

PROTESTORS PICKET PREMIERS

EDMUNDSTON (CUP)—Protesting students from three Maritime Provinces demanded to meet with the Council of Maritime Premiers by picketing and chanting outside the CMP conference site here Friday. The students were objecting to the low level of government funding for Atlantic secondary institutions and specifically the low grants being given to New Brunswick institutions.

Upon their arrival, PEI premier Alex Campbell, and Premier Gerald Regan of Nova Scotia agreed to meet with the student representatives. Richard Hatfield, Premier of New Brunswick would not speak to the students and rushed quickly into the motel.

The three premiers caucused inside the motel, and decided to meet together

with all the protestors.

Presentations were made by the Atlantic Federation of Students (AFS), the New Brunswick Coalition of Students (NBCS), and students from the Universite de l'Acadie in Edmundston.

AFS spokesperson Denise Roberge asked the Premiers to explain why the grants to New Brunswick institutions were considerably lower than those for the other provinces.

"We gave the institutions a 6.7% increase and that's all we have. We treat education better than most other government departments", explained Hatfield.

AFS countered this with an accusation that the provincial governments were funneling federally allocated funds for education into other government departments. The premiers

responded that they were not legally required to spend the federal grants on education.

"To keep the graduates in the Atlantic, the government has to make investments in industries and create a job market for the grads", said Regan.

"The continuing cutbacks in the institutions are lowering the quality and of an education thus the governments are defeating their own purpose", pointed out Roberge.

Students from the Universite de l'Acadie asked the Council to impose a tuition freeze and, as well, called for an end to the increasing collaboration between the three Maritime provinces. The Acadian students

feel they are not getting fairly represented on the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission because of the lack of French speaking people on the commission.

NBCS demanded that the premiers reconsider their grants because the austerity in New Brunswick institutions had reached a crisis point. They as well called for a tuition freeze.

The protest was organized by students of the College St. Louis Maillet, a branch of the Universite de Moncton. Most of the protestors were from there, as well as representatives from St. Mary's and Dalhousie Universities in Halifax, UNB - Fredericton and the University of PEI.

CANADA REFUSES SOVIET ASSISTANCE

UNITED NATIONS — A Russian space expert says he does not feel the Soviet Union is obligated to pay the cost of Canada's search for a Soviet spy satellite that fell from orbit last month. He cites as the reason Canada's refusal to accept Soviet help in locating the debris.

The nuclear-powered satellite disintegrated over Canada's remote Northwest Territories, and some radioactive debris was found, along with other parts of the satellite that were not radioactive.

The Canadian government, aided by the United States, launched a massive air and ground search for satellite debris.

Eugeni Fedorov, in New York to attend a meeting of the United Nations Outer Space Committee's Scientific Subcommittee, told a news conference today that Canada turned down his country's offer to help in the search for debris. He said Canada chose to accept help from the United States instead.

He said the search bill would come under the 1967 agreement on the rescue of astronauts and the return of objects launched into outer space, to which both countries are parties.

The international

agreement calls on countries on whose territory any space object falls to take steps to recover and return it "upon the request of the launching authority and with the assistance of

that authority if requested."

The agreement states that "expenses incurred in fulfilling obligations to recover and return a space object...shall be borne by the launching

authority."

Fedorov said he was expressing his personal opinion that his country is no longer obligated to pay Canada. He said he does not know whether the Soviet Union will pay.

SENIOR CLASS HAPPENINGS

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The Senior Class is getting in gear for the final lap before that big day in May and we want to keep you up to date on the latest happenings.

As usual, the weather is not helping our progress any, particularly with the Dance-A-Thon which was to be held on March 9 and 10. We have rescheduled it for March 16 and 17 which is next Thursday and Friday. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but because of the storm, we are not prepared for this weekend. Entry forms are still available at the S.U. office and anyone who can participate in the dancing you would be greatly welcomed. Remember that it is for your Senior Week that we are doing it, so come and help out. There will be a Senior Class Pub on the Friday afternoon of the Dance-A-Thon to assist the dancers' morale. Come and join us.



MARATHON

Unfortunately, there has not been any word from Betty Williams, the perspective Convocation speaker. President Baker is using all measures to contact her so as soon as any word comes back, we will inform you.

The results of the election for Valdictorian was that approximately 150 voted with Steve Fitzpatrick coming out on top. Congratulations Steve and represent us well.

Just a reminder that all Seniors must apply for a Degree no later than March 15th. This is a very important deadline so don't miss it.

Activities for Senior Week are shaping up and if you have any questions or suggestions don't hesitate to contact us. There will be a meeting after the Dance-A-Thon is over.

Good luck in your studies.

Jeanette - 894-4534
Susan - 894-9168
Martha - 892-8072