

Teach-ins, talks and marches mark student day

By CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

Thirty-five hundred marching University of British Columbia students confronted the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada in the climax event of National Student Day.

In Toronto local organizers were disappointed that only 600 students from the University of Toronto, York University and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute paraded to the provincial legislature.

Students from 16 universities across the country marched as part of the Canadian Union of Students national student day, an education-action program designed to bring the demand for universal accessibility to higher education before the Canadian public.

Elsewhere teach-ins, panel discussions and debates took place.

The UBC march was held following a referendum on the campus overturning a previous decision of the student council to cancel it.

The Vancouver students trooping four abreast through rain and traffic filled six city blocks.

When they reached the Bayshore Inn, site of the AUCC convention, President Dr. J. A. Corry addressed the crowd.

He said students had shown an unmistakable interest in the fee issue.

"I accept this dramatic expression of your concern."

"We are all concerned, and we shall certainly do all we can to strive for a common goal," he said.

In Toronto, Ontario's Education Minister William Davis told students that no qualified person was refused admission to an institution of higher learning in his province this year.

One thousand students from Nova Scotia's eight provincial institutions marched on the provincial legislature in Halifax in spite of rain.

They were met by representatives of the political parties, who presented their educational policies.

Robbie Shaw, president of the Dalhousie student council warned that unless the government acts on student demands there will be "a bigger and better march next spring."

In neighbouring New Brunswick, Opposition Leader John Diebenbaker toured the University of New Brunswick and spoke before two meetings of students. He promised that if his party formed the government it would raise the federal per capita grants for education from \$2 to \$5.

Mr. Diebenbaker said he thought National Student Day was a good thing and commented that they had never had anything like it when he was a student.

In Ottawa about 800 marchers from the city's four CUS schools were met on Parliament Hill by student leaders and representatives of the political parties.

Rex Murphy, president of the student council of Memorial University in Newfoundland addressed the crowd as a representative of Canada's only province with free education.

He remarked that Newfoundland, the last province to join Confederation, was the first one to make good use of it. He said he hoped the example of Premier Smallwood in instituting free education would "shine forth over the rest of Canada."

CUS President Patrick Kenniff said National Student Day was only the beginning of the CUS effort to press the issue of universal accessibility. He presented a CUS brief outlining the union's position to the political spokesmen.

At the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, a referendum was held on the question of abolition of tuition fees. The result: 1,778 in favor of abolition; 2,408 against.

He said the training of young Canadians was well worth while since university

graduates would guide the country through the scientific revolution.

At the University of Victoria, 700 students marched to a theatre where a forum on free education was held. Representatives of the four political parties addressed the meeting although B.C. Education Minister Peterson, an invited guest, did not show up.

In London, Ont. about 100 students marched in support of universal accessibility.

The province of Quebec virtually opted out of National Student Day.

McGill university, one of the prime movers of the education program at the recent CUS congress, decided to withdraw from the program when participation was not forthcoming from the province's French-speaking universities.

At Sir George Williams University in Montreal, a five-hour teach-in was held to debate the concept of free education. Sir George is not a member of CUS.



U OF A STUDENTS HELP THEIR OWN CAUSE

... coins for college campaign on campus too

The poor man's march

or, how to organize a demonstration for \$43

The national office of the Canadian Union of Students issued local CUS chairmen across the country with a "revolutionary guide" to be used in planning National Student Day demonstrations. The following is a revised account of the report submitted by a special CUS sub-committee of King's University students' council. It was composed by Christopher Cornish, Adele Brennan, Ann Harlow and Gordon Cleveland. Perhaps it could have a wider application than education action officials originally believed.

In the opinion of this committee, our ends can best be met by a simultaneous march on the part of all post-secondary institutions on the provincial Legislature, in Halifax.

A. A co-ordinating committee should be established for all institutions involved in the province, with a sub-committee for the Halifax Area. This committee will be responsible for the planning and supervision of the march.

B. Preliminary Education and Public Orientation

- Speeches by local VIPs, i.e., professors, student leaders, and prominent business men.
- Individual lobbying with accompanying pamphlet.
- Faculty support should if possible be acquired. The faculty should be approached about cancelling of official classes, or at least voluntary declaration of "sickness" on the morning of the demonstration.
- Information pamphlets will be issued.
- Debates on the subject might be held. They should be open to anyone on campus and off.
- Posters can be made and distributed in advantageous positions.
- Visitations to high schools should be undertaken to create public interest among the future university students.
- Representatives should be sent to raise the "Univac" question at various political meetings held in the area before Nov. 8.
- Door-to-door canvassing would raise public interest.

- Songs suitable for such a demonstration will be composed.

- Get Dalhousie Gazette to print special edition with photos and easy to read large type for use as a pamphlet in door to door canvassing.

- It will probably be necessary to bring Acadia and St. Francis Xavier to Halifax on the night of the 26th. To avoid lawlessness and drunkenness, entertainment should be organized in the evening and a committee should give special attention to preventing embarrassing incidents before they happen.

C. Demonstration

- A sub-committee should be formed to handle the demonstration.
- Halifax police, university administrations and press, mayor of Halifax and Premier Stanfield should all receive detailed plans of the march before it actually takes place.
- Demonstrators will be divided according to university, with sub-groups of manageable proportions. A policing body of students, marked by arm-bands, should be formed from members of the same university.
- A permit must be obtained from the City of Halifax for a public parade. All traffic arrangements must be made with the police beforehand.
- Dress for the march should be specified; no sandals or beat-like clothing. Ties and skirts if possible. Placards should be provided but hand-made. No unapproved signs may be carried.
- For purposes of identification, and to prevent the development of a counter-demonstration within the march, all marchers should be required to bring their CUS cards, which might be worn on the chest in plastic holders.
- Fights and carrying-on are less likely to break out if women and men are thoroughly integrated in the march. Faculty sympathizers should be spread through the crowd. Natural leaders should be chosen before the parade and strategically placed so as to establish several "mood centres".

- Demonstrators should gather at their respective campuses where pep rallies are held. The forming up process should be drawn out over a reasonably long period. Now will be the time to create the right atmosphere and weed out the drunks and troublemakers. Speeches should be interspersed with songs; they should constantly remind the crowd of its specific objectives and the plan of the march.

- At 10:30 a.m. the march on the Legislative Buildings will begin on the Dal quad. The demonstrators will return to their respective campuses for a big lunch at 12:30 p.m.

- The employment of a band and previously arranged "lead" singers might prove very useful. A band can keep everyone singing one tune and can drown out any rival singing or obscene yelling. The important thing is to keep the demonstrators moving and doing something all of the time. Avoid the inevitable waiting outside the legislature by timing the arrival of the student marchers with the appearance of the student representatives who present the brief, and Premier Stanfield. The premier should answer the questions raised in the brief by addressing the gathering. Bill Curry should reply.

- The march should not end at the Legislature; a specific and attractive post-speech activity should be arranged to clear the downtown area quickly (i.e. the group would march back to their respective campuses).

D. Follow Up

- There should be visits made to local high schools to let the results of the march be known.

- Pressure should continue on the provincial and federal governments on the part of public relations committee.

Estimated cost for Kings alone: TOTAL \$43. Other costs: Permit, transport from Acadia and St. Francis Xavier; two or three meals; one night's accommodation; entertainment, PR, etc.