

Whether you knew it or not

You wanted Beaver foods

by Martin Dalley

Did you know that Beaver Foods was retained for this year by request of the students?

That's right! Versa Foods was initially awarded the contract but as a result of student request, the contract was subsequently renegotiated and awarded to Beaver Foods even though their bid was higher.

Once contract negotiations were settled, residence fees were increased by \$30. \$10 went to Beaver Foods and \$20 went to the administration to make up the difference between the bids. Residence students chose this alternative.

"The contract should be more than one year to give the company a chance to adjust to the situation," Ted Vasilopoulos, Manager of Beaver Foods, said. Traditionally, Dalhousie has called for tenders annually.

"I feel this is too short a period. It takes a food company six months to learn the operation; therefore, in changing caterers, you can expect a troublesome food service operation for half the following year," Student Union General Manager John Graham said. A letter has thus been sent from the Student's Union to the University requesting that a committee be established to deal with the food service contract for next year. Half of this committee is students.

"I personally feel that the consumers should have the choice of food service caterers. They should be presented with a number of choices; i.e., caterer x and no increase in fees, or caterer y and an increase in fees of \$25 per year," Graham said.

To improve food service in the SUB for next year, the Dalhousie Students' Union will have to spend \$12,000 to obtain a satisfactory short order service. Installation of this new service is to begin during the summer months.

Already \$13,000 has been spent by Students' Union in the past year to improve SUB food service. \$5,000 on chairs, \$2,000 on tables and \$6,000 on cleaning.

Speaking in terms of money, from Sept. 1970 to Dec. 1970, the replenishment costs for such things as silver wear, dishes, glasses, salt and pepper shakers and ashtrays in the SUB cafeteria was

over \$2,500.00. "I don't think we should furnish student's apartments," Vasilopoulos said.

In one week alone, it was reported that 150 salad bowls were missing in Howe Hall cafeteria. Theft appears to be a big factor.

Are you also aware that Beaver Foods prices are ten to fifteen per cent lower than at other universities? That's right!

However, students have complained about prices, and the quality of food served.

"They either over or under cook the food and the gravy is tasteless," one student said.

"Prices are very good, but I wish the food would match the prices." "Prices are fairly high for the quality of food served." "10¢ for a roll is ridiculous," . . . , and still others complain that the service is slow.

"Students who say our prices are high should compare prices at other universities," Vasilopoulos said.

Beaver Foods has received less

complaints this year than last year. "When complaints are made to us, we try to correct them as we go along," Vasilopoulos said. Beaver Foods has also received complaints from both residences, although most of them have been minor.

Food being one of the main topics for discussion in residence, food committees have been formed in both Sheriff Hall and Howe Hall for a number of years. Every four weeks, Beaver Foods submits a menu and then presents it to the committees in each residence where it is (hopefully) approved by the committee. If the committee requests changes, Beaver Foods complies.

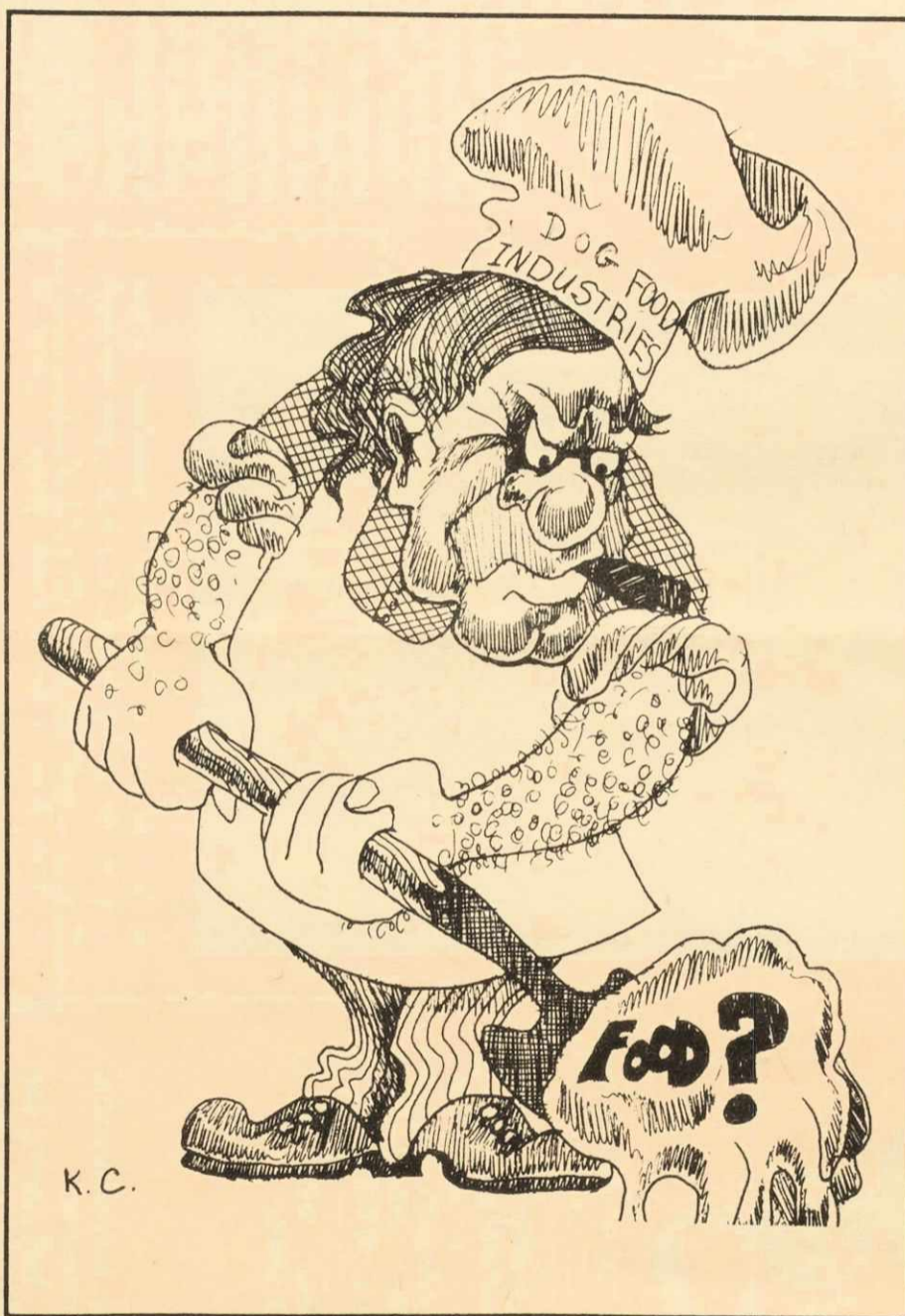
"Students in Sheriff Hall are generally pleased with Beaver Foods, and the service has been fairly good," says Claudia Keizer, president of Sheriff Hall residence council.

The food committee in Howe Hall has taken a formal tour of the kitchen facilities and found the brands of food to be of regular quality. For example: Maple Leaf Ham and Heinz Tomato Juice. "Beaver Foods is lacking efficiency, but it is not entirely their fault," says John McVicar, Chairman of Howe Hall food committee.

Catering to students can become monotonous, especially for the student who utilizes the same facilities day after day. As a result, complaints are bound to be made because one becomes tired of the same food day after day.

"We listen to everybody, no matter how small the complaint," Vasilopoulos said. And Beaver Foods has even received compliments, some verbal and others written.

It has been reported that Beaver Foods pay their employees the highest wages in their line of work. "From what I have been told, Versa Foods employees were released once they past the required experience for minimum wage, whereas Beaver Foods increases employee's wages once they have past the required experience for minimum wage," said Brian Smith, SUB Affairs Secretary. There has been no word of forming a Union among Beaver Foods employees. In Ontario, there are organized Food Unions. Why not in Nova Scotia?



Words from the wise . . .

To whom it may concern:

I would like to lodge a complaint about the inefficiency at this University in certain matters. They include the ineffectual parking regulations in the god-damn parking lots. After paying \$16.00 for a parking permit the least I would expect is to find a parking spot that is both easy to get into and out of at all times, not just before 9 o'clock in the morning and after 4 o'clock in the af-

ternoon.

It is ridiculous to see a so-called place of higher learning sell double the amount of permits than spots. I just goes to show the capitalistic nature of this school of Learning. HAH.

Another complaint is the SLOPPY removal of snow and more solidly ICE from the sidewalks and steps of this campus and again the "hah-hah" parking lots. We have been back for almost two weeks and so far I have seen nothing

done to alleviate the treacherous conditions of the campus, except for a smattering of sand in one parking lot and one or two squares of the sidewalk are supposedly clear. HAH.

In the past two days I have fallen three times, causing severe pain to my body and sharp embarrassment to my pride. The first fall wasn't so bad, only a bruise on my left hip and knee. The second one, only an hour later, was much more

painful.

In the god-damn parking lot I fell on the same hip and banged my head on the side of a car ruining a new pair of panty-hose and causing a slight dent in the side of a cr. I apologize to the owner of the car. I suffered from a continual head-ache, from the fall, for a little over 24 hours.

Then, today, on my way to class, just after the head-ache finally left, I fell down the steps by the King's Gym (due to the great accumulation of snow)

and brought back the head-ache plus a sore ankle and elbow. I am a mass of sore bones and if they don't soon stop aching someone is going to get my doctor's bill.

Yours truly,

A black and blue 3rd year B.A., B.Ed. integrated student, Paulette Holland

P.S.

If anyone feels as I do, you can write to Professor A. F. Chisholm, University Engineer's Office, and complain. Let's see something done.