

# Ban lifted

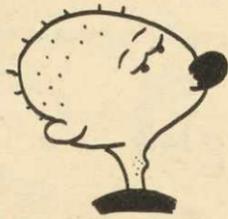
The ban on eating and drinking in classrooms has been lifted for sixty days. Paul Zed is the chairperson of the committee for Campus Clean-up, organized as council's part of the deal in order to have the ban lifted.

Posters are now being printed, and through the Dalhousie Gazette and Dal Radio, students will be urged to throw out their garbage, rather than leaving it for maintenance.

The ban on smoking in classrooms is still in effect, with an estimated \$80,000 being saved in ventilation and heating costs.

The ban on eating and drinking returns Dec. 31 but negotiations are in progress to extend elimination of the ban for 30 more days. A review

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DON'T DIRTY DAL

will be made after this period to decide if the ban should be lifted permanently. The success of this campaign will depend on whether the students have a responsible attitude towards eating and drinking in the classrooms.

# Housing grants

HALIFAX — Nova Scotia may become the only place in Canada where a family can build a \$25,000 home on a \$6,000-a-year income, if the federal and provincial governments give the green light to a re-established and restructured co-operative housing program in this province.

Housing Minister Walter Fitzgerald said that the proposal, currently under study by both levels of government, could make home ownership a reality for a great many Nova Scotians for whom a place of their own had been only a fading dream.

The Housing Minister said a number of other provincial governments were watching closely and would likely follow suit if the co-op housing program was re-established successfully here.

Other provincial jurisdictions, he said, were beginning to share Nova Scotia's concern for people ignored by current housing schemes.

The new program would be aimed at the \$6,000 to \$10,000 income family and would place firm restrictions on the price and size of homes which could be built under the plan.

Many thousands of Nova Scotian families would be eligible for the

co-op homes, since an estimated 31 per cent of all families in the province have incomes in the \$6,000 to \$10,000 range. All such families wouldn't fit the bill, however, because only those with dependent children would qualify.

Under the proposed self-help, co-operative housing program, maximum mortgages for basic minimum housing would be set at \$27,500 to \$29,500, a grant subsidy would be available up to \$1,200 a year to keep an applicant's payment to 25 per cent of his income, and an interest reduction loan, interest free for the first five years, would be available when needed to lower the prevailing interest rate to eight per cent.

Housing commission calculations show that a \$6,000-income family would swing a 35-year, \$25,000 mortgage on personal payments of \$125 a month, a government grant subsidy of \$100 a month and an interest reduction loan (IRL) to reduce the current interest rate to eight per cent. The IRL would be repayable but would be interest free for the first five years after which the outstanding balance would be subject to the prevailing interest rate until repayment.

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they said they didn't believe the Edmonds price."

Indeed, there is a suspicion among union members that Edmonds is making a "money losing" bid in an effort to get their "foot in the door" at Dalhousie. And later, they will raise their rates considerably.

Many don't even believe the universities financial motive for the move. One groundscrew member said, "That bastard Vagianos is trying to break the union. Last year we stood up and fought for our rights. This year we are penalized. They don't want a unionized work force here any more...just scab labour...that way they have no contract hassles, no benefit payments and no strike threats."

**UNION GRIEVANCE**

Kelly told the *Gazette* that "as far as the union is concerned, we feel that management has violated our collective agreement and thus have requested the university to discharge the contract between Edmonds Bros. and the University."

"We feel that we have negotiated a contract with the university on all phases of work that comes under our unit. The grounds-people and their working duties were covered under the collective agreement with the university. Now, if they are going to bring in a contractor to do the same work, then that is violating our agreement."

The contentious issue centres around an article in the union contract which does not restrict the administration from contracting-out. It merely says "that no member will be laid off as a consequence of contracting-out." Apparently then, unless workers are actively laid-off as a result of contracting-out, the Union is not in a position to grieve.

**WORSE THAN TENURE**

The union has indicated that in the current round of 1976-1977 negotiations, they will be fighting for a "no contracting-out" clause. Vice-President Vagianos has already given the university's response to this demand, "I think that we would be making a big mistake giving up that clause. I suggested to

the union to strengthen that clause and I'd be willing to help them, but for us to give up any right of even looking at a better offer...well that's worse than tenure!"

The ultimate fear of the union is that the next university move will be to contract-out the cleaning to a low-paying firm like Modern Cleaners. Vagianos put the union's concern this way, "What they're worried about is that today you start contracting-out, tomorrow someone may come along and say we can do the cleaning for a cheaper price. That may occur. People may come and make these offers and when



Dal Photo/DeLorey

they do, management has a right to look at these and decide whether or not they make sense."

To which Kelly answers, "That's why we've got to stand our ground now and fight the University for not getting the proper number of people to do the jobs we've always done before."

One of the militant members of the union local further expressed a growing sentiment: "If we don't stand our ground now, the union is finished. Edmonds Brothers this year, Modern Cleaners next year. We should have walked out the day Edmonds set foot on this campus. If we don't fight back, they're going to walk all over us. We've been stepped on too long."