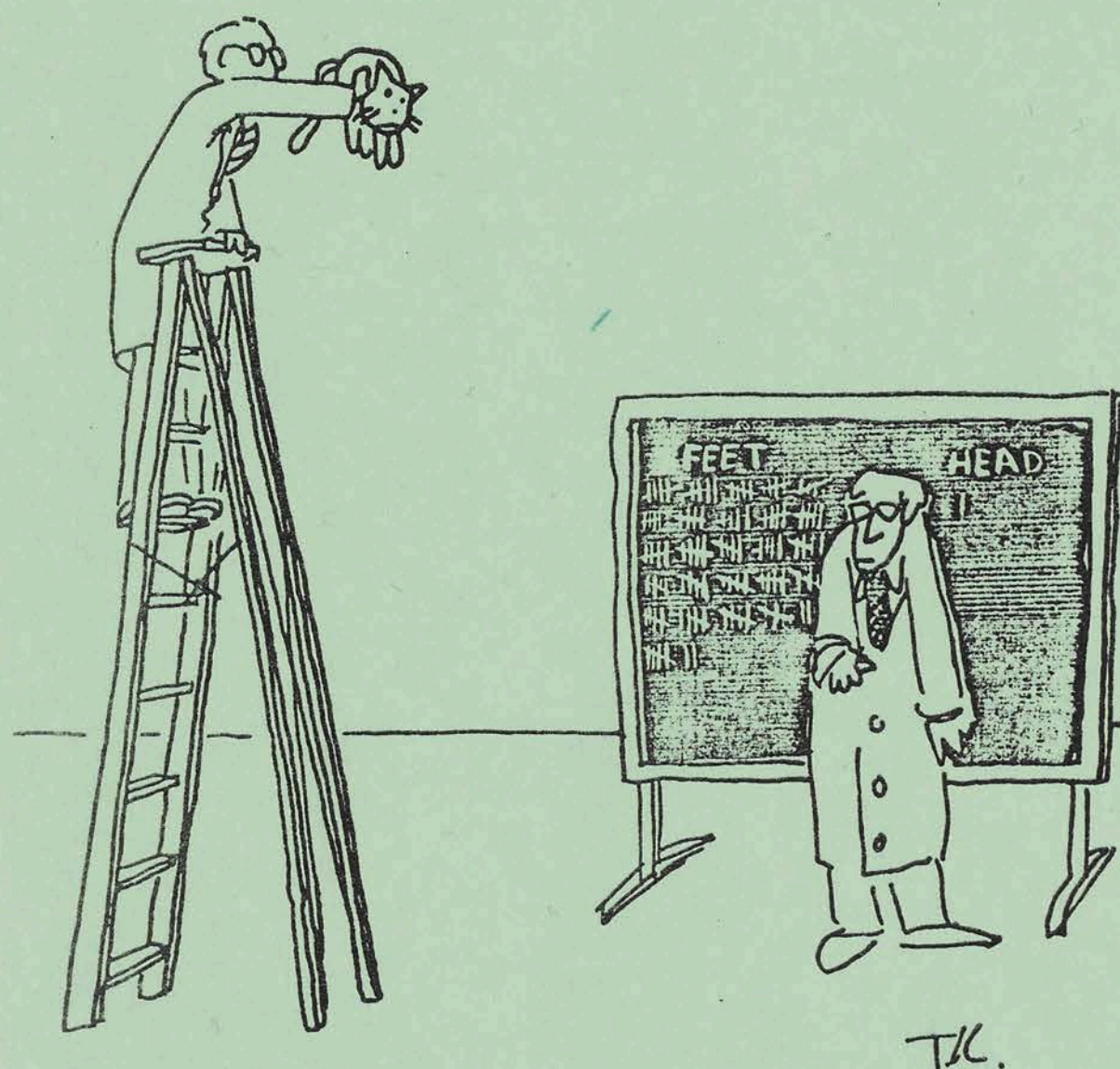


THE

# BUDGEON

Newsletter of the Association of University and College Employees, Local 3

*"All the news that fits, we print."*



ESQUIRE: MARCH 137



## CHIPS & SPLINTERS

No news is bad news.

That seems to be the general feeling these days at NDU. The place has the air of an old people's home with the mortgage about to be foreclosed, and instead of another "Save NDU" campaign (How many have there been, by the way?), the effort now is to write NDU's "last will and testament." President Grant thinks, and rightly, that our students ought to be taken care of.

Us old folks, us old and new employees, meanwhile, will have to shift for ourselves.

Of course a lot can happen between now and 31 May, which is the date set by the Board of Governors for termination of Notre Dame University, but the bets are that the next two months will be like the last two years--the last seven years, in fact--just more hearsay, empty "announcements" from Victoria, or, what's more usual, silence.

Eventually, when nothing happens, nothing happens.

Still, one goes through the motions; the Registrar's Office, in addition, is engaged in the all-important, if deadly dull, job of helping the administration write NDU's will. Since the first of this year the staff (including two extra clerks, hired temporarily for this project) has produced a "master list" of the 5,680 students who have taken courses at NDU, including 762 who graduated; updated 1,750 transcripts; and started the eyestraining chore of proofreading every transcript. This last job should keep everybody busy until the end.

Meanwhile, questionnaires have been sent to former students who might wish to complete an NDU degree, the alumni have been enlisted to help locate old students, and the administration is interviewing current students to determine their intentions and academic needs.

There are plans for a summer school, even for another academic year--if a sponsor or money can be found--and in any case an NDU records, and degree granting, office will be created to function after the university itself has ceased to exist. These degrees from the grave, as it were, will be possible because of Notre Dame's lenient transfer credit policy. Most schools demand two years of residence. Notre Dame's requirement is one year.



All this is responsible action on the part of the administration. It's putting our house in order, to be sure, but it's also rather depressing, enervating work for the staff. The end is liable to come not with a bang or a whimper but with a tired shrug of indifference.

Let's hope not. For the union's part, we're expressing our own blind or stubborn faith in the continued existence of something up here on the hill by beginning work on our next contract. Huh? Are we crazy? Who will we face across a negotiating table?

We don't know. But we must assume there'll be somebody. Certainly if we just give up, as many of us might be tempted to do, the provincial government won't trouble to cheer us. Right now, it seems, we're a problem to the government that it hopes will go away if it ignores us long enough.



#### NO NEWS, NO MEETING

Under normal circumstances, there would have been a general membership meeting in February. But . . . no news, no meeting.

Perhaps by April, when another bi-monthly meeting is scheduled, there will be news--and a general meeting.

The Executive will keep you posted.

#### LIBRARY JOB REDUCED

One job in the library--Graduate Library Assistant-Cataloguing (classified Library Assistant IV and in pay grade 18)--has been reduced to half time "for the duration," the library reports.

The job is being held by Sigrid Shepard, past president of AUCE Local 3

In an earlier reduction, one of the circulation clerk jobs was reduced to half-time temporary. Ron Driedger moved up to take over Kathy Downs' old job (Library Assistant-Serials), which had been re-classified.

#### TWO JOBS UPGRADED

In two sessions of the Revaluation Committee--one last November, the other in February--the union has won advances for two employees.

The November meeting, long and at times loud, considered the claim by Jeanette Poty that the duties and responsibilities of the Records Clerk had increased considerably since the last job description was written.

Management insisted that the job's duties had changed very little but agreed that its responsibility for independent action had increased. The result was more points--540 instead of 520--on the Position Evaluation Summary, which raised the position from Pay Grade 8 to 10. This decision was reached on 29 November, and effective date of the change was 1 November.

At the 1 February meeting the committee took up the request for revaluation of Peggy Weinrauch's job as Stenographer I in the Secretarial Pool. The Pool has been cut to two employees, Esme Underhill, supervisor, and Peggy. It was Peggy's contention, backed by Esme, that she was doing Stenographer II work and should be promoted to Stenographer II.



The committee agreed that Peggy was filling both positions on approximately a 50-50 basis and decided that her salary should be split between Stenographer I and Stenographer II wages. In short, a 50-50 compromise was reached. As a Steno II Peggy would have received a \$35 raise; the negotiated settlement gave her \$17, effective 1 October.

Members of the Revaluation Committee are Joe DeLucrezio, Personnel Manager, Ron Welwood, Director of the Library, and Mike Barone, Book-store Manager, for management; and Jean Mackie and Ross Klatte for the union.

#### 4th AUCE CONVENTION IN JUNE

The fourth annual AUCE convention will be held 18-19 June at Capilano College, outside Vancouver.

Resolutions and constitutional amendments must be submitted to the Provincial Executive before 14 May.

There are two recent additions to the provincial union. Local 5, the College of New Caledonia at Prince George, was certified on 26 October. At last report it was working on its first contract.

Local 6, composed of teaching assistants at Simon Fraser University, at our latest report, is still trying to sign up enough members to apply for certification.

#### FILES, FILES, FILES . . .

Little by little the filing cabinet in our office is being filled up as the job of organizing all the back files of our local makes progress. It's a big job because up until this winter, most of our union material was stacked away in people's desks, in cardboard boxes, under the dining room table, or whatever. Anyone still having a cache of notes, minutes, committee reports, negotiating material, or you-name-it, is asked to bring it all to the Library and add it to the pile. Anyone volunteering to help sort and file will be welcomed with open arms. . . .





## WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE CONTRACT?

It's been mentioned that the union intends to work on a new contract, although circumstances seem to preclude one. The membership can help the Contract Committee by submitting proposed changes to the existing contract. If you have any beefs, if you know of clauses in the contract that should be changed, refined or introduced, please express yourself in the space remaining on this page. Then tear it off and give it to Ross Klatte, chairperson of the committee, or to one of its other members: Shari Platt, Laurie Proctor, or Stan Strutin.

It will be greatly appreciated if, when you are complaining about the existing agreement, you will cite the articles and sections involved.

Tear off here

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