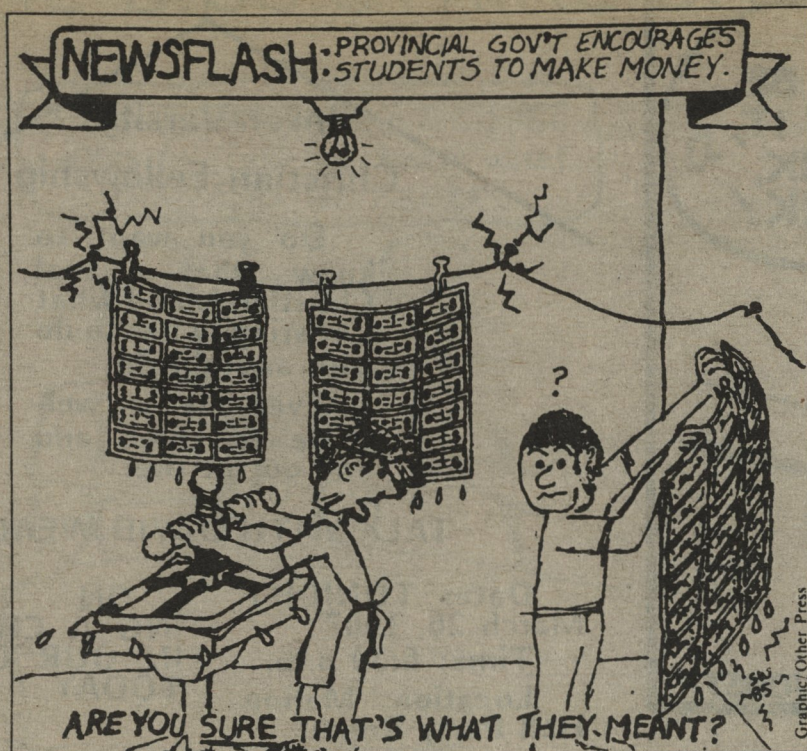


## Smile for a summer job



Halifax (CUP) — With cuts to federal summer jobs programs, employment centres are trying hard to sell a positive attitude to students who may not find many jobs advertised on their boards.

"To me, nothing other than a positive attitude makes sense," stresses Mike Whitehouse, who is organizing employment workshops for Dalhousie University's counselling services.

New this year is a workshop called "The Hidden Job Market", presumably designed for people who have trouble finding the much talked about but elusive market, let alone get a job out of it.

"We're working on the fact that 90 per cent of all jobs that people get are not advertised," says Whitehouse. "Most people take a traditional approach to the job search which is pretty ineffective."

"It's easy to sit around home and get uptight about it," says Whitehouse. He says students must identify what makes them happy and have a comprehensive and coordinated job search plan instead of dropping off resumes as if it was a lottery.

"Probably the most important thing is networking" with friends, neighbors, business people and acquaintances. "Tell them you're doing a job search inventory," he suggests.

He adds "Someone who is positive and enthusiastic... and someone who is going to succeed."

With all this advice, students may think getting a job in the summer will be a piece of cake.

But the figures tell a different tale.

Last year, the unemployment rate for returning students in Nova Scotia rose by over ten per cent to 22.6 per cent despite falling rates in Central Canada. In Newfoundland, almost 30 per cent of students were unemployed during the summer.

The national unemployment rate for students has been falling since the summer of 1983 when the jobless rate hit a record high of 17.6 per cent. Last summer 13 per cent of returning students were unemployed, and 14.1 per cent were jobless in summer '85. Unemployment rates for students in 1987 are forecasted at 15.5 per cent for males and 13.4 per

cent for females (according to the Conference Board of Canada, an independent forecasting agency.)

Student groups criticized the federal government's recently announced Challenge '87 program, both because funds were cut from last year's levels and because of its emphasis on the private sector.

With 30 per cent of Challenge funds earmarked for subsidized private sector jobs, groups such as the Canadian Federation of Students claim regions without strong private sectors and people not traditionally hired by business will suffer.

However, the person responsible for the Challenge '87 funds in Nova Scotia says he's happy with the province's allotment for this year.

Tom O'Connell, manager of special programs for employment and immigration Canada expects the funds spent in Nova Scotia to increase by 25 per cent over last year, despite the overall national decrease.

Even for those students who do manage to get jobs this summer, low wages may mean they won't be

able to save money for the next school year.

Don Lawrence, manager of the Canadian Employment Center at Dalhousie, says many students are finding they need a part-time job during the year to support themselves.

He estimates the center now handles 400 to 600 part-time jobs a year, up from the 60 they averaged ten years ago. "Usually it's to supplement the student loans they now have."

"It's hard to save money unless you consider eating a luxury," he said.

## Road signs at UPEI

### Proving Darwin right



WELL, ANOTHER "new" stop sign for the entrance to the University. Many generations of stop signs have become prone to some contagious diseases that are unique to us here at UPEI.

Obviously, this particular sign has built-in biological defences and immunities that have prevented its premature death. Diseases such as *Carlessus Plowoperaterus*, *Malicious Vehiculus*, and *Vandalibendus* have plagued the Universities physical plant sign budget.

Notice the unusually thick portion of its anatomy that is on the bottom portion of the structure. It's predecessors only had small, thin trunks that hardly saved them from our wind storms, let alone the monster plows and swerving drivers.

So, after having lasted at least three weeks out there, without getting whiplashed, the Belvedere Stop Sign has been voted THE GEM's most genetically-evolved sign of the week. We don't know how much longer it will last, but we wish it and its descendants the best of luck in its struggle to survive.