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Council questions SRC President's summer salary

By DAVID N. MCMILLAN

A concentrated and heated debate erupted at the regular meeting of the Student Representative Council concerning the SRC President's salary, discussed earlier at an Administrative Board meeting.

At that meeting it had been decided that the SRC president Neale be paid a salary of \$100.00 (nine weeks of full time employment \$100 per week) for services rendered to the SRC during this past summer.

Subsequent to the distribution of the council members of President Neale's Summer Report, member John Rocca questioned the fact that Neale had left his summer job with the University in order to maintain his regular duties as President for the remainder of the summer. Rocca insisted that Neale firstly classify the reason as to why he quit his job in order to take over full duties as President (constitutionally the SRC president is not supposed to assume duties during the summer months unless in an emergency situation). Secondly, he asked Neale what was in his Summer Report that justified his claim for nine weeks compensation.

In reply to the question Neale

stated that his function was fully justifiable and in the interests of the Student body, as Rocca would easily see provided he took the time to read the Report as presented. Rocca retaliated that Neale was a "liar" and that in his opinion Neale's role in the first item on the report, the formation of the New Brunswick Union of Students (NBUS), was virtually a minor one. Rocca explained

that he was not, at the moment, concerned with what the NBUS did as an organization. He also said he was well aware that Neale had been secretary to the NBUS at the Moncton meeting in August. However his main intentions involved "getting Neale to admit to what his real involvement was in the NBUS, namely...1) putting No input into the brief and, 2) NOT giving a presentation of any sort to the provincial cabinet.

Rocca said that he "would stake his reputation on what he was saying if Neale would do likewise."

Neale replied by saying that "Rocca was speaking from a position of a lack of knowledge and that his (Neale's) reputation was at stake everytime he opened his mouth or said anything."

Finally SRC Comptroller Chris Fisher had the floor and stated that in his opinion Neale played a major role in the organization of the NBUS and that Neale was the "most conscientious president that the SRC has ever had." He emphasized the fact that credit was especially due to the NBUS for its part played in achieving a 1.4 million dollar increase in monies allotted this year by the provincial government for student aid (2.5 million dollars this year as opposed to 1.1 million in 1971-72). Fisher stated that it was impossible to put a "dollar sign" on what Neale has done since being in office.

The question was raised as to why Neale was asking for \$100 per week (the maximum claim allowed) when during the year his pay had been only \$80. The reply by Neale himself was that during the regular term he carried the maximum of three credits and also during that period he would, when possible, spend his weekends at home.

Eventually a motion was made to table the issue until the next SRC meeting which by that time all council members would have had sufficient opportunity to study Neale's Summer Report in detail.

Council member, Glenn Edison mentioned that concerning the SRC President's Salary, an hourly rate of \$1.50 had been proposed

by the SRC last spring in order that the President would not have to spend full time in that position during the summer months.

Apparently the \$1.50 per hour rate was only a recommendation and the matter was not mentioned again.

Mike Richard, Vice President, for the SRC mentioned to the council members that President Neale and he had travelled in

July to the Post Secondary Education conference in Toronto. It was there, in Richard's opinion, that Neale was instrumental in "getting New Brunswick's point of view across" to the delegates of the other areas. "Although Neale did not take part in the Cabinet discussions, he did, however, lay the groundwork" added Richard. He further stated that Rocca's attack on Neale was "superfluous."

Rocca insisted that by his own calculations (he briefly outlined them before the other council members) in reviewing the Report, Neale could not expect to reserve the right to claim any more than at the most, three weeks compensation for actual work accomplished.

Council member, Rick Fisher
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Minister of External Affairs Mitchell Sharp, left, and York-Sunbury Liberal candidate Ray Dixon met UNB students at Head Hall, Wednesday night. Sharp says the Maritimes is a good place to fight an election.

Photo by Ken De Freitas

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Maritimes seen as good fighting grounds

By BOB JOHNSON

Good fighting grounds for the Liberals was the way External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp described the election campaign in the Maritimes.

Sharp was in Fredericton on Wednesday at the invitation of York-Sunbury Liberal Candidate, Ray Dixon.

During a supper-hour press conference at the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, Sharp discussed the decline of the Conservative Party. He said the Diefenbaker era out west is finished and the Stanfield era is not taking over. He termed Claude Wagner in Quebec as "a disaster to the Conservative Party."

Speaking on unemployment, the minister said, "We are now in one of the greatest economic booms we have ever experienced." This year 193,000 more Canadians are at work. Unemployment is a result of an increased labor

force related to the post-war baby boom.

He said the government can not stimulate the economy any more than it is being stimulated.

Commenting on what many have termed a quiet election campaign, the External Affairs Minister said it is just coming to the stage where people will have to start and think about the party they want to represent them.

"The Opposition is unable to find any issues upon which to attack the government and this is the way Trudeau planned it," he added.

He cited the similarities and differences of the election campaigns of the Conservative and New Democratic Parties. Stanfield is concentrating on the welfare backlash; while Lewis is taking on the 'corporate welfare bums.'

Sharp termed NDP Leader, David Lewis's attack on corporations as a phony issue which is a traditional socialist attack on

big business.

He said Lewis is putting politics ahead of jobs and the Liberal Party will not go along with this policy.

The cabinet minister said Stanfield's concentration on the welfare backlash and Lewis's attacks on 'corporate welfare bums' are not election issues.

The real issues he said involve keeping the country together during the uncertainties of the next four years.

Looking back on the 1968 election campaign, he added, our party did not foresee the rise in hijacking and violence, the FLQ crisis in Quebec or the economic crisis with the United States. These are issues we had to deal with when we were in office.

Sharp believes the individual voter will look at the parties to see how they operate in the face of crisis. In this respect the Liberal Party is standing on its record, he concluded.