

## Ward 1 Residents' Meeting

On Tuesday, the Ward 1 Residents' Association held its third organizational meeting of the year at Gorsebrook School. The purpose of the meeting was to present the membership with a list of proposed by-laws for the association, and to recommend an interim slate of directors.

The meeting, not very well publicized, had about twenty-five people in attendance, most of whom were at the September 24th

gathering. Debate, for the most part, centred on objectives of the organization. Despite the fact that most of those present owned property in the ward, it became evident as the meeting progressed that the association was not to be formed solely for the protection of property owners. Areas of interest for the association were to include such issues as community planning, housing, and recreation. These

suggestions came from the drafting committee for the by-laws. When Dr. van-Rooyen, a resident of Inglis Street, questioned the priority of the items, asking whether or not the interests and protection of property owners in the area should also be listed as an objective, it was decided by general consensus that the objectives would spell out that the organization was there to "promote and protect the best interests of property owners, tenants and such other citizens of Halifax as may reside in the ward." To clarify the matter, those present voted unanimously to open membership in the association to all residents of the ward, and those eligible to vote in the ward in municipal elections. It was unclear at the time whether or not property owners in the ward had the right to vote in the area, if they held property there but did not live in the ward. This does not appear to be the case, so the second requirement will probably be dropped at the next meeting.

Questions also arose as to whether or not there would be collaboration with other residents' associations in the city to back the goals of these movements. An example cited was the Ward II association, where it was felt that the association might be asked to back the Ward II group on the Quinpool Road project. Again, there was unanimous approval for inclusion of such an objective in the by-laws as would allow the association to enter into such debate. It was felt that if such action was approved by the membership, it would not be unreasonable to ask the alderman of the ward to convey this opinion to city council.

Also proposed and accepted at the meeting was a suggestion to press the city council to recognize ward resident associations and their rights of spokespersonship for problems concerning the area.

### OF INTEREST TO STUDENTS...

Ward I, which takes in most of the south end of the city, is bounded by South Street to about the Isaac Walton Killam Hospital, swings north in a straight line with Summer Street to University Avenue, then proceeds along University and Morris Street to the waterfront. There are about 2,000 students living in this area, and all have a legitimate right to belong to the association. Because of the high number of student boarders and tenants in the area, many of whom are living in substandard housing conditions, the organization may provide the voice necessary to reach the usually deaf ears of City Council, whenever such conditions become so bad as to merit action by the association.

## APPEAL REJECTED

By M.P. MacKenzie

An appeal against a decision of the Student Discipline Committee was presented to the Senate at their meeting held on Mon. Oct. 21/74. The appeal was not against the finding of the Discipline Committee but rather against the severe penalty imposed.

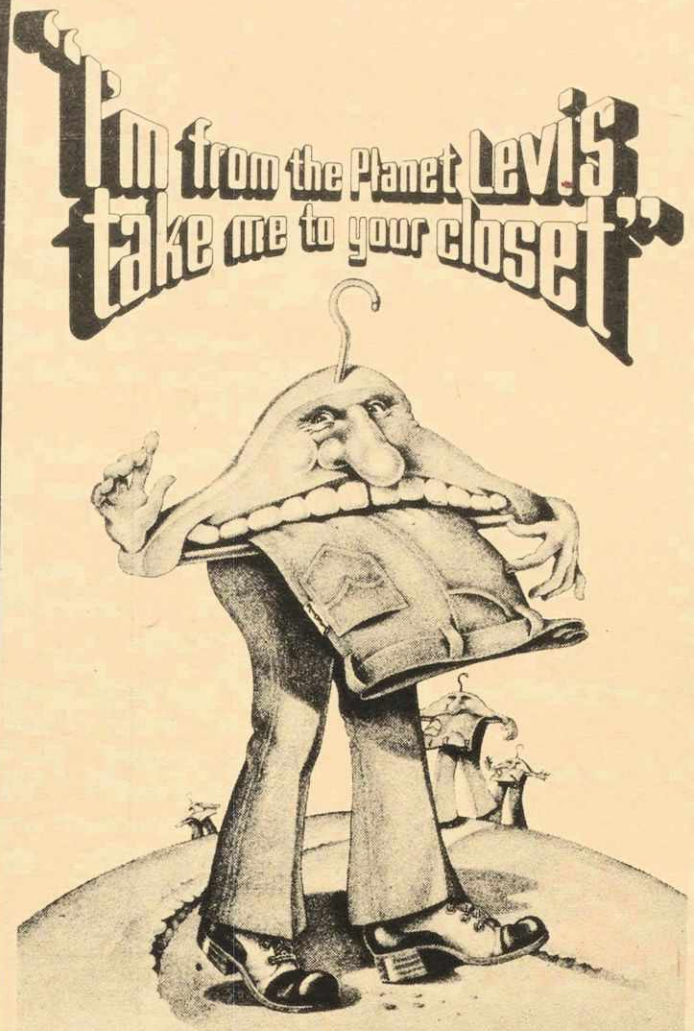
Last May student "X" was charged with plagiarism (the charge was not in question) and found guilty. His penalty was twofold: he 1.) lost credit for all courses taken in '73-74, and 2.) was suspended from the University for one year. At the Senate Council meeting on Oct. 7/74 student "X", represented by Mr. Outhouse, appealed for a dismissal of the loss of credit penalty on the grounds that it was unreasonably severe. The Appeal was dismissed by a vote of 6-5 and sent on to the Senate. At the Senate meeting Mr. Outhouse contended that the penalty was unfair in terms of the offense and he cited other cases in recent years in which the offences were more serious but the penalties were less severe. (Student "X" had submitted a paper in Commerce 305 worth 30% of his total mark and, when questioned, admitted that the work was not his own.) It was further pointed out that the function of the Senate in cases such as this was essentially a judicial function. In the Whittaker case in 1972 the Student Discipline Committee found the student guilty of plagiarism (he purchased a term paper and submitted it) but the penalty was only a failing mark in the particular course. There was another case in 1972 involving cheating on an exam and the penalty in that case was similar to the present one. However, the Foster case was concerned with more serious charges (he obtained a copy of a final exam, prepared an answer booklet beforehand and then substituted it for the one issued him during the exam) and Mr. Outhouse stressed to the Senate that this difference in degree should be taken into account when considering his client's appeal. Mr. Outhouse reminded the members of the Senate that his client was not interested in having the suspension penalty lifted but thought it only fair that he should receive credit for those courses which he had passed. Dr. Hick's, the chairman, asked Mr. Outhouse and his client to leave the room while the case was considered and voted upon. The discussion revolved around the seriousness of plagiarism on this campus and the best methods of dealing with it. It was pointed out by several members that student "X" should not used as a scapegoat. Student "X" had maintained that he was unaware of the seriousness of his action or of the penalties that might ensue. This being the case, it was pointed out that the Administration had a duty to publicize the rules of the University, and list the possible penalties for infractions. The vote was taken and the Appeal was dismissed by a majority of 2. The total votes cast numbered 30 and, since there appeared to be more members of Senate there than the vote would indicate, there may have been some abstentions.

The other matters on the agenda were rapidly dealt with; the only subject that drew much further discussion was Item 8 on the agenda "Appointment of Additional Vice-Presidents". The items and their results were as follows:

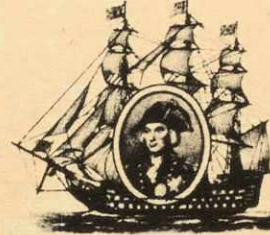
1. Minutes of Sept 16 - accepted
2. Minutes of Senate Council Oct. 7 - accepted
3. Appeal by Student "X" - Motion to dismiss - passed
4. Awarding of degrees (Fall graduates) - all were accepted
5. Regulations re: Appointments & Tenure - not prepared for presentation
6. Faculty Report - accepted
7. Summer school report - accepted
8. Additional Vice-Presidents - reported
9. Honorary Degrees - Tabled
10. Other Business - none

The meeting was adjourned and presumably student "X" has been notified of his appeal dismissal.

N.B. Student "X" has been used by the Gazette to protect the identity of the student in question.



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