

Ministerial decision in dispute delayed by court order

by Ross Harvey

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The CSA of A sees itself as the most effective means of negotiating with the provincial government for higher wages for the non-academic staff at the U of A.

Conditions and salaries, not attitudes, are what the CSA of A are concerned with, according to Finn. "There is nothing holy about working at the University. Students are not our primary concern, but the result of the problem between workers and employees are what we are concerned with."

TERRORISTS, from page 1

compound, placed on human skin, is absolutely fatal. He says the compound is painless and so can go unnoticed until it attacks the nervous system.

Release of the formula has set off a barrage of criticism in the British government, which is already obsessed with IRA-inspired terrorism. Authorities fear the IRA may add the weapon to its terrorist arsenal. Smiliar fears have been expressed about the Palestine Liberation Organization.

According to the Times, the compound could be manufactured by any college student in a chemistry lab.

Provincial Manpower and Labour Minister Bert Hohol, or his representative, was supposed to appear in court yesterday to finally clear up a dispute which had been simmering at the U of A for several months.

He didn't.

Rather, lawyers acting on his behalf said that a number of new points in the dispute had been introduced by the Attorney-General's Department and they needed a postponement to give them time to develop them.

The postponement was granted and the matter is expected to come up again in court on Wednesday.

Hohol is required to appear because of a writ of madamus with which the Civil Service Association of Alberta (CSA of A) served him in late December. The writ requires him to decide one way or another in the dispute. He was supposed to have rendered the decision in court yesterday.

The dispute concerns the 20 university employees working in the U of A power plant.

The employees, now technically represented by the non-academic staff association (NASA), want to be certified as a branch of the (CSA).

If they are successful in their bid for certification it will mark the first time the CSA has had a branch at the U of A since 1968 when NASA, previously a CSA affiliate, absorbed employees, then represented by the CSA, into its ranks. This would provide a much needed base on the campus for the CSA which is currently staging an extensive publicity campaign urging U of A employees to join the province-wide association.

The power plant workers had earlier threatened a walkout for Jan. 15 to back their demands for CSA certification, but the walkout was cancelled the day before by the CSA executive.

The reason the power plant employees want CSA certification is because their wages are lagging far behind those of workers in such plants as Edmonton Power and Calgary Power.

"Basically, if we don't get CSA backing, we just don't have any bargaining power," said Ray Kjenner, chairperson of what could become CSA branch 22 at the power plant.

"Our wages are lagging really bad now -- up to \$200 to \$300 a month behind those of power company employees and they're getting a new contract soon in which they're bargaining for a 20 per cent increase."

The CSA served provincial minister of Manpower and Labour Bert Hohol with a writ of mandamus, requiring him to decide one way or another in the dispute, in late December.

"Hohol realizes that the labour laws which govern the university specifically recognize the CSA as the exclusive bargaining agent for the university employees, but if he goes with the CSA he goes against the university which has a good thing going with NASA," said Kjenner.

"And if he goes against the CSA in this instance, he's asking for a lot more labour trouble."

NASA is staying mostly on the sidelines in this dispute other than sending one deputation to the power plant workers last year and occasionally attacking

the CSA in their internal bulletin, they have been letting the university administration handle the matter.

"We don't particularly favour any group but we do feel we have a responsibility to NASA because we have an agreement with them that runs to June 30, 1975," said Lorne Leitch, the university's financial vice president.

Leitch said that if the dispute was finally resolved in favour of the CSA the university would consider appealing the decision.

"We are not prepared to accept separate bargaining units at the university," said Leitch. "The university would be somewhat unhappy about the CSA biting off pieces of our employees."

"The university is challenging the CSA on behalf of NASA," said Kjenner, who added that the power plant workers had never had any real contact with NASA.

The current dispute has been brewing since April 1974. Up until that time, the workers at the plant had been represented by the CSA.

But in order to keep their jobs at the plant, the workers had to agree to a series of regulations governing university employees, one of which was that they join NASA.

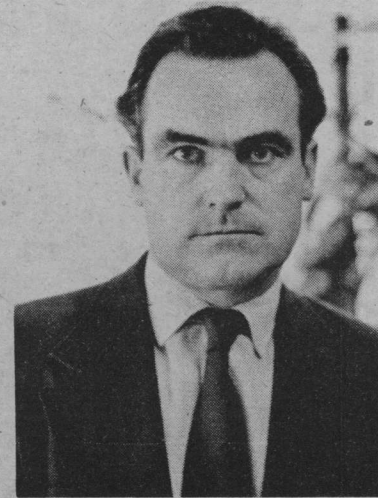
The plant employees agreed to all the conditions except the one requiring NASA membership, on which they reserved decision.

The workers then served the university with notice in October that they wished to recertify with the CSA.

During all this, the workers in power plant have gone a year and a half without a raise.

"We don't have a contract as far as we're concerned," said Kjenner. "And we don't recognize NASA or its contract."

CORRECTION



We don't do it often, but when we do, we do it big. The above photo is that of Dr. Fenna, not the one published last issue, which incorrectly featured Dr. Molnar in his place.

1975 Students' Union General Election

**Nomination forms will be accepted between
the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM on Tuesday,
January 28, 1975 in room 271, SUB for the
following positions -**

Students' Union Executive

President

Executive VP

Academic VP

Finance and Administration VP

Services VP

University Athletic Board

President of Men's Athletics

President of Women's Athletics

VP of Men's Athletics

VP Women's Athletics

**Nomination forms may be obtained in the
Students' Union General Office room 256 SUB.**

TUITION FEES ARE DUE

University regulations governing the payment of fees require that the second instalment be made by January 15, 1975. A penalty of \$15.00 will be charged on any payment made or postmarked after that date.

The regulations further state that should payment not be made by January 31st, registration will be subject to cancellation.

The last day for payment of fees without penalty for students who have registered only in the Second Term (January to April) is January 31, 1975. Should payment not be made by February 17th following, registration will be subject to cancellation.

Payments are accepted by the Cashier, 3rd Floor, Administration Building, or by mail addressed to the Fees Division, Office of the Comptroller, Administration Building.

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