

CEGEP scene volatile

MONTREAL (CUP)—September, 1978 ushered in not only the beginning of the new school year, but also, for many of Quebec's CEGEPs and universities, what has proved to be an unrelenting chain of confrontations with the administration.

The pattern shows an unmistakable move towards repression of students' activities outside the classroom curriculum. The incidents are neither minor nor isolated and have, on more than one occasion led to student strikes and class boycotts.

"I think there's trouble in each CEGEP in Quebec," said Andre Lauzon, co-ordinator for the Bureau regional d'information et de recherche (BRIR) de l'Association Nationale des Etudiants du Quebec (ANEQ).

At CEGEP de Vieux Montreal and l'Universite de Quebec a Montreal, the administrations have refused to recognize any student associations. The associations have no money to work with, and are not recognized as the spokespersons for the students they represent. This led

to a student strike at the CEGEP de Vieux Montreal Nov. 9.

In September, directive number 030307, formulated by the Ministry of Education, was implemented at CEGEP Maisonneuve. The various statutes make it mandatory that all students carry their identification cards with them at all times or risk being removed from the premises. A long struggle by students resulted in the revoking of these regulations by the administration last week.

Students and associations are not permitted to divert other students from pedagogical activities or disturb the public order, with the penalty being suspension or even expulsion. "But what is 'public order'?" questioned Lauzon. "Its definition must be arbitrary at best."

Administrative control over finances and facilities has left students at Lionel Broulx, Ahuntsic, and Andre Laurendau CEGEPs almost totally powerless. The administrators refused to turn over the fees collected from the students to the associa-

tions and have reserved the right to check spending at both Lionel Broulx and Ahuntsic.

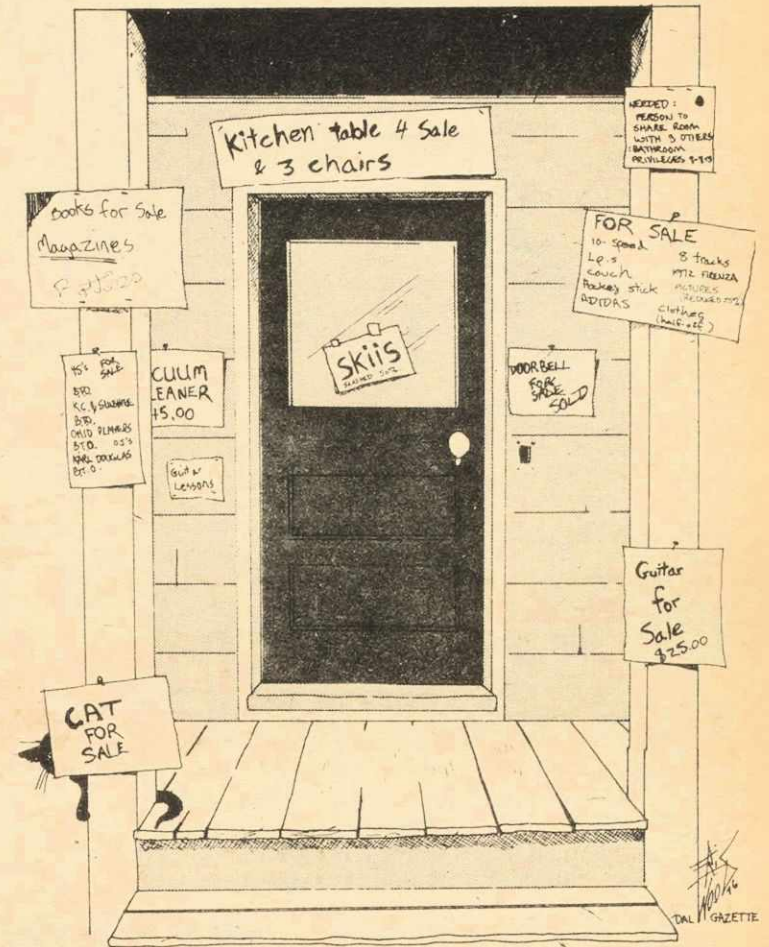
Since last year's organized student demand for sports complex, the administration of CEGEP Andre Laurendau began charging \$75 every time the auditorium was used to hold a student assembly.

"The goals of the government and administration are to neutralize the associations," Lauzon added. "Because if you do, it is difficult for the students to be organized against any increases, pedagogical changes, etc."

Often the associations have been forced to fight for the most basic of rights in the fear that loss of these will eventually mean the erosion of all the association's powers, and even the erosion of all student rights.

Lauzon sees the right of association as the foundation on which all other battles are waged.

"If you are not organized, how can you fight against economic and academic repression?" he asked.



Food up

OTTAWA (CUP)—The rapid increase in food prices over the last year can be blamed on soaring profits of food and beverage companies, according to the federal government's inflation monitoring agency.

Profits per unit of output in the food industry rose by 63 per cent between the first and third quarters of this year, the Centre for the Study of Inflation and Productivity (CSIP) said in a report to the first ministers' conference November 27. According to the report, wages have only gone

up by an average of 6.8 per cent over the last 12 months.

The report cautioned food and beverage manufacturers to show restraint in profits or "there could be some additional upward pressure on food prices in the coming months."

Food prices increased 14.8 per cent during the year ending September 1, 1978, the report noted. Inflation in general may ease up moderately within the next year, it added.

In the industrial sector, profits per unit rose 35 per cent in the first nine months

of this year, two and a half times as much as labour unit costs, which, according to the report, have shown substantial moderation.

The report said rising prices have been responsible for large profits in several industries, including the steel industry where profits rose 47 per cent in the first nine months of this year, and the forest products industry which saw its profits skyrocket 94 per cent.

"Profit is a key element in the determination of prices," the report noted.

Average wage increases in the private sector tend to be one per cent higher than in the public sector, the report said. kilometres southwest and the

site of the main campus, where an eulogy was read and a mock burial conducted.

A fourth Selkirk campus in Trail, 35 kilometres south of Castlegar, has been closed since October 26.

Most Selkirk classes in Nelson have resumed. At first they were held in church halls, an empty office, and a former restaurant, but often these, too, were picketed by the union so that classes were moved to the homes of students and instructors. The term has been extended for the Nelson classes to make up for lost class time.

The mass picket action, successful at the Castlegar campus November 29, was repeated the next day at a secondary school in Nelson

as the strike there and at the college began its sixth week.

The striking college staff and the striking clerical staff, maintenance workers and bus drivers of the Nelson school district constitute two separate locals of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).

Three more CUPE locals—non-teaching staff of the Castlegar, Trail, and Grand Forks school districts—were locked out by the school board one day after the strike began at the college and in Nelson. They too have begun mass picket actions.

The four school boards and the college joined six years ago to form one employer bargaining unit.

student aid committee

U de Moncton pulls out

MONCTON (CUP)—Faced with government unwillingness to accept any of their suggestions, Universite de Moncton students have decided to remove their representatives from the New Brunswick student aid advisory committee.

According to U de M student federation representative Joseph Labelle, the federation withdrew its representatives Nov. 23 after the Council of Maritime Premiers had announced the previous week that it would introduce a study into Atlantic student aid programs.

Students were not consulted about this study, he said.

During the two years the committee has been in operation, Labelle said, student representatives on it have made many "detailed and in depth" proposals for modification. However, none were accepted.

"They told us that either they cost too much money or they were contrary to federal policy."

The committee was set up to provide student input into New Brunswick student aid policies.

The U de M federation will be continuing its work on student aid, he said, although he was not sure how much support it would receive from other student federations in the province. In previous actions he said, Moncton has had to carry too much of the

load, with little support from other universities.

Students at about half of the CEGEPs in Quebec are currently out on strike or occupying buildings over the inadequacies of that province's student aid system. When asked whether Moncton students would contemplate similar actions, Labelle said that would depend on "the feeling of students here on campus".

Gazette Unclassifieds

For Sale: Cross country skis, boots, and poles. Never used. Suit someone around 5' 2". Also used luggage, 3 pieces. Phone 425-7068.

Begone from whence you came department: Flying home, don't forget about the AOSC office in the SUB for reservations.

Everywoman's almanac 1979 and the big red diary are now in stock at Red Herring Books, 1652 Barrington St., 2nd floor. Check us out for all your Christmas needs.

Gazette staffers and friends: Party at Susan and Marc's on Saturday December 9, 9:30.

Santhe Record Mart

CANADA'S LARGEST AND BEST KNOWN RECORD STORES

Atlantic Canada's leading selection of 45's, L.P.'s and Tapes

Look for our in store specials

BAYERS ROAD SHOPPING CENTRE, HALIFAX: Mon., Tues., & Sat., 9 a.m - 5:30 pm Wed., Thurs., & Fri., 9 am - 9:30 pm

K-MART MALL, TACOMA DRIVE DARTMOUTH: Mon., to Fri., 9:30 - 9:30 pm Saturday 9:30 am - 6 pm