

LOCAL 6 REPORT

The creation of AUCE Local 6 was, during the Poly Party strike in the Fall of 1976, the only logical step that Teaching Assistants at Simon Fraser could take in the face of greater labour/management tensions on campus. Associations and Union Clubs had always existed. These had always been powerless against an administration that dictated all terms of employment. The move was a first attempt to gain legal representation in bargaining and, to define the employer/employee relationships that exist between the two bodies.

The AUCE executive helped this local with the initial legal procedures necessary for the formation of this local. The sum of \$200 was donated to help in the organization of a certification drive.

Since that date, three attempts have been made by the organizing committee of this local to enroll enough members to apply for certification. The problems encountered have been several. At every step, the T.A.'s have had to deal in legal matters with the administration and the Labour Relations Board. Each time opportunities for successful certification were lost and time was wasted learning what to do in the different situations. To this can be added our special organizing problems due to changing periods of employment and to hiring procedures. The turn-over every semester can reach 40%. Every semester we have had to find out anew who was covered by our local. Our membership averages about 70 at the end of each semester.

The summer semester has seen a low both in possible members and in members of the organizing committee. Although this semester the number needed to gain certification is lower than in the fall or the spring, less of us are engaged in union activities.

At this moment our local has \$457 in its account. We are expecting to have another drive in the fall of 1977.