties of the Secretary have become involved to a point.

I shall now deal with specific points of the letter not necessarily in order.

The Business Manager's position from 1 Dec. '68 to 31 Sept. '69 was part time. His services were paid at the rate of \$7500 per year on a 50/50

basis by the SRC and the Student Union Building, i.e. half salary was paid by the SRC for half his time, this naturally placed more responsibility on the Comptroller and to some extent the President, and it follows that they were in turn required to spend more time in the office. Present salary of the Business Administrator is \$7200 per year for full time service to the SRC.

The position of SRC Secretary is part time and is filled during the academic months only. This position is vacant from mid-April to September.

The SRC Bookkeeper is a year around position, however, please note that the Administrator and Bookkeeper take their vacations during the summer months and for a period of six weeks there is only one full time employee in the office, which again imposes more responsibility on the Executive during the vacation period.

Reference \$700 being

allotted for summer work by the Comptroller in 1969 as opposed to \$150 allotted for the summer of 1970, I would like to point out that among other things accomplished last summer was a complete and badly needed overhaul of the financial policy, a review of spring budget requests and preparatory work on the 1969-70 budget, over and above normal summer requirements, plus clean up of bad accounts and preparation for the annual audit. Difficulty was experienced during this period due to the health of the bookkeeper who eventually had to give up her position in August due to poor health. Since a sound financial policy has been established and adopted the demands on the Comptroller for the coming summer should be negligible thus the reserve of only \$150 for summer salary in 1970.

I do not propose to become involved in the matter of summer salaries paid to the present incumbents of the Executive unless specifically requested to do so by Council

or the members of the Executive, other than to point out that in my professional opinion employment of executive members during the summer is highly desirable and in many instances essential in order to carry out the many facets of student affairs and government that cannot be dealt with by an administrator.

The President and Comptroller kept their own time records last summer because I declined to do so on the basis that I am an employee of the Executive not their employer. If the time ever comes that I cannot trust my employers, I shall request permission to make an appropriate statement to Council, or resign, or both.

I personally know that the Executive spent a great deal of time on many projects last summer and that a great deal was accomplished. There were many evening and weekend involvements outside of normal office hours.

Yours truly
W.K. Charters