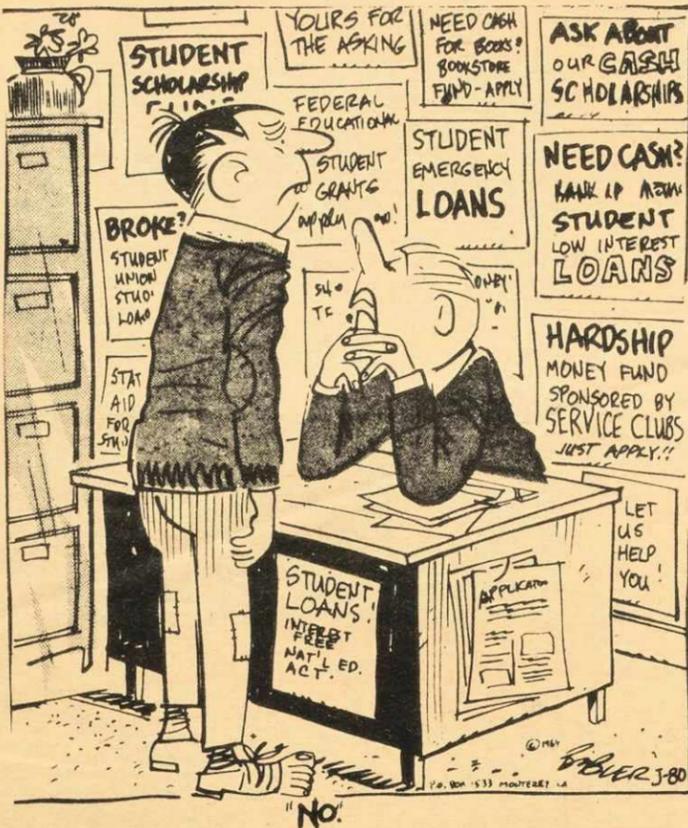


Student Loan Rules Tightened



by Mike Donovan
 Several changes in student loan policy were announced last week by Nova Scotia Education Minister Alan Sullivan. Sullivan was speaking to a press conference with Donald Hemming, Chairman of the University Grants Committee.

This year, for the first time, students were required to supply copies of TI income tax forms and copies of parent's income tax statements. This was initiated by the Canada Student Loan authorities to assure equitable distribution of funds to deserving students.

One problem arises in the case of a student whose legal guardian earns more than the maximum allowable amount, and either refuses to support the education of a dependent, or the legal dependent refuses to accept aid from the legal guardian. In a case such as this, a letter from the guardian stating the position of the

guardian and dependent should clear matters with the Student Aid Committee.

Also this year a new formula for determining the amount a student is eligible to receive was adopted. For example, a family with an income of \$10,500 and 3 dependent children is expected to contribute \$992 per year to a son or daughter's education.

This amount is automatically deducted from the total amount required. Further, a standard summer savings table is used for each region of Canada. A male student in Nova Scotia entering his third year is expected to have saved \$625. This amount is also automatically deducted regardless of whether it has actually been earned or not.

If a student has earned more than \$625, then, whatever he has earned, is deducted from the total. These measures have resulted in a drop in the average

amount awarded each student from the 1970-71 figure of \$1,249 to approximately \$1,000 this year.

The main problem with student loans this year has been the inefficient and frustrating manner in which the Student Aid Office has processed the applications and appeals. An unnecessarily complex application form resulted in the return of 74% of applications because they were incomplete.

A simpler form is promised by the end of April, 1973. Student Aid Office staff, now increased to 28, will be able to process student loans in under three weeks. However, the Appeals Board, consisting of 5 people, all of whom must vote on each appeal, remains pitifully slow.

Anyone with criticisms or hassles is advised to write to the Nova Scotia Student Aid Committee, P.O. Box 2001, Halifax, or directly to the Minister of Education.

Law brought to the People

by Marci Landry-Milton
 An excellent quality \$6, do-it-yourself divorce kit is now available in Halifax.

With the assistance of

volunteers at the Family Service Bureau at 3526 Gottingen St. and the use of this kit, an entire divorce proceeding may be procured for \$60-\$80. This sum includes court costs and the printing cost of the kit.

By way of contrast, lawyers require a minimum \$600 fee for divorce clients in this province. Thus in effect legal divorce has been an exclusive right available to members of the higher income bracket. Unfortunately marriage break down has no such financial limits. For example 250 women in the Halifax area alone have been deserted and are now living on welfare.

The purpose of this kit according to Don Trivett is "To

make available to deprived citizens a right they have already and of which they are not aware."

Don Trivett is the chairman of the Matrimonial Association. This board comprising ten professional clergy and social workers, was approached and formed as the result of a class project on divorce conducted last year at the Dalhousie Law School.

A revised kit was then compiled with the assistance of a "person of high standing" within the legal profession in Nova Scotia.

The quasi-professional volunteers staffing the Family Service Bureau were trained in two three-week sessions at the

Law School. The first emphasized the legal process; more specifically, divorce procedures and their implications. The second training session dealt with marriage counselling. Thus emotional and other such problems may be referred by the Family Service

Bureau to the appropriate agencies rather than the divorce court.

Up to date, the number of divorce cases which have been compiled with the use of these services is approaching 60 and the first ten of these are about to approach the bench.

GAZETTE STAFF MEETINGS
Mondays at 12:30
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

Little Theatre of the Green Goose, 12 noon in the foyer of the Art Centre.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Les Menestriers, 3 p.m., admission free, Rebecca Cohn Auditorium

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

Film Society, The Wild Child, Rebecca Cohn Auditorium

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Jazz and Suds, Green Room, SUB

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