April 21, 1983   MEMBERSHIP MEETING   12:30-2:30 p.m.
                      MINUTES

Chair: Kitti Cheema   Secretary: Shirley Irvine

1. Adoption of minutes
    Moved by Bev Westbrook   Seconded by Mary Forquin
    THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 24, 1983 MEETING BE ADOPTED.
    The motion was CARRIED.

2. Nominations
    Union Co-Ordinator -- Shirley Irvine, Helen Glavina were nominated.

    Membership Secretary -- Helen Glavina nominated.

    Provincial Council Convention delegates -- Kitti Cheema, Suzan
        Zagar, Richard Melanson, Shirley Irvine, Fairleigh Wettig
        Helen Glavina, Kitti Cheema, Suzan Zagar were elected.

    Contract Committee -- Nominations will remain open.
    Grievance Committee and Communications Committee -- Nominations
     will remain open.
    Tech Change Committee -- Diane Brown, Mary Forquin were elected.

    Then the film Good Monday Morning was shown.

    Our guest speaker, Elaine Bernard, then took the floor.
Her subject was Technological Change.

 +the new equipment is cheaper and smaller
 +you can't stop technological change
 +organized workers are in a position to control it
 +a computer consists of: Input, Processing, Outout
 +a clerical worker is the processing function; the machine can aid
  that processing or replace the worker who processes
 +deskilling....machine can even check spelling, introduction of the
  the technology can lead to the deskilling of the operator.
 +studies show that a word processor can replace the jobs of 3 or 4
  typists.
 +there is a 40% decline predicted over this decade
 +many skills can be embodied in the computer eg. bookkeeping
 +the interesting aspects of jobs are eliminated
 +more and more time is spent relating to a machine
 +frustration of losing information in the computer
 +health & safety....stress of sitting 8 hours/day in front of machines
 +electronic cottage
   -babysit and work at home at the same time
   -no contact with other workers/isolation
   -how can you organize people at home?
   -the computer can monitor your work, can count keystrokes
 +in the U.S. companies sell information on people's medical histories
  to employers
 +in Canada we have no protection against the collection of that sort
  information which computers can do very well
 +technology can be an aid but the problem is for the user to design
  input

+design & implementation....problem is that it is not used to
 aid the user but to replace the clerical person
+technology is not neutral but is designed by people with certain
 interests
+it is a myth that the equipment is designed scientifically for
 optimum convenience of the user
+protection under the B.C. Labour Code is weak
+what can we do?
   -insist on inclusion in the total process of introduction of
    new equipment beginning with the initial planning stages
   -negotiate strong contract language
   -work on the legislation.....health & safety protection
                              .....strength the Labour Code to be more
                                    like Scandinavian legislation
                              .....access to information
                              .....protect the right to privacy
+we need to know the long range plans of the University

There was a question and answer period, general discussion.

The meeting was adjourned.