

ARGUS SPECIAL

NOVEMBER 22, 1971

JOHN WHITE VISITS CAMPUS TODAY

At last Friday's special Senate meeting, Dr. Tamblyn announced that the Minister of Universities and Colleges, John White, will visit the campus today. The Minister, said Dr. Tamblyn, had made no promises about the additional grant of \$ 70,000 requested by Dr. Tamblyn, while seeing the Minister in Toronto, last week. He did, however, continued the President, accept an invitation to visit the campus and speak to Senate.

The special Senate meeting was called for last Friday to discuss the report from the Interim Budget Committee and the report from the Academic Planning Committee, who have been interviewing all the departmental Chairmen, within the last few weeks in order to determine the validity of programs and where possible cuts might be made.

The Budget committee report was presented by Dr. Kent and three definite motions came out of the report and were passed by Senate. These, in effect, were:

1. That Faculties be examined for a possible realignment into fewer Faculties to reduce administrative costs.
2. That there would be a proportional reduction in administrative officers if faculty cuts were made.
3. That there be no replacement in the Office of the President from outside the University and that there be an interim Acting President.

The report of the Academic Planning Committee was far less definite. The report, presented by Dr. Engholm, stated that in view of the impossibility of reaching a rational conclusion regarding academic guidelines at this time, the members of the Panel would prefer to make specific recommendations following a period of thorough study.

The Senate members went on at some length, discussing our current financial problems, ways of dealing with them, and also how to approach the Minister, on his visit to the Campus.

Dr. Zimmerman questioned the President at some length, as to the availability of complete information on financial affairs of the University. It was stated that the complete budget had not yet been compiled, so that this could not yet be given to the Budget Committee. It was then pointed out that perhaps it was the job of the Budget Committee to prepare the budget. The President refused to discuss the matter any further. In the immediate following lull in discussion, Dr. Melnyk questioned the President about the annual operating budget of the Computer Centre. The figure was revealed to be in the neighbourhood of \$ 450,000.

It is hoped that the financial status of the University will be brought fully to light during the visit of the Minister of Education, when he speaks to the Senate, today. The minister, who claims he wants " more scholar for the dollar", has also said that he feels that the onus is on the universities themselves to balance, and that current financial problems being faced by all of Ontario's small Universities, is not the responsibility of the government.

This fall, most of the universities had lower than expected Student enrollment, and stand to lose about \$ 14 million in expected revenue. It is the small universities that face the largest problems, as witnessed by Laurentian, in Sudbury, and Lakehead University. Mr. White says that universities must operate like any other organization, and attempt to increase income and decrease expenses.

Mr. White will speak at an open Senate meeting at 2:30 this afternoon, in the Upper Lecture Theatre.