

New bus schedule to be put into effect

By The PHANTOM PHOTOG

A revised city bus schedule will be put in operation September 15 as revealed at a press conference September 9.

In a report presented by Councillor Byron Lawrence, Chairman of the Public Transit Committee, it was revealed that between the months of November 1974 and April 1975 the use of the city transit an average 40,000 people per month, which has increased to the current rate of 50,000 per month. This is expected to increase to 55,000 by December.

One of the major points of the report was that between seven and nine AM the busses in Fredericton north will operate every half hour Monday through Friday.

Two runs will be added to the Forest Hill route leaving downtown at 10:00 a.m. and 1:10 p.m.

Passengers who have been downtown for the sole purpose of transferring to a bus headed to Prospect St. will find this problem remedied by a routing of the Forest Hill route to connect the downtown area with the Mall via the University and directly from Skyline Acres and Southwood Park to downtown.

The Barker's point route will be extended to the Prospect St. area which will provide direct service from the Barker's Point-Union St. area to the downtown and Prospect St. areas. This will create 10 minute service between downtown and Prospect St. daily from 7:05 a.m. to 11:55 p.m. via York St.

The Queen-Prospect route No 2 will cease but will be compensated by changes in the Barker's Point-Prospect route and additional limited service between downtown Fredericton and Silverwood.

The Queen-Prospect route No 1 will operate between 7:15 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. There has been insufficient use of the current Maple St. route to warrant its operation alone. Thus, this route will be consolidated with the Nashwagsis route, which will now be operated on Thursday night in addition to the current schedule.

A major step is the route between downtown Fredericton and Silverwood which will operate four times daily.

Senior citizens will find help in the form of reduced fares during non peak periods. According to the report approximately 1200 local residents currently hold cards entitling them to this benefit.

This proposal, as is common with new schemes, will be on a trial basis of 90 days. Lawrence stated that he didn't think a move would

be made to cancel this system at this time of year. If it is decided that this system is unacceptable, it is expected that no major change will be made until a later date.

In reference to a question concerning possible tie ups on the city bridge due to traffic, Lawrence said, "The bridge is there. The traffic's there. There's nothing much you can do about it." This problem, however, has not gone without attempts to ease it. In respect to this City Administrator John Robinson stated that the Barker's Point route will be stepped up ten minutes to make transfers possible "even despite the bridge problem and the bridge traffic."

Because of this schedule, light traffic could result in transfer passengers waiting 20 minutes.

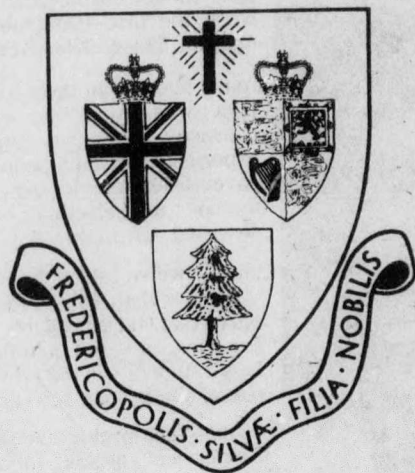
Lawrence also mentioned that total hours per week of bus

operation will decrease by 217 while the mileage will increase by 4321.

Another modification to the system will be new bus stop signs, intended to decrease the amount of frequent unmarked stops. However, concerning this Lawrence said, "I'd like to think our busdrivers would be courteous if it was an elderly person." Robison clarified that this "bus stop only" policy would not necessarily be strictly adhered to in thinly populated areas, adding that the main reason for bus stops was scheduling.

When questioned about dependability of service Robison commented the average age of Fredericton busses is the youngest of any Atlantic system. He further added that all the busses are diesel, the average life of which is 15 years, and the oldest bus used on the Fredericton system is a 1968 model. He further commented that one of the advantages of having a city operated bus system is that the city also operates the public works department, helping assure clear-ed bus routes.

Many people may have been inconvenienced by the crowded conditions on the Queen-Prospect route. It is hoped that the new routes will alleviate this problem.



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We are pleased that you have chosen our institutions to pursue your higher education.

While here, we invite you to become involved in the many activities in the city and become a participating member of our community.

Sincere best wishes for success in your scholastic endeavours, and may your stay with us be pleasant and rewarding.

Elbridge Wilkins, Mayor
And City Council

Profs qualified?

The question of who has the right to determine the qualifications of a university teacher, controversial at UNB for most of last year, has still not been answered to the satisfaction of UNB's administration.

The Board of Governors and the Senate passed a joint motion at their last meetings asking that the university be allowed to hire anyone they feel is qualified to teach, irregardless of the requirements of any professional association. The association of Atlantic Universities has supported this, and President John Anderson hopes that the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada will express similar support. This is to be presented to the government.

This motion arose out of a disagreement with the Association of Professional Engineers of New Brunswick. According to the engineering act, the teaching of advanced engineering courses is classed as the practice of engineering. Also, it is illegal to practice engineering without being a member of the professional association. Theoretically, this means that the association could prevent the university from hiring a particular individual to teach engineering. This can be construed as a restraint to academic freedom according to the administration.

"The situation hasn't changed from our side," said Dawson Lawrence, Executive Secretary of APENB. Although New Brunswick is the only province in which this situation exists, he said, the Canadian engineering association supports APENB. Lawrence said that this definition of engineering was worked out over several years, and will be discussed at the annual meeting of the national association in November.

The APENB council is going to meet September 14 at which time an up to date statement should be released.

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