

# Course Union a Priority

By Andrew Cochran

Newly elected Arts Rep Trevor Parsons wants to see course unions initiated throughout the Arts Faculty.

At present there are only three such structures, in Sociology, Economics, and Political Science.

In an interview with the GAZETTE soon after his election, he said, "I want to get together with the other members on Council from Arts, and establish some concrete action concerning the 'course union' concept." Mr. Parsons was elected to Council in last week's Art's by-election, necessitated by the resignation earlier this year of Steve Ballantyne.

Only 139 Art's students — less than seven percent of those eligible, — marked their ballots in the day-long vote.

"The exceptionally small turnout was disappointing", Parsons commented, "but is indicative of the widespread apathy present here at Dalhousie."

In speaking of Council's operation thus far this year, the second year student said that he didn't think that Council had been at all representative of the student body at large.

He went on to cite that with the numerous methods of communication available, and declared that the lack of contact with students was "without excuse". Parsons went on to say that his first priority was to try to improve this situation, and added that he hopes that students will share their opinions with him throughout the year. He concluded, "I'm approachable!"



# The Year of the Bureaucrats

By Jimi McGuigan

Between October 23 and October 26, the Glendon College Forum sponsored a conference called "The Year of the Baricades" at York University's Glendon College. The problems of the conference were apparent to some of us even before it began.

The publicity that reached the Dalhousie campus was not adequate in any way. The delegates from Dalhousie went to the conference not knowing quite what to expect. We received no information on the content or purpose of the conference except a short blurb which said virtually nothing.

Only when we arrived did we receive the "necessary information"; but unfortunately the conference was structured by a group of apparently pseudo-left elitists.

First of all, it was designed for and attended by university and high school students to the exclusion of workers. Did not the workers have something to do with the attempted revolutions of 1968?

The ruling group with their bourgeois mannerisms insisted that for entrance to the sessions each person must present his or her registration card. By the Saturday afternoon session many of the people at the con-

ference were pretty pissed off at all this bureaucratic crap at a forum to discuss leftism.

One of the St. Mary's students Dave MacKinnon actually had to fight a number of "student Pigs" to gain admission to the conference. Some registration cards were burned and people called from the floor to have the meeting opened to all.

This was done for the Saturday evening session but was in effect, a hollow gesture.

The conference bureaucrats also failed to note a difference in attitudes of the people attending. The "liberals" were lost because the conference was designed for "leftists". The "leftists" were lost because of factionalism.

The conference bureaucrats failed to inject a Canadian content into the conference and this had to be done from the floor by a highly vocal delegation from Simon Fraser's PSA department.

The Canadian Indians and blacks simply did not get anywhere, probably because of their lack of numbers. After all, how many blacks and Indians are bourgeois?

The only thing "Canadian" to get anywhere was the Quebec situation and only after long and heated debate

because of the ignorance of the English speaking delegates in regard to Quebec.

They actually knew more about the Columbia University situation of 1968!

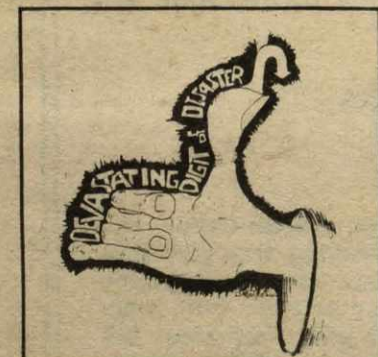
The bourgeois organizers also excluded left groups which did not fit the established pattern such as the Trotskyites.

The conference was divided into plenaries in which a number of the speakers failed to show up and seminars which were failures except in regard to the Quebec situation late in the conference.

It became apparent that the power at the conference was in the hands of the American SDS, the Women's Liberation Group and, after fighting for it, the Quebec delegation.

The only result of the conference was a march Sunday evening to the Globe and Mail in protest of its "slandorous attack" on the Quebec situation, but less than half of the people at the conference bothered to participate.

It was generally assumed though never stated that one of the major purposes of the conference was to unite the left. Because of the bureaucratic set-up, this and the other objectives were not realized.



Never let it be muttered that the Devastating Digit of Disaster discriminates! Zounds!

This week honorable mention must be made of that campus oracle — the Dalhousie Gazette (Canada's Oldest

College Newspaper).

You may recall, in a recent issue of this oft quoted document, mention was made of a football game between Dal & Acadia, stating that it would take place a week earlier than originally scheduled in Acadia. Dal actually played UPEI at Dal.

Nevertheless, from reliable sources we learn that 22 people arrived at Acadia on the day mentioned, with ample school spirit, and anticipating the ensuing Tiger victory (1 week early!). The real crunch comes when we learn that two of the 22 were football players!

While commending honorable mentions, we must refer to that veritable student sage, Bruce Gillis (remember him?) who was heard to utter at the last Council meeting — in the midst a heated debate on birth control pamphlets — "Well I think that if

we're going to support birth control, we have to go all the way!" Attaboy, Bruce!

Yet the ultimate for this week has to be member of the Council of Students.

After a prolonged debate on giving support to the Vietnam Moratorium Committee, the vote was called for and taken.

Since one member neglected to vote, it was retaken. Not once, but twice! Whereupon the honorable councillor was reminded of her franchise by a number of fellow members. Her reply?

"Oh... oh my... didn't I vote?... what in heavens name didn't I vote on!!!"

To Art's Rep Catherine Henson we bestow this weeks Devastating Digit of Disaster Award, noting her untiring (?) efforts on Council.

## Strike Possible

By Sandy Lyth

# Salaries Low

The salaries of faculty at Dalhousie are lagging from \$1,200 to \$5,000 behind those at some other Canadian Universities.

According to a recent survey published by the salaries committee of the Dalhousie Faculty Association the salaries are even lagging behind those at other Maritime universities.

"We noted also last year that the salary floors published for Dalhousie were embarrassingly low: not one of the fifty-one institutions for which the Dominion Bureau of Statistics gathered salary data for 1968-69 had lower minima in all ranks than Dalhousie".

The administration of Dalhousie has now stopped publishing salary floors altogether as if in answer to the problem.

The Committee pointed out that elementary arithmetic would prove that a professor who takes a job at Dalhousie for \$2,000 per year less than he would get at another university loses \$20,000 over a ten year period.

Yet Dalhousie expects to maintain a reputation as one of the best universities in the country.

The Faculty Association last year recommended that average salaries be raised to a comparable level with other Canadian universities as a start.

Their recommendation would involve increases of \$1,800 (10%) for full professors, \$1,400 (10%) for associate professors and for assistant professors \$900 (also 10%). These would be just minimal increases to bring Dalhousie up to par with other universities as their salary scales already exist.

The increases actually made in average salaries were: Professors — \$416 (2%) associate professors — \$571 (4%) and assistant professors \$8 (-.001%).

Hard to believe, but nevertheless true. The figures were arrived at by examining data from the university Business Office.

"The conclusion to be reached from these figures is obvious: Dalhousie salaries, which were badly behind those of other comparable universities last year, are even further behind this year.

What is worse, Dalhousie has shown no evidence that any policy to remedy this situation is in sight." The faculty are worried that the present salary scale will not only convince professors already here that their best financial interests lie elsewhere, but will also discourage well qualified people from considering a position at Dalhousie.

The Committee on Salaries has presented what it believes are the basic principles involved to the Board of Governors. Briefly, these principles are:

1. the University must give priority to competitive salary scales "to bring in and retain faculty members whose qualifications permit them to choose among competing offers from other Canadian Universities.

2. the university should undertake a policy designed to raise Dalhousie's standards to meet the national averages within three years. This is minimum.

3. increases in salary floors should be matched with salary increases at all other level in the department to maintain relative positions among professors within the department.

4. no decisions respecting levels and policies for salaries should be undertaken without prior and full consultation with the Faculty Association.

5. faculty members must be given full information concerning their present situation with respect to salary and future increases in sufficient time to "make intelligent decisions concerning their contracts with the University in the following term."

The DFA urges professors to join the Faculty Association, as any successful effort must have full support of as many faculty members as possible, and faculty members themselves look into the situation and start discussions.

Also enclosed in the paper of the Salary Committee was a questionnaire designed to sound out how most of the professors feel about their present positions and salaries and if they are dissatisfied, what they are prepared to do to remedy the situation.

Suggestions offered included personal action by resignation, publicity both in the national academic community and the mass media, and DFA representation to the administration.

Added to the bottom was a special box, with instructions that only those who would personally take part were to answer were choices of mass action: slowdown, refusal to mark exams, withdrawal of services, resignations, or others, (to be specified).

The situation is a serious one Dalhousie prides itself on being one of the best universities in Canada yet seem extremely unwilling to pay for the status. The faculty are upset and have laid down their reasons. It now becomes the administration's turn.



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