

International students boycott reception

by Ken Burke

A decision by many International students to boycott last Friday's International Students' Reception has brought the Foreign student quota issue into the open again.

The reception, sponsored by Student Services Dean P.T. Marri-

ott, was boycotted after International students societies claimed Marriott had reneged on a promise to answer their questions at the reception. In a letter sent to the *Gazette*, a group of international students (whose names have been withheld) said, "when presented with a list of pertinent questions on

the eve of the reception ... he flatly refused to entertain the questions."

Controversy arose earlier this year when it was learned President MacKay had issued a directive in late August to the Registrar not to admit any more visa (foreign) students to Dalhousie. MacKay later

said the concentration of Foreign students in certain programs prompted the emergency measure.

Zaiyol Swende, President of the International Students' Association, said the questions asked what has been done on the quota system, when Senate would discuss the issue, and what Marriott would personally do about the matter.

"If he hadn't told us he would entertain the questions there wouldn't have been a problem," said Swende.

Dean Marriott said he didn't feel the reception was the proper place for such questions to be asked. "It was to be an evening of getting together and meeting other International Students," said Marriott. "This made a confrontation out of a meeting designed for other purposes."

Marriott also said he was originally asked by Swende whether somebody could make a speech at the event. When Swende returned the next day, Marriott said he then brought a list of questions and "said he had changed his mind".

In their letter to the *Gazette*, the students said President MacKay

had not followed up on promises to send letters to international student organizations and clarify the issue, and also to invite international representatives to make presentations before Senate.

"We want to let the University Authorities know we are unhappy with the situation", said Swende.

When asked about the quota at a meeting of Senate last Monday, President MacKay said there will be a report on the quota submitted to Senate. MacKay also said he "advised the Registrar that for the balance of the year we will revert to policies from the past year."

MacKay also told Senate he had received requests from three governments to make special arrangements for specific students, and that funding arrangements for these students are being looked into.

Marriott says he is not avoiding students on the issue.

"If students are concerned, they should call a meeting of the International Students' Association (ISA) and I'll attend," he said. "I'll answer questions as honestly and as fully as I can."

Text price make students balk at buying

by Laurel McCubbin

"Fifty-two dollars for a textbook and it's only a half credit course!"

This is not an uncommon cry these days, but this student (who requested anonymity), along with many others in Fisheries Oceanography 4160, refused to buy the book in question.

"Why bother, when chapters we need from it can be photocopied for \$19 from the book in the library," said the student. The book was not on the Bookstore's shelves until October, due to late ordering and shipping problems.

The Dalhousie Campus Bookstore offered "Ecology of the Sea"

by Pitcher and Hart at \$52.00 after Professor J.A. Koslow of Fisheries Oceanography told the bookstore students wouldn't buy the book. The price was then dropped to \$37.50. As a result his students felt the bookstore was taking off its mark-up to offer the text at cost.

"That's quite a profit for a supposedly non-profit operation," said the student. The price had dropped \$14.50.

Irving Kirk, manager of the bookstore, said the bookstore was actually incurring a loss. He said it had tried to return the texts, but since they were published in Europe, the Canadian distributor

would not accept them. However, the distributor did agree to a 15 per cent discount, and the bookstore also removed its operating costs from the price. The present price represents a loss to the bookstore, but it would have been stuck with the extra books otherwise.

Dr. Koslow said he asked the university library to purchase more copies of the text.

The bookstore operates on a break-even basis. "We don't charge the students for freight costs, for example," Kirk said. Those costs to the Bookstore are offset by profits made on the sale of miscellaneous items such as sweaters and cards.



Visa students' quota sparks debate

International Students' concern with Dalhousie registration policies should soon elicit a response from Senate. Professor John Flint pointed out concern expressed in the *Dal Gazette* about the possibility of a limit being placed on the number of foreign students accepted at Dalhousie. Flint said in the absence of a response to this concern, disquiet is growing among students who fear a "Diktat" will be issued unilaterally.

University president Mackay said he would be making a report to the Senate on his decision in August, in the hope Senate would take some action. "I've advised the Registrar that for the balance of this year we

revert to policies used in the past year," he said.

MacKay assured Senate there would be no unilateral dictate forthcoming and said the foreign student representatives will be consulted at every opportunity if Senate agreed.

Referring to a report made by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) earlier this year, MacKay said there were recommendations which should be taken into Senate's consideration.

MacKay also informed Senate he had been approached by three (unspecified) foreign governments to see if special arrangements could be made for particular students. He said arrangements for funding these students were underway.

Western Protectors "defends" citizens

EDMONTON (CUP) — A new volunteer group is offering Edmonton citizens protection in response to a growing crime rate in that city.

Members of the Western Protectors patrol the city's streets late at night watching for crime.

Group organizer Gayla Weekes says she formed the Protectors to deal with increased incidents of attacks and muggings, and to apprehend assailants the police can't get to in time.

Weekes estimates it takes the police 10 minutes to respond to an average call.

Edmonton police have refused to endorse the group.

"They're worried about civil liberty and the risk of injuries," said Weekes. But the group is operating

on firm legal ground and no such liability exists, she said.

"We have a four-month training period where members are taught self-defense and first-aid."

Police department representative Lance Beswick says "anybody who goes to the aid of someone in distress can be congratulated."

The problem with the Western Protectors is they "actually go looking for it," he said.

"When this happens, the risk of injury to the group members and the general public increases dramatically."

According to Weekes, the group generally runs into brawls, muggings and individual robberies. Through the first six months of

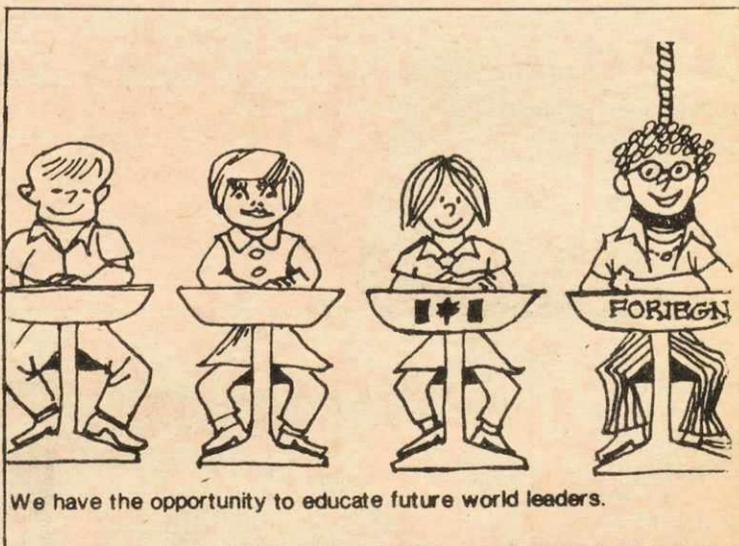
operation none of the group has been injured.

The patrolling group of six carry no weapons — only flashlights to guide them through dark alleyways. When a crime is witnessed, one member goes to phone the police, three take after the assailant(s), and two stay with the victim.

The group is supported by local business, and there is a membership charge of \$40 per month for the first four months and \$25 per month after that. Despite the cost, Weekes says she is deluged with applications.

"We've received 175 applications this month," she said.

"I think people are beginning to realize that they don't have to sit by, they can do something."



Correction
In the Feature last week, "U. de M. Occupation: The True Story", there may have been some confusion

over the date of the occupation. The occupation occurred during April of 1982, not 1981, as stated in some points in the article.