



MAY 21, 1985

BULLETIN EXPRESS Vol.2 no. 13

FNEEQ OCCUPIES THE FEDERATION OF CEGEPs

On May the 14, a group of approximately sixty CEGEP teachers of the Montréal region occupied the offices of the Federation of CEGEP Administration to ask for an extra 350 more teachers in the CEGEP sector to meet the needs of the next academic year. The decree has already eliminated 1200 "postes"; therefore an addition of 350 more "postes" will barely serve to maintain the level of quality in college education.

The occupation was also to put pressure upon the "Federation" to revise its position on decentralization and ultimately pronounce itself in favour of provincial-sectorial negotiations.

Among the people in the group there were many teachers from CEGEP Lionel-Groulx who were also affected by these cuts. Their Administration had deliberately chosen to put on availability teachers in the general education only. To protest against this decision the Union applied several pressure tactics such as a picket line in front of the college and refusal to hand in the workload distributions.

The newsmedia present at the moment of the occupation covered the event in a satisfactory manner exposing the essence of the event well enough.

A MEETING WITH BERUBE

The sectorial council of CEGEP, (L'atelier sectoriel cegep) at the end of April had mandated the Executive of FNEEQ to meet Bérubé, the Minister of higher education, to discuss the workload and the negotiations ("le régime de négociation"). This meeting took place Thursday May the 16th in Québec and in the presence of representatives from the "Federation" (MM. Henrico, Lauzière and De Belleval). The Executive explicitly stated that it was the Minister himself they wanted to talk to and not the "partie patronale". But it became evident during the meeting as to why Mr. Bérubé had summoned his associates for the occasion as well. In fact it became clear during the course of that meeting that the Minister knows sweet nothing about the functioning of CEGEPs and worse (!) there is a great deal in the draft legislation on the negotiations he does not understand (ex.: the mechanisms involved in the local negotiations).

Thus the meeting turned out to be one principally trying to tell Bérubé what actually takes place in the college: in other words explaining the CEGEP reality. On this particular point at least we hope the meeting was not for nothing. As to the response of the Minister on the issue of adding more teachers to the system it was a categoric NO, in addition to his announcement of a further cut of 8 million for the next year. According to him if CEGEPs, "the little Universities", in his words, want to grow and excel, they should start seeking financing from private sources.

AT LAVAL UNIVERSITY...

The hourly paid teachers deposit a demand of accreditation

More than three hundred hourly paid teachers at Laval University filed a request for accreditation to join the CSN. The ratification commissioner has not as yet announced his decision as the verification whether the majority of the teachers have signed membership cards has not been completed.

The teachers of French as a second language prepare for negotiations

Accredited a little while ago, the Union of teachers of French as a second language of Laval University are preparing for negotiations. Their collective agreement project has been deposited at the end of March.

Comprised overwhelmingly of women, the Union of teachers of French as a second language live uncertain working conditions like other women in similar situations.

The teaching job lasts from September to June, three months on unemployment and the University pays a uniform sum: an annual salary of \$18,000. for a full workload even if many of them have been on the job for more than 10 years with no guarantee for re-hiring from one year to the next. The only thing granted is a certain hiring priority after three years of service. Thus signing a collective agreement becomes a priority item for the Union. The work of these teachers is similar to that of a cegep prof.; therefore they demand comparable working conditions.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE "41" BECOMES COMMITTEE OF THE "42"

The teachers Union of Granby College filed a request to join FNEEQ. In a "communiqué", the office of the executive of the Union explains the change of affiliation (they were affiliated to FEC-CEQ) in the following manner: «...We sense and we face a syndical vacuum that's why we have decided to join FNEEQ, the Federation which represents the great majority of CEGEP teachers...»

DRAFT LEGISLATION 37 ON THE NEGOTIATION SYSTEM

A short parliamentary commission of 2 days was held on the 15 and 16 of May. The "Coalition" for the right to negotiate presented a common memorandum which upheld the positions of the platform (of the "Coalition") as well as a syndical code of ethics for the Social affairs sector.

The "Coalition" will continue its "interventions" and precise actions against this anti-syndical legislation (to be?).

IN BRIEF

The teachers union at the "Séminaire Salésien de Sherbrooke" and that of "Ste-Anne de la Pocatière" renewed their collective agreements.

Minor concessions were made by the Union but in general it remains the status quo. At "College Ste-Anne de la Pocatière" the Union obtained wider rights related to seniority. It is considered an important gain.

No "mise à pied" is foreseen for the year 1985. As in several private colleges, the "Séminaire Salésien" and "College Ste-Anne de la Pocatière" are experiencing marked increase in student enrolments **for the next academic year.**

At the "College St-Sacrement de Terrebonne"

After the strike and the lock-out last September the parties agreed to send to arbitration four items among them workload and syndical release time. Several days of hiring were held and a few more are pending. They expect a conclusion by the end of June. It is possible that we may know the decision by then.

TO COME... THE CONSEIL FEDERAL

Do not forget the "Conseil fédéral" on the 16,17,18 and 19 of June at the "Manoir du Lac Delage" outside Québec. Among others the agenda will contain:

- Reports of the Executive and committees
 - Report on Services
 - Election on the "Bureau fédéral" and on other committees
 - Policy on syndical release-time
 - "Ateliers sectoriels" (sectorial councils)
 - The Budget of 1985-86 and special dues...
- ... and others.

HAPPY ENDING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

AND

PLEASANT SUMMER VACATIONS!

