

## Council briefs

### Pres. privilege? nixed

A question of privileges for the council executive was raised at Sunday's Council meeting when Robert Sampson asked council to foot a taxi fare he charged to the Student Union to take a date to the Shirreff Hall ball.

Sampson was invited to the ball as a representative of the council and as such claimed the taxi bill for picking up his date, taking her to dinner, to the ball and home afterwards was on council business.

Council treasurer Gail Rudderham disagreed when the matter was brought before the executive and, at Sampson's insistence, brought the matter to council, who responded with a boisterous round of guffaws.

Rudderham suggested the fare to and from the ball could be conceived as a council expense but dismissed the trip to and from the Chateau Halifax as Sampson's personal liability. The matter was put to a vote and council sided with Rudderham, leaving Sampson to cough up the \$9.00 for the bill.

### Two more resign

Two resignations were accepted at Sunday's meeting, one from Jane Gillis, chief electoral officer, and the other from Tom Oland, student representative on the Dalhousie Senate.

Gillis admitted there were personal reasons for her resignation but added she found working with council frustrating. She said in a letter council paid little attention to the electoral committee, particularly the recommendations presented to council last semester. There were irregularities in last year's election which nearly forced a new election.

### Two seats filled

Two senate positions were filled: Keith Citrine and Christine Fetterly were selected from four applicants, three of whom were screened by council at the meeting.

The vacancies arose from a council regulation which says student representatives cannot also be employed by the union. Oland's resignation was given for that reason as well as Anita Lathigee, *Gazette* advertising manager, who resigned last term for the same reason.

### Carleton has deficit

Council will attempt to recover the Carleton House deficit through some sort of rental agreement for the remainder of the year. Rudderham told council the house showed an \$800 deficit when it closed last semester.

The house was finally closed for lack of business in December and will eventually be torn down to make room for the new provincial archives building.

### Grants deadline March 1

Keith Evans reported the Grants committee will only accept applications until March 1. Evans said the Grants budget is down to about \$4500 and the deadline is necessary to ensure the budget is kept in line.

The next council meeting will be held on the evening of January 22 in the dining room of Shirreff Hall.

# Student press re-organizes

Responding to an unprecedented financial crisis, delegates to the 40th annual conference of Canadian University Press (CUP) in Halifax December 27 to January 3, decided to scrap the organization's three year expansion plan and lower membership fees. CUP was in the midst of a scheme to increase the organization's effectiveness with the establishment of regional bureaus across the country to increase news exchange regionally and nationally.

CUP is an association of english college and university newspapers in Canada. The sixty member newspapers meet annually to discuss the technical aspects of newspapers and to decide how to organize their news exchange. This year's conference was hosted by the *Dalhousie Gazette*, the *Saint Mary's Journal* and the *Mount Saint Vincent Picaro*.

After two years of the expansion plan CUP found itself with services that had been poorly planned and which it could not afford. Membership fees had risen 400% since 1976 and ten of the Ontario papers refused to pay their 77-78 fees until the organization halted the program.

Recognizing the financial realities members voted to drop some of the expensive services, and lower membership fees by approximately 20%. Next year, CUP will have eight staff people: five distributed across the country and three working in the national office. Presently there are nine people across the country and four people in the national office. The staff people organize the national and regional news exchanges and provide technical assistance to CUP papers.

Making the cuts in staff the delegates indicated that the twice-weekly print news exchange could be reduced to a once-weekly print service with a focus on national overviews and analysis. The twice weekly service often carries spot news stories that lack a national

perspective and have little interest to newspapers across the country. Delegates also voted to curtail the telex service presently paid for out of the national budget.

Dealing with the immediate financial problems, delegates voted to drop the twice weekly service for the remainder of the year and try the once weekly service immediately. Also, they voted to lay-off four staff people on January 31 if the member papers with fees outstanding have proven unable to pay their fees. These actions mean CUP will end the fiscal year with a minimal debt, and a sound financial base for the new year.

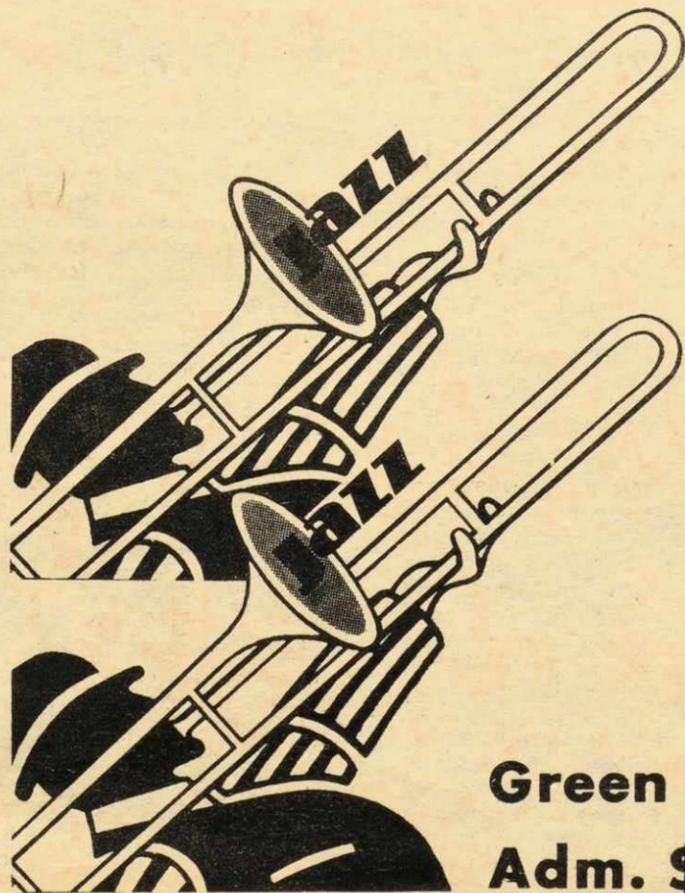
Besides the pressing issues of financial stability and news exchange, delegates to the 40th national conference took time to discuss many other issues deemed important to the student press.

## Delegates boycott RCMP and CBC

Refusing to support organizations whose policies are directly against those of the CUP membership, delegates to the 40th national conference voted to institute a boycott of RCMP advertising in student newspapers and to continue the boycott of CBC advertising.

The CBC boycott was first discussed one year ago, when the CUP membership at the 39th national conference voted to refuse advertisements from CBC while CBC continued to refuse Public Service Announcements from gay groups across the country. CUP supports the rights of gay people and has joined the national gay coalition in fighting CBC's discriminatory policies.

The RCMP boycott was sup-continued on page 7



# JAZZ

# NIGHT

with **SKIP BECKWITH**  
and **5 PIECE BAND**

featuring **Donny Palmer**

**Green Room 9p.m. - 1 a.m.**

**Adm. \$1.50/2.00**