

# Students to vote in parents' riding

By Sandy Lyth

If you think because you are over the age of nineteen and a resident of Nova Scotia, you can just go and vote on October 13, then you had better revise your thinking and check into the matter.

Unmarried students in particular could be disenfranchised by the recent legislation lowering the voting age. The students from

## Bus service stalled

By Dorothy Wigmore

The proposed student bus service linking Dal, St. Mary's, Mount Saint Vincent and Dartmouth ran into a red tape roadblock Saturday leaving over 250 students in Dartmouth with only established and slow transportation.

The Public Utilities Commission turned down Dal's request for the bus routes, presumably because it would interfere with existing bus facilities, breaking their monopoly. The only thing that can possibly be retrieved is a Dal-M.S.V. route, with one stop at M.S.V., and a Dal-Dartmouth route with one stop in Dartmouth. This could come about at a public meeting of the P.U.C. to be held October 1.

"We hadn't figured on static from the Public Utilities Commission," said Student Union President, Andy Winstanley. He pointed out that Halifax Transit Commission, one of two firms opposing the system, had lost out in the bidding for the bus contract. They seemed to be doing it out of spite, he said. "Would they have fought against themselves?" he asked.

Both the H.T.C. and the Dartmouth Transit Commission oppose the plan because of the stops in Halifax and Dartmouth. The D.T.C., however, does not cover all the area planned for the Dal bus system.

The whole system was designed to alleviate the housing problem in Halifax. The major Halifax post-secondary institutions were co-operating to ensure that Halifax was not overburdened with unwanted students, and that Dartmouth would receive much needed revenue and tenants.

The system was to operate hourly during the day, taking students to Dal and other institutions in time for the first morning classes. They would return them during the day hourly, and at 8, 10 and 12 in the evening. Passes have already been sold to about 250 Dal and M.S.V. students, at \$20 a term. This would have entitled the students to ride the buses as often as desired, and would have saved many quite a bit of money.

Not only would it be cheaper to catch the Dal buses, but rents in Dartmouth are about \$30 a month cheaper than in crowded Halifax. Agreements had been reached with seven major Dartmouth landlords to receive a kick-back of \$5 per apartment unit that went in on the scheme.

Alternatives must be found now. The 250 students now living in Dartmouth can stay and try to get to Dal, or other universities, by the existing systems. Or, they could try and find a place to live in Halifax. The housing list is the longest ever in Dal's history 18 pages. Admissions office calculations of enrollment were about 400 over for the first year students according to an official source. Who knows how far off they were in estimating the returning and graduate student enrollment. These facts leave the way open for displaced Dartmouth students to move to Halifax. Of course, what they can get will be far from campus, and will cost more, but they will have a place to stay.

"We'll have to bring them back," said Winstanley, "Anyone we can't move back, we'll have to take care of." He did not elaborate on any methods to "take care of" the students.

out of town living in the residences have been subjected to a complicated process of voting in their parents riding, either in person on October 13 or by proxy.

The university campus is not considered a place of residence under the amendment to the elections act, so, for this election at least, people living on campus are mostly forced to find another riding to vote in.

Parents provide the magical solution. If they live in another part of the province, then the unmarried student is automatically registered to vote in their riding. If said student hasn't lived at home for more than occasional visits over the last year at least, he is going to be hard pressed to prove that to the electoral officer. Having students register their vote in the riding where their parents live eliminates a lot of problems for the electoral officers and they are taking a pretty hard line with students about the residency regulations.

What that effectively does, of course, is puts the student from outside the province in a better position than Nova Scotian students from outside the city. The student from Ontario for example, just has to prove that he has lived here for the last twelve months consecutively, and he can register to vote in the riding where he was living on September 5 when the dissolution writ was issued.

The government has countered protests over the residency rules by saying that any student can vote by proxy if she or he cannot be in the home riding on the Big Day, but that only begs the question. A voting student spends by far the majority of the year in the campus riding, and it is illogical that a student vote can't be counted in that riding.

Other groups of migrants, mainly teachers and armed forces personnel, can either vote by proxy in the riding where their permanent residence is or *elect to vote* in the riding where they were living when the election writ was issued. If the teachers can elect where they will vote, then students who are in the same position as a migrant teacher should by extension be able to elect where they will vote too.

Under another section of the act, an unmarried "person" can elect to vote where he or she "lives and sleeps". But the section covering students, which to a certain extent contradicts the one covering "people" has more teeth in it than the people clause, which only reinforces the regulation that students vote where their parents live.

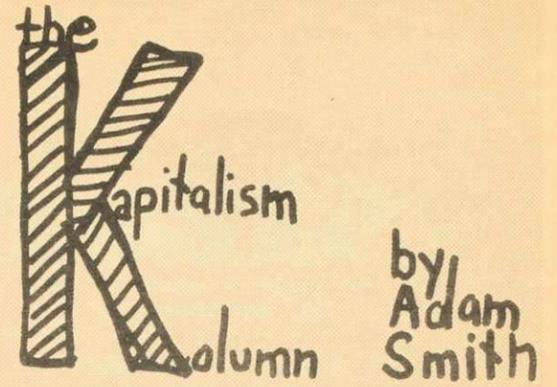
That could mean that even if you have been out working for some years and decided to return to school, you could still be forced to vote where your parents live.

The question pops into mind, "Why all the fuss in the first place. Why not just let students vote where they are living?" The stipulation was born in a Royal Commission report on elections completed ten years ago. That is the reason (and the justification) the government gives for its inclusion in last year's amendment lowering the voting age.

But more practical concerns are fairly obvious. The amendment to the elections act was the work of the Attorney General's department, although he did not necessarily sit on the drafting committee himself. It still remains that Richard A. Donahoe put forward the amendment to the legislature, and two of the biggest universities in the province are in his riding.

The Honorable Mr. Donahoe represents a very small-c conservative riding generally. Many of Halifax's more established citizens live in wealth-encrusted Halifax-Cornwallis. But between Dalhousie and St. Mary's, residences, close to two thousand young voters could, except for the act, choose to vote there. And it is perhaps noteworthy that the Honorable Mr. Donahoe only won his last election by some thousand-odd votes. That still leaves all the students who were enfranchised by the recent legislation and even now have the right to vote in his constituency. A possible total of two and a half thousand students could, except for the regulation in the amendment, have had their votes counted in one constituency. In The South End !!!!!

Such sacrifice, even to think about.



Worries over the effects of airplane hijackings on the jittery Middle East situation and concern over a possible strike in the auto industry resulted in lower prices on the New York Stock Exchange this week.

The president of the Association of Stock Exchange firms predicts that 50 more brokerage firms may disappear in the next six months and estimates that the securities industry is losing money faster today than during the depression.

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Canadians are not ready yet for the 15 cent candy bar, L. D. Griffiths, president of Laura Secord Candy Shops Ltd. of Toronto told the company's annual meeting, and it may be a few years before it is ready.

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A spokesman for Ford Motor Co. of Detroit says Henry Ford II, chairman, plans to explore the possibility of establishing "mutually beneficial" business relations with the Soviet Union.

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Multi-national corporations will become the most important marketing and manufacturing forces in the world in the 1970's. Andrew Kershaw, president of Ogilvy and Mather Inc. of New York says:

"Whether you like them or not, the world cannot progress without them."

"We have hitched our star to the fastest growing segment of business and we will, as time goes on, make ourselves more and more indispensable to them," says the advertising executive.

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Mark Stein of Montreal, past president of the Canadian Construction Association commenting on the 54th session of the International Labor Organization meeting in Geneva recently:

"It was sobering to observe the degree of the majority of trade unions to the principles of socialism and the erosion of property rights."

It was disconcerting to observe "the degree to which socialism has been impregnated in the minds of worker delegates of the developing African nations."

However, the vested interest of free trade unions in the capitalist economic system prevented for the time being any radical change in the ILO structure, Mr. Stein said.

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Canadian business failures rose by 310 in the first seven months of 1970 to 1,364 from the comparable period last year.

Largest increase in failures occurred in Quebec where 697 firms failed, compared to 544 last year in the same period.

Failures of business in other provinces with last year's figures in brackets were:

Ontario 478 (344)  
 British Columbia 59 (48)  
 Alberta 47 (17)  
 Saskatchewan 37 (38)  
 Manitoba 35 (36)  
 New Brunswick 3 (12)  
 Nova Scotia 6 (10)  
 Newfoundland 2 (4)  
 Prince Edward Island 0 (1)