



One of the bookstores greatest services is that of providing various sundry articles, such as soap. Peter Corby shells out 99 cents for tiger power. Mrs. Isabel Scott is at the cash register.

in the course, it may take up to three months to get the additional books and it is apparently felt that the higher cost is justified by the fact that the books are more readily accessible on this continent.

This bookstore on our campus is undoubtedly one of the best campus bookstores in Eastern Canada, certainly in the Maritimes. Any one who has seen the chaos of the new McGill bookstore in the basement of their new student union building will agree. The very fact that it is in the basement with only a few windows along the front wall seems to contribute to an atmosphere of claustrophobia. The University of Toronto bookstore, while laid out along lines similar to ours, suffers greatly from overcrowding, and, on my last visit there, a marked lack of interest on the part of the staff, almost entirely student, in the customer. Toronto, though, has the advantage which every large metropolitan centre should have,

other alternatives. The best example of these is the SCM Bookstore on St. Thomas Street. Here, a wide variety of texts, predominantly non-technical, is available, along with a very good selection of paper backs. Books can be ordered and received in a relatively short time (seven to ten days). On top of this there is a 10% student discount on all texts.

On other campuses, students are complaining about prices, inefficiencies and bad management. At UBC a professor recently wrote an article chastizing the bookstore for poor organization and management and certainly the problem of books on campus is a major one. They are the tools of the trade and when one starts paying, as in many cases today, \$100 for them, it becomes a problem of universal student concern. At Carleton, a group of students have set up their own store, selling course packages in the inter-building tunnels for about 12% under the current

prices of their campus bookstore. They are supplied by the same SCM bookstore mentioned above. Such schemes are possible on a highly concentrated campus in, or near, good areas of supply, i.e. Toronto. At UNB this would present considerable difficulty. Perhaps a better solution is one which has been used on numerous campuses in the United States, namely, that students save all their cash register slips for the year, bring them in during a specified period in the spring and receive a certain percentage discount on their purchase total.

We are extremely fortunate to have the bookstore that we do have on campus now. This is due to many factors, among them the size of the University, but certainly to the very sound and sensible management of the store itself. It contains a selection of paper back books numbering 30,000 that is one of the best in Canada and it is staffed by pleasant, helpful and competent people.