Accomodations still has vacant apartments

By DERWIN GOWAN

Mrs. Stewart, Accomodations officer says, "The Accomodations Office is there to help students find housing, and look into complaints concerning student housing, but one must go to them before there is anything they can do."

According to her, the housing situation is about the same as in the past. Most students are finding housing. A lot of people made arrangements earlier this year, which made things better. However, a lot of the good housing is getting further and further from campus. The apartments and boarding houses next to campus were taken up earlier, and as a rule are more crowded. "This is mostly due to the students' own preferences," Stewart said. Housing was found for about 2500 people last year.

The list of available student housing was published this year with a new addition. A map of Fredericton was marked off into zones, and by cross referencing, a student can tell which zone his potential dwelling is in, and get an idea of just how far he or she will have to walk in 20 degrees below zero weather.

To get on this list, the landowners must contact the Accomodations Office. Also, they are asked to call and have their name removed when tenants have been found.

She said she was not in favour of having housing inspections nor recommending or not recommending housing, as too many beds would be lost this way. To prove her point, she told of the following incident. Six students complained about an apartment with four rooms and kitchen privileges, with the rooms listed at $15 a person per week. When the students arrived, the apartment was still in the process of being finished, and the furniture to be used was of very poor quality. To top things off, the rent had been raised to $20. When Stewart arrived, she was ushered in the business entrance, and not the one the students would use. After insisting, she finally say this entrance which led up a very unsafe set of stairs. She said "Nobody in their right mind would rent them because they are substandard apartments." However, they found another person who had rented one of the rooms who said he was quite happy with the arrangements, and had no intentions of moving out. If this place had been rated as being poor housing, that student would not have found housing, or would have lived somewhere else, and the housing situation would be that much more crowded. Apparently, the idea is to find housing so that everyone can be relatively happy with their accomodations.

Housing inspections have been tried at other universities where they have failed. Stewart will look into any complaint concerning student housing, providing it does not concern legal problems.

When asked what the biggest problems were with respect to off campus housing, Stewart said, "Students do not make the best tenants." She said she gets complaints from landlords and landladies saying that apartments were left in a filthy state, and that they do not always look after property. She does not receive too many of these, but it only takes a few to create a problem. Last year

Mrs. Stewart

there were about six. This could mean the loss of 12 beds. Complaints occasionally from students concern petty things, such as mother-type landladies.

Another major problem is that too many students leave housing arrangements to the last minute. This is particularly true of married students. When they finally see the dwelling, they suddenly decide that they do not like the place. You cannot make arrangements for accomodations over the telephone or through the mail." Stewart said, "You should see the place before you sign the lease if you plan on being totally satisfied."

Anotner problem is that Stewart and her secretary, Mrs. Bawn, are "overworked." "There are never enough hours," she said. Also, she gets no car allowance.

Stewart said that she was misquoted in the Letters to the Editor column of The Brunswickan last year. Contrary to what that letter said, people living together in a common law relationship will be allowed to live in Fred Magee House on 718 Montgomery Street. This is the new building acquired from the New Brunswick Residence Co-operative Limited, and is being used to provide housing for married students.

Although they are not going to enforce any moral code on those wishing to live common law, both halves of the relationship will be asked to sign the lease for the apartment. Stewart said that there have been too many cases where, once after the apartment has been leased to people living common law, one of them will decide to take off. This leaves the other with the full lease to pay. If he cannot pay it, the lease will have to be broken. They hope to prevent this.

This is tied in with the whole problem with Magee House. The university, according to Stewart, cannot afford to have any of those apartments empty, even four months of the year. This is why they insisted on 12 month leases. However, this proved to be too much of a burden and scared some students off. Therefore, this had to be reduced to a minimum lease of eight months. Nine, ten, and eleven month leases can also be had, as well as the 12 month leases.

There are presently four two bedroom apartments and one three bedroom apartment available. With the less lenient lease stipulations, Stewart suspects that these will be filled shortly. University of New Brunswick students, graduate and undergraduates, may apply.

Stewart said that, in a letter dated July 16, she recommended to Eric Garland, who is in charge of academic and campus planning, that the area of Magee House that used to be the Co-op store be made into a "Daycare-Recreation Centre." This would be to provide supervision for the children of students residing in Magee House. As it stands now, they run loose.

Also, she would like to have a small office set up there. This would make it more convenient for students in Magee House wishing to see the Accomodations Officer.

Stewart said she spent the better part of last summer cleaning up Magee House since it was in such a mess. Also, there was a problem with a lot of people skipping out without paying rent, much as in the case of common law people, only both halves skipped out.

Senate and Board nominations close

By BEV HILLS

Dugald Blue, the secretary of UNB has announced that seven nominations have been received for student positions open on the Senate and Board of Governors. Nominations closed Wednesday, September 25th at 5:00 p.m.; no last minute information on further nominations had been received by press-time.

Executive hopefuls are the following:

Board of Governors (two year term): Richard Scott - Law II; Moyra Barry - Bus III; (one year term): Only one nomination to date - Brian Forbes Incumbent.

Senate - Graduate Student. Only one nomination so far: Charles McCarthy - P Grad Sci I; Undergraduates for two remaining Senate positions: Richard Scott - Incumbent; Marvin Greenblatt - BBIV; Damian Bone - Arts III.

The names of successful applicants will be announced after the nominees have been fully interviewed and screened.

Thornburn talks on Economy

By BRUCE BARTLETT

"Canadian economic planning is unresponsive to the best interests of the public." Professor Hugh Thorburn of Queen's speaking at the UNB History Club, stated that the economic structure has grown outside the authority of the Canadian governments, both federal and provincial.

This creates problems which are compounded by the growth of competition between provincial governments when looking for investments. Often deals are made to favour large corporations but do not bring about the best use of resources.

The competition between the two cultures of Canada adds to the strains caused by the alive problems. Thorburn suggests that these all put a tremendous strain in Canada's federal system which could cause a national split.

The solution as he sees it is to allow Quebec greater sovereignty in the existing federation. If they want to become a nation it should be done as amicably as possible to the greatest advantage of all. If they do want sovereignty the rest of Canada should unite and along with Quebec place their common problems before a remodeled central parliament.

Economic problems could be dealt with if planning was taken away from corporate elites and politicians. Incorporated businesses cannot have moral opinions, they can only have interests so that their influence in economic planning should be reduced. This could be accomplished by setting up a commission like the Economic Council of Canada, made up of economic and regional experts. Added to these would be members of the business community and the primary industries. Their deliberations would be open to public view and would attempt to place the greater interests of the country over the interests of multinational corporations whose interests are not necessarily those of the country.

SJ Athletic Center Collapses

By DERWIN GOWAN

The University is still in the process of determining what caused the collapse of the girders at the University of New Brunswick Saint John Athletic centre to fall in. According to President John Anderson, no one was killed as formerly speculated, but there were two injuries, one broken leg and one broken arm.

The collapse started when one of the girders fell, and a domino effect was produced, causing the rest to fall in. The parts of the precast concrete walls that were up stayed in place.

The tangle of wreckage has been cleared up, and construction is underway on another part of the building.

UNB officials and their architectural firm Mott, Myles and Chatwin, met with representatives of Richard and B.A. Ryan, Atlantic Ltd., in Saint John yesterday to hear reports on last Thursday's construction collapse at the Saint John campus.

Based on reports from the general contractor, their structural subtrades, and department of labor officials, the collapse of the steel joists on the new field house was due to inappropriate erection procedures. Labor officials have issued orders for improvements in the procedures.

The project should not be more than three or four weeks behind schedule when the steel erection starts again, Anderson said. The general contractor has informed the university that orders have already been placed for replacement steel joists which are expected on site by the first week of October.

Complete reports on the mishap are to be tabled with the university and its architects before steel erection is resumed. The university has insisted that all appropriate measures be taken to avoid any further on site problems.

Call for more phones at McLeod

Ilsa Greenblatt, McLeod Hall Don, said this week the 210 occupants of the newly-established women's residence are coping with inconveniences arising from renovation.

The University of New Brunswick was asked last spring to assume ownership of the accomodations - formerly the singles' cooperative - from the operators, New Brunswick Residence Cooperative Ltd.

The building was in need of major repairs when UNB assumed the mortgage and refurbishing was not complete when classes began in September.

Greenblatt said existing problems are not unbearable and should be solved by the end of November. Residence life, she said, is approaching full swing after less than a month's operation. McLeod is the sole UNB residence with elevator service.

Occupants have had to eat at UNB's McConnell or Lady Dunn Halls. The don and proctor, Jennifer Howatt, both said this was little problem, however, since most women are closer to these buildings during classes. Both said McConnell cafeteria staff have provided service quick enough to avoid congestion of the increased number served.

Residence officials expect the McLeod dining facilities to be complete in November. Facilities will allow for complete meals and will seat 150. Saga Foods Ltd. will cater.

Repairs are still due on the indoor games room on the ground floor, lounges and a drying place. Another inconvenience is the state of telephone service. The New Brunswick Telephone Company strike has postponed phone installation.

A pay phone located on the ground floor is being used by all for urgent calls, otherwise outside calls are being received at the office. Plans call for an additional pay phone and 1 for each floor.