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## NEGLIGENT ADMINISTRATION EDUCATION FACULTY SHAFTED

It would appear that once again the University of Prince Edward Island administration is dragging its feet.

In May of last year, it was announced that Memorial Hall was to be closed as a residence. There were a number of reasons for doing this, the main one being financial.

It was not economically feasible to operate Memorial Hall as a residence. The administration made it known to the various university departments that space would be available in this centrally located structure for faculty offices and classrooms.

One of the departments, the Education Faculty, asked for space immediately. This was in May of 1977. The administration has done little since.

It appears that recommendations have to come from the Space Allocation Committee. Dennis Clough, U.P.E.I. Comptroller, is Chairman of this Senate sub-committee.

The Space Allocation Committee recommends its findings to President Baker who in turn applies to the MPHEC (Maritime Provincial Higher Education Commission) for funding necessary for building or renovations.

The Education Faculty have drawn up rather detailed plans, have sent a number of memos and held a number of discussions with Mr. Clough. After all of this and nearly a year of

waiting, the Education Faculty still have no idea where they stand. Also, they are unable to find out who the other prospective tenants might be.

The feeling of many people on Campus is that the Education faculty deserve to be the foremost contenders for space in Memorial and rightly so.

The Education building has to be the most dilapidated building on campus. It is little more than a plywood shack. One of the profs actually fell through the floor recently. Walls have parted at the seams, windows rattle, doors have warped, pipes have frozen, classrooms are either boiling hot or freezing cold, the list can go on and on. The University Barn is in much better condition.

This is not the first time the Education faculty has applied for new quarters. A number of years ago the Department applied for space in Kelley Building. They were led to believe that they were likely to become the new tenants. Some six months later, they were notified that Business Administration had applied for and were awarded occupancy of the building.

Some questions that should be asked are; who is on this committee? why has it done nothing? how long is Memorial going to remain idle? how much longer are the education professors going to put up with the deplorable

conditions in which they are expected to work? who has applied for space and when is something going to be done?

If anything is going to be done then it should be immediately. It is February now. It has to be decided who is going to get the available space, funds will have to be found, architects will have to be consulted, tenders called, constructors hired and the renovations completed, all within the next six months. If Memorial Hall is to be ready for service by the fall of '78.

Will Memorial Hall lay vacant for another year if immediate action is not taken? Will the faculty return to the Education building in September? These questions should be asked but to whom should they be directed.

At press time, the SUN

was unable to interview Mr. Clough (he was out-of-town on business) or to find who else sat on this committee. This reporter was informed though, that Roy Campbell, Dean of Education had submitted Prof. Gerry Arsenaults name to be considered as a member for this committee. Neither Dr. Campbell or Prof. Arsenault have heard further on the matter.

There is yet another question which can be raised concerning Memorial Hall. During the past few summers, the building has been used as a Youth Hostel for transients. Some six-hundred youth from across North America used this service last summer alone. What, if anything, is going to be provided during the summer of '78? Will U.P.E.I. discontinue this service even though the building may possibly remain idle for the summer.

## FREE TUITION FOR QUEBEC STUDENTS

QUEBEC CITY (CUP) — Student demands for free tuition for Quebec's seven universities may be realized within two years, according to Education Minister Jacques-Yvan Morin.

Morin told representatives of l'Association nationale des étudiants du Québec (ANEQ) at a meeting Jan. 25 that he would defend the \$50 million proposal before the provincial cabinet. Free tuition has been a demand of Quebec student organizations since the early 1960s, and ANEQ has intensified pressure for the measure as part of a current drive for universal accessibility to post-secondary education.

Morin said the government would be unable to meet other points of the accessibility program -- the elimination of student indebtedness, loan free

financial aid, and recognition of independent aid status to all post-secondary students -- because of the \$100 million price tag, although he "agreed with the principle".

ANEQ suggested the government could afford both programs by revising its taxation policy towards multinational corporations which, ANEQ says, benefit most from public education. Morin said the suggestion would be referred to the ministry of finance.

The government also agreed to study ANEQ demands for the institution of Rand formula funding for the provincial association, by which the provincial government would pay l'ANEQ one dollar per student fee from individual administrations because of their refusal to live up to contracts with local student unions.

## STUDENT ELECTIONS

It was decided at the February 2nd Student Union Council meeting that Wednesday, Feb. 22nd will be Election Day.

Nominations have opened already, as of 9:00 am., Wednesday, Feb. 8th. Nomination forms may be picked up at the Student Union offices in the Barn during regular office hours. Nominations close this Wednesday, Feb. 15th at 5:00pm SHARP.

Positions open in the election include: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Comptroller, Communications Officer, Education Rep., 6 Arts Reps., and two senators.

The Election, or Campaign Week will run from 5pm on Wednesday the 15th to 12:00 midnight on the 21st. Election polls will open on the 22nd at 10:00am in the Robertson Library and close at 5:00 pm.