

Ed students leave classes to protest delays

by Glenn Wheeler

Dal education students left classes yesterday to knock on the administration's door. The students are upset with delays on renovations to the Arts Annex, where classes and offices were moved in September.

Previously, the department was housed in barrack-type buildings behind King's College. "The Shack" was built during World War II to accommodate navy personnel who were studying at King's. At the first of September, department operations moved to "the White House," on the other side of Oxford St., until the Arts Annex was completely renovated. However, the White House is to be the University President's official residence and faculty and students were persuaded to move to the Annex before it was fully ready.

Saying they were "tired of getting the run-around" and "being treated like fourth class citizens," students left Dr. Doug Heugel's class and split up in groups and visited the Gazette, the University Ombudsman, the Dean of Arts and Science and President Andrew MacKay. MacKay was not able to speak to the

students at that time but a meeting has been scheduled for Friday.

The students say completion dates have been set and broken. They complain their Learning Resource Centre is still "in shambles" and they do not have access to material they need for completion of classroom assignments. The Centre is also needed by student teachers who are being sent out to teach without the necessary resources.

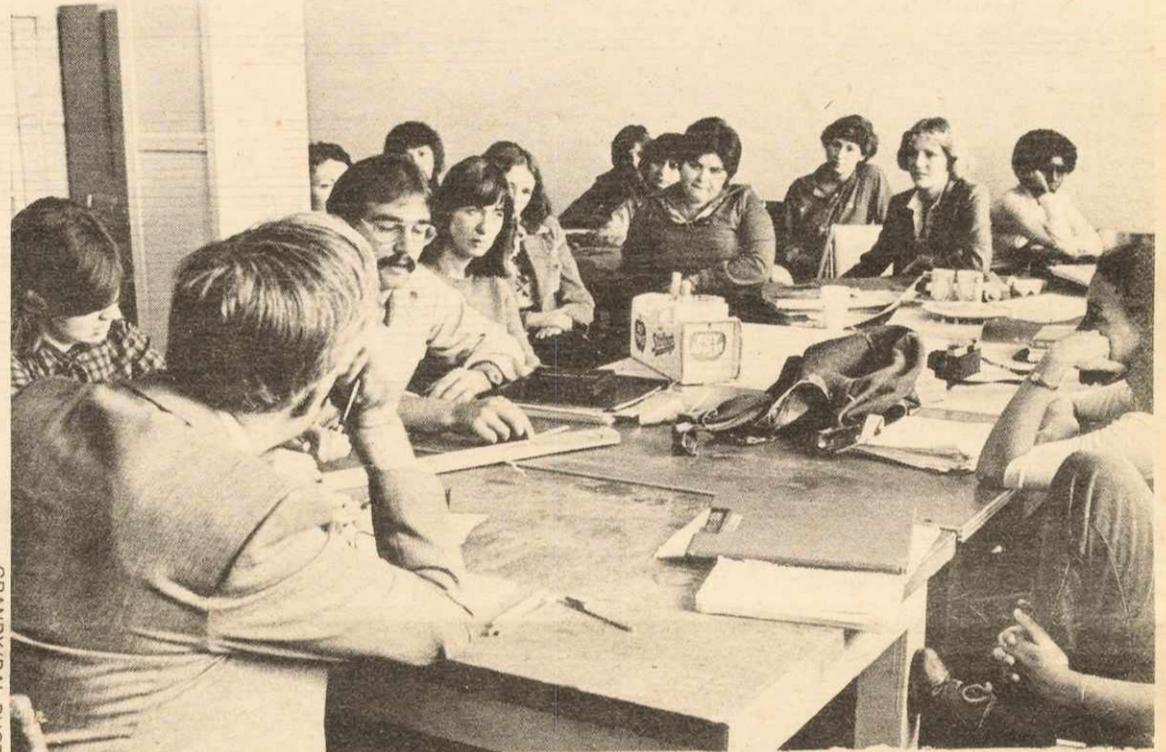
As well, the student lounge is not finished and a classroom still has pillars in the middle of the room so students have to choose between seeing the board, the professor or the screen where films are shown.

Paula Robinson, a spokesperson for the students, said "things are going to happen soon because they have to happen." She said education students' academic progress is being held back. Another student said the students "pay good money" to study at Dalhousie and "there's no way the fourth class treatment is going to continue."

The Dean of Arts and Science, Dr. D. D. Betts, said he only heard about the problem Wednesday morning. He

said he hopes more workers can be moved to the building and the problems can be ironed out every Friday.

He said the Arts Annex is also "quite old" but there should be "quite an improvement" over The Shack.



Students voice grievances to dean.

RCMP INVESTIGATE DENTISTS

by Paul Creelman

Surgeons on the staff at Dalhousie's faculty of Dentistry are presently under investigation by the RCMP, according to Gerald Sheehy, minister of the provincial Department of Health.

The investigation follows allegations that several doctors are billing MSI for work done by resident interns under their supervision. Other allegations of misappropriations of Dental School funds and irregularities in the awarding of

the contracts for the new dental buildings are also being looked into.

Last year the RCMP investigated the dental school on similar grounds and gave them a clean bill of health.

Speaking in the Legislative building, Sheehy said he was surprised that the RCMP thought it was necessary to reopen the investigation. The investigating officer in the commercial crime section of the RCMP was unavailable for comment at press time.

Dr. Precious, one of four oral surgeons in the faculty of dentistry, stated that he was unaware of any such investigation.

Dr. Precious, and his working colleague Dr. Lovely, were recently the subjects of a CBC news show, the Harris-Lorimer report. The show examined a practice called faculty salary supplementation, whereby faculty members bill MSI for both private patients, and patients treated under their care at the VG Clinic.

According to Dr. Ian Bennett, Dean of Faculty of Dentistry, this is a normal prac-

tice. However, one of the problems of allowing faculty members to practice privately is whether or not they spend enough time at their job as a faculty member.

"We did have a problem with faculty members involved in private practice a few years ago," Bennett said during the CBC interview.

"There was suspicion that some members of the faculty were interpreting the letter of their contract rather liberally when it came to spending their allotted time in private practice. However, that was made clear to the faculty, and the problem was completely resolved."

Faculty members are allowed 5 to 10 hours per week to practice privately, and the advantages of having experienced and up-to-date surgeons outweigh the disadvantages of this policy, according to Bennett.

He also states that it is impossible to attract men of the caliber of Precious and Lovely without offering them a supplement to their university salary.

However, according to the figures reported on the Harris-Lorimer report, faculty members may make more than their salary in private practice alone. In the case of Precious and Lovely, who both earn over \$200,000 per annum, the amount of money paid by the university is less than half of their total income from MSI billing for private and clinical patients.

Jack Hare, chairman of the MSI Provincial Health Commission, stated that as far as he knew, the funds paid out by MSI were not double-billed.

"As far as we're concerned, there is no double-billing taking place," said Hare during the same interview.

"All we are looking for are three things: the performance of an insurable service, the presence of an insurable person, and a doctor who is registered to perform such a service. If these three things come together, then we will pay the cost of the service. If somebody else happens to pay the doctor involved for something else, then that is not really our concern."

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