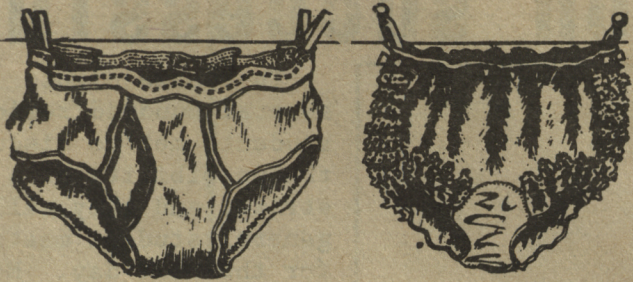


BRIEFS



DALTON NEGLECTED

To the Editor:

This letter is to bring to the attention of your readers matters concerning Dalton Hall, Residences at U.P.E.I., and Students of U.P.E.I. in that order.

The residents of Dalton Hall have made known to the administration (Mr. A. C. MacLean) a discontent over living conditions in Dalton Hall. This building is in excess of 50 years old and gives the appearance of never having had any maintenance work done on it since it was built. Due to the condition of the building Dalton Hall is dusty, noisy, and dingy. This is bad enough, however, the following are due to the neglect of the present administration:

1. This building is allowed to get excessively dirty. This is not sand or clay but the dirt that would be found in a room that had not been cleaned for several weeks.
2. The dust has been allowed to get allowed to accumulate to the point that it has become a health problem.
3. The building is infested with mice.
4. Rats have been observed making their way in and out of the basement.
5. The walls have not been painted in quite some time. The only painting done is to cover isolated patches that have cracked or become marred in some way. This gives the rooms a dingy appearance.

For all this we pay \$900 to \$1000 per year including 20 meals per week. The university year is 32 weeks so we pay about \$120 per month. This rate is equivalent to any university in eastern Canada. For instance, Acadia is \$880 to \$980. Anyone seeing the Acadia residences would tell you that they are well designed, modern, very clean, with all fixtures built into the rooms.

The usual reply here is "look at Bernadine". A fine residence, modern, only four years old, has all fixtures built in, for girls only. The girls even have their rooms cleaned. They pay the same rates as the men. No need for Women's Lib. here. The situation is much the same in Marian except it is not as new a building, being about ten years old.

Memorial, the best mens' residence, is about 25 years old. It has some facilities that are comparable to the girls' residences; however, it is nowhere as comfortable as Marian. Then we come to Dalton which is by far the worst student accommodation I have ever seen in Canada.

It doesn't take any great exercise of intellect to see that the girls on this campus get the better residences and better service. I often wonder what would happen if a mouse was ever found in a room in Marian or Bernadine.

It is a real laugh to read the letters to the editor on the topic of womens' liberation, equality for women, etc. What a one way street! So the next time I laugh in your face, girls, don't think I'm crazy, I'm just thinking of the nights I chased the mice out of my room so I could sleep, the slivers I've pulled out of my feet from rotten flooring and the hours I've spent trying to clean my room.

This following is a quote from Mr. A. C. MacLean: "No refund will be allowed to any student who changes his status from resident to non-resident voluntarily or otherwise unless or until an acceptable substitute has assumed the balance of the residence fees for the year. This also applies to students who have been expelled from residence because of disciplinary reasons."

So now if I complain too vigorously the administration can expel me and then collect the balance of the year's residence fees from me. That is, unless I can find a replacement and that is unlikely with over forty vacancies in this building as of today.

This is an idea of what the administration feels is adequate student housing

and fair play to all students. Don't say after the administration has shafted you "nobody told me". The administration can and they will. Any student or anyone else reading this letter is invited to contact me via U.P.E.I., Box #95 or come see me in 402 Dalton. I'm usually in Tuesday thru Thursday after 8. Also in during day except for classes.

Yours respectfully,
Kenneth J. McNeill.

DALTON HOLE

Arnold MacLean
Director of Residence
University of P.E.I.

Sir:

As expected for this time of year, this letter is in regards to the annual migration of the "harmless" little mice into the realms of the mens' slums; namely Dalton Hole. I have now lived in Dalton for the third straight year and every year we have had to cope with the same problem. However, you are probably saying to yourself: "well, if you don't like it, don't live there" (quoting the words often used by our beloved Jim Griffith).

One of the things that I fortunately saved from my left-over junk box last year was my trusty mouse trap. I greased her up last week and set her up in the usual spot down by the pipe and the six inch crags in the baseboards. That same night, I went out for a couple of hours and there it was when I returned - lying there with its neck dislocated. Last year we were given a box of mouse seed which took care of them alright. It also left a decayed scent in the whole building from them dying in the walls. Now I ask; Are we paying nine hundred dollars a year for student housing or mouse housing? It seems that the more we pay at this university the less we get. We must go to the laundry room for our weekly clean sheets in contrast to past years, they are no

longer brought here by the cleaning ladies and now, the mice problem. Certainly I can think of more healthy objects in this world than having mice as room-mates.

Some action towards this matter would be greatly appreciated by not only I but by the rest of the "humans" in this building.

In closing I leave you with this thought: Why are only 65% of the rooms in the mens' residences being occupied this year? Ask a mouse the next time you see one.

Sincerely yours,
Stephen Belliveau

ON TENURE

Now that our weekend conference is behind us and we have had a chance to digest some of the concepts discussed, I would like to reiterate my stand on the question of using student evaluations for purposes of tenure (permanent appointment) and promotion.

One particularly essential need is to have some force behind the results of the evaluation. For the professors interested in their students, for those who are good teachers, and for those interested in improving their courses, their is no problem. However there are those faculty members who don't care and who are poor teachers. These are the people who won't pay attention to the reactions of their pupils to their teaching techniques unless their students' opinions have some threat value. "Aha!" you say, "See what those nasty little things are trying to do -- threaten us!" Well, yes and no.

Under the circumstances student evaluations would only be one small part of the total input to the tenure and promotion committee. Also there is absolutely no impediment to the professor conducting his own evaluation scheme, such as peer evaluation-team report, to counter the student evaluations. Under the present tenure committee's constitution, where there is only ONE student member (token representation?), it shouldn't be too difficult to find a more sympathetic attitude toward peer evaluations than toward student evaluations. The only threat will come where a poor student evaluation forces a departmental evaluation which confirms the inadequacy of a professor's teaching ability.

All in all, if you are an excellent teacher, you really will have nothing to worry about; if you are a good teacher, your improvements will be self-evident; if you are a poor teacher, you had better get off your butt.

Bruce Crabb