

news from CUASA

Volume 9 No. 7

Editor: R. Lovejoy

October 3rd, 1978.

CUASA MAKES A NEW PROPOSAL

As announced at the General Meeting held Monday, September 25th, the CUASA bargaining team, at a negotiating session the previous Friday, made the following salary proposal:

1. A scale increase of 6% for the current salary year;
2. Extension of the Collective Agreement, due to expire June 30th, 1979, for another year;
3. Salary and benefit articles to be re-negotiated as of July 1st, with provision for settlement by binding third-party arbitration.

Of this package, (2) and (3) were new, (1) having been proposed on July 17th. This new proposal was endorsed unanimously by the General Meeting.

In view of the fact that the new president, Dr. William Beckell, will not assume office until July, we believe that this proposal has acquired an enhanced significance. It is undesirable that negotiations of a full contract should begin during a period of interregnum and before the new president has had an opportunity to become fully acquainted with the Carleton situation. We believe that arbitration is, in any case, the sensible way of resolving salary disputes at universities and that it is especially appropriate under the conditions that will prevail next spring and summer. Indeed, it appears obvious to us that Carleton's welfare would be better served if the current salary dispute were to be put to arbitration, rather than prolonging the fruitless and frustrating debate across the table. It may be remarked that Lethbridge University, in common with other Alberta institutions, has binding arbitration, and that Dr. Beckel is familiar with the concept and practice.

We trust that the responsible persons on the management side will give the CUASA proposal careful consideration and instruct Dr. Love and his team to take initiatives that will permit negotiations to resume.

(R.B.R. for Negotiating Committee)

MEETING WITH SPECIAL OFFICER

The CUASA and the management bargaining teams met with Mr. Fraser Kean of the Ontario Ministry of Labour at the Kent Street 'Holiday Inn' on Monday, October 2nd. Mr. Kean is the Special Officer appointed at CUASA's request to help resolve a dispute with the employer concerning the basis of the current negotiations. The employer has persisted in including as part of its offer the 1978-9 CDI and Merit increments, which it is already obliged to pay under the collective agreement.

Discussions will resume on October 18th, Mr. Kean's earliest available date. At Mr. Kean's request, all parties have agreed to make no public statements regarding these talks until they are completed.