

RESIDENCES

The following is an interview with Mr. Dennis Clough, University Comptroller conducted by Ron Kelly and Norbert Moran on Monday Nov. 1st. concerning University Residences.

CADRE: Mr. Clough, there are a great number of rumors circulating on campus concerning the fate of Dalton, 4th floor Main, and Montgomery halls. Can you shed any light on the administration's plans for these buildings?

Mr. Clough: There have been no definite decisions reached as of yet, however, there are a number of plans being considered. One probability is that the University might give up Montgomery Hall to Holland College and turn Dalton into a Home Ec and Music building and convert 4th floor Main into academic space.

CADRE: Are there any provisions under this plan to replace the living space lost in these changes?

Mr. Clough: Definitely! Proposals have been made whereby if this plan was accepted the University would apply for a loan from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corp. to construct additional housing.

CADRE: What type of housing is being considered and where would it be located?

Mr. Clough: It would seem that, from discussions with students, if the University were to construct new accommodations, the apartment type dwellings would be much preferred. Ideally these apartments would consist of two bedrooms, a bathroom, a kitchenette, and a living room. This could easily accommodate four students per apartment and could be constructed on a one, two, or three story scale, of course under the expansion plan the area between Bernadine and the A&W is set aside for residences and this would probably be the site for these buildings.

CADRE: But this does not come under the expansion plan itself, does it?

Mr. Clough: Yes the expansion plan has been designed to include the construction of residences but only if the necessary financing can be obtained through gifts or borrowing. At the moment the province of P.E.I. provides us with money to finance the academic operations and capital expansion and I can't see them changing the policy to include residence(s) construction.

CADRE: What sort of meal arrangements would this entail?

Mr. Clough: The students living in Bernadine, Marion, and Memorial would still eat at the cafeteria. Of course students living in the new residences would provide their own meals.

CADRE: What residence fees would be charged for each type of residence under this plan?

Mr. Clough: We can't even give an estimation at this point as the government hasn't yet informed us of the funds available for the coming year. Therefore we can't say how much is available to cover the costs of residence operation. However the income from the new residences would be enough to cover costs.

CADRE: If this plan is approved when can we expect to see these residences finished?

Mr. Clough: I must repeat that our thinking is still in the preliminary stages. However any time you are trying to get C.M.H.C. money committed you must have your application approved by Dec. 31 or the funds will be lost for the current year. Therefore if we were to suppose that the U.P. E.I. Board of Governors found it desirable to initiate residence construction a firm decision would have to be taken by Dec. 1. Again supposing that C.M.H.C. approved our plans, I see no reason why new facilities couldn't be ready for the fall of 1972.

CADRE: What of the offcampus residences of MacKay Place and Coroma Lodge?

Mr. Clough: MacKay Place is in the second year of a three year lease, so it will be open to us for another year at least. Coroma Lodge is on a year to year contract and could be leased again if enough demand for it is raised.

CADRE: Does the University have any plans for Co-Ed residences?

Mr. Clough: Co-Ed living hasn't been discussed with my office with the exception of Montgomery Hall. Where it was considered for financial reasons. It was proposed to have one floor of girls in Monty but some people got uptight and felt that it couldn't be done on the spur of the moment, so the plan has been dropped for the time being.

CADRE: What is the possibility of front desks being placed in the men's residences?

Mr. Clough: It had been planned that these would be in the building by September 1st of this year however the maintenance staff had been too busy over the summer to do it. There is still a possibility of these being constructed during the X-mas break. But the question is how much money should be spent on these buildings when you don't know how long they are going to be used.

CADRE: Is there anything more you can add at this time?

Mr. Clough: I would like to emphasize that these are only plans and students should bear in mind that nothing definite has been decided as of yet.