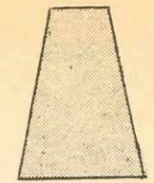


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Le Chateau
Men's Wear Ltd.

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HALIFAX, N.S.

A, B, methods out last April

by Chuck Moore &
Ceci MacLean

Are marking schemes unlimited?

Methods "A" and "B" of compiling marks do not exist in university regulations. On April 17, 1970, the faculty of Arts and Science met and voted to abolish the system, used experimentally during the last academic year, says Economics professor, Dr. A. M. Sinclair.

Many students still think the above methods are the only ones in effect. But professors may now use any grading plan adaptable to their particular course. They are required to notify their students about their plan during the first two weeks of classes.

The former "A" method consisted of marks based on the year's work, term papers, assignments, etc., with a formal examination at Christmas the end of the year.

The "B" method was based primarily on class work, papers, etc. Under this method, provisional marks were to be posted in late March, and students had the option of taking a final exam to raise their mark. However, it was understood that, providing students completed the course satisfactorily, their provisional mark could not be lowered.

Some professors this year have said they are using the so-called "B" method. But their interpretation of it is often a modification of last year's method.

Students are therefore acting under the assumption that a provisional mark will be posted and that the final exam will be optional. But some professors who are on the "B" method are also planning to require students to write formal final exams.

To avoid this confusion, it should be mandatory that the faculty explicitly outline their method to the students, and then follow it. It should also be mandatory that they understand the options open to them and the obligations involved with the different methods.

The faculty has the 007 license unlimited and, as usual, students are the victims. Granted some professors use their

(cont'd on pg. 3)

Students act to change rules

by Leslie MacDonald

When a rule (or a ruler) doesn't seem to respond to those it governs, maybe the best tactic is not to respond to it.

Put into effect by students at Mount Saint Vincent and St. Francis Xavier College in Antigonish, who have spent the last few years playing the Proper Channels Game trying to change their residence rules, this maxim has brought about the desired effect.

The rules, de facto, have been changed, and at the Mount they have even been legitimized by the powers that be. First year students at the Mount now have curfews of 12:00 rather than 10:00 on week nights, Xavier students have open housing on weekends, but as yet 230 "X" students are on trial for infractions of the residence code.

The issue at the Mount began over the fact that bewitching hour for first year students had been set at 10:00, too early for the young innocents affected to partake of any of the evils of the Outside World, even an early movie.

STUDENTS DECIDE

Boarders' Council, a representative group of students who deal with matters concerning the residence, discussed the problem and decided that 12:00 was a more reasonable hour (if curfews there must be).

The next step was to get the change approved by the Dean of the Residence, Sister Mary Jean Burns. Properly invited to consider the question and discuss it with the Council, the Dean found herself occupied

and unable to accept the invitation for several months.

But the students held no grudges, and another invitation was issued, and accepted, for January 21.

A packed room awaited the arrival of the Dean, only to receive a note, half an hour after she was expected, that she would be unable to attend.

Finding that their affairs were of such little concern to their mentors, Boarders' Council declared that curfew was 12:00 for first year students, from that night on. And at 10:00 that evening, the dorm was empty, while 150 students stood outside the door in support of the new ruling.

Since then, the new ruling has received the official sanction of the authorities, and mass democracy (in this instance) has become law.

AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

At St. of X, however, things don't change so easily. Although things seem quiet (as usual), underneath the calm a rule lies broken.

The University has maintained a closed housing rule (no women allowed in men's rooms,

no men in women's rooms) despite attempts of the students body over the past three years to do away with it.

Last year 1500 students demonstrated for open housing, and went so far as to occupy a residence. But the university's attempt to arbitrate stipulated that no further action be taken until a report was made and, of course, that report was a long time in coming.

In the meantime, the University Senate passed a motion against open housing.

This year again students opted for open housing. Both the Residence Council, which takes care of rules and discipline, and the Students' Council passed motions supporting it, and took their resolution to J. K. MacDonald, Dean of Men, who, according to university statutes, is the guy in charge of these things. But he claimed that he had nothing to do with it.

With the approval and the backing of the Students' Council, which believes that students must have the responsibility for their lives, Xavier students then declared the dorms open on weekends.

230 CHARGED

Two hundred and thirty students were charged on the first weekend with violating residence rules, and President MacDonnell declared that he "would not be intimidated by mob rule."

Despite this, more students took advantage of the new ruling the next week.

In disciplinary proceedings, seven of the most culpable (suspected of having a hand in the organizing) were brought to trial before a discipline committee composed of four students on January 26. Their peers found them not guilty, on the grounds that they had overwhelming student support. 1000 students attended the trial, in solidarity with their demands.

But the voice of the people does not carry ultimate authority in Antigonish. The dean of Men still has the right of appeal to the University Discipline Committee, and administrative body, and he has not yet indicated whether he will take this measure.

Meanwhile, there is open housing at St. of X.

