

The Brunswickan

THE WEEKLY NEWS AND LITERARY JOURNAL OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
Est. 1880

Member, Canadian University Press

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
William Y. Smith '41

BUSINESS MANAGER	George A. McAllister '40
NEWS EDITOR	George A. Cody '41
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR	Colin B. Mackay '42
ASSOCIATE EDITOR	James C. Morrow '42
FEATURE EDITORS	Mary T. McMenamon '41
	Frances E. Murray '42
WOMEN'S EDITOR	Mary D. B. Neville '40
SPORTS EDITOR	David D. Dickson '42
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR	Manzer L. Bunker '42

VOL. 59

NO. 15

Fredericton, Friday, February 9, 1940.

The Charges Against the N.F.C.U.S.

On the front page of this paper we carry a news story stating that the Universities of Laval and Montreal have severed all connections with the National Federation of Canadian University Students. In submitting their resignations to the N. F. C. U. S., the students' councils of Laval University and the University of Montreal have made two main charges, both of a very serious nature, against the Federation.

In the first place it is alleged that "The N.F.C.U.S. . . . has shown itself unable to serve the needs of the mass of Canadian students". Secondly, it is claimed that the N.F.C.U.S. had adopted an extremely undemocratic attitude. (This charge appears to have arisen from the alleged opposition of the N. F. C. U. S. to the distribution of a C.S.A. questionnaire on conscription).

What action, if any, the S.R.C. will take regarding these charges, we do not know. The President, who as the official N.F.C.U.S. representative on the campus attended this meeting has told us that he felt the allegations against the Federation were most unfair, and would, he thought, be most difficult to substantiate. From our knowledge of the N.F.C.U.S. setup, we feel that that organization can scarcely be condemned on such meagre and unverified information.

Considering the first charge, we find that according to the N.F.C.U.S. constitution the executive council which consists of a representative from each member university, "Shall have the power to make all arrangements necessary for the carrying into effect of the aims and objects of the Federation." If, then, the N.F.C.U.S. has, as charged, "Shown itself unable to serve the needs of the mass of Canadian students," the responsibility for this situation must surely devolve, at least in part, upon each of the member universities. Moreover, in preparation for the N. F. C. U. S. meeting last December, all members of this body were asked to submit topics that they would care to see placed on the agenda for discussion and action at the meeting. Here again an opportunity was afforded for the individual members to propose and put into effect whatever action they deemed necessary; if they did not make the most of this opportunity they cannot fairly place the blame now upon the organization as a whole. AND furthermore, we understand that the University of Montreal did not even see fit to send representatives to the executive council meeting.

Regarding the second charge we know that our Students' Council as a member of the N.F.C.U.S. has not been asked to take any action against the C.S.A. or its program, autocratic or otherwise. The problem of the C.S.A. was dealt with as one affecting this campus alone, and in no way as part of the policy of the N.F.C.U.S.

Concerning the statement that the N. F. C. U. S. leaders have stated opposition to the questionnaire we have it on unimpeachable authority that the N.F.C.U.S. has made no formal statement on this subject as yet, and that actually they have replied to the C.S.A. to this effect. The general attitude of the Federation can, of course, be ascertained from resolutions passed at the December meeting in Montreal and from the establishment then of a permanent National Emergency Committee to co-operate with the government. This meeting was, as far as we know, called and held in a truly democratic manner.

The general conclusion to be drawn from the action of Laval and the University of Montreal in withdrawing from the Federation is that these universities wished to see a poll railroaded through the universities of Canada on a matter which cannot in anywise be construed as a national issue. When the N.F.C.U.S. failed to fall in with the idea of the poll the two French-Canadian universities saw fit to quit the gathering. If the whole controversy ends in disuniting Canadian students it will be well to remember just who drove the first wedge into the breach.

CURRENT COMMENT

By James C. Morrow

THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM, or NEWSPAPER v. s. RADIO

"Few journalists and fewer newspaper owners look upon broadcasting without bias. My own bias is that of a man who, at the age of twenty, chose journalism as his life-work and has never regretted his choice."

These lines appear in a well known book entitled *The Press* written by the famous author and journalist Wickham Steed. Mr. Steed describes himself as "an unrepentant journalist."

Mr. Steed, who today is far from being a young man, had his life to live over again, would still choose journalism as his profession. Probably he would. Yet I feel sure that he would debate the question at considerably greater length than he would have done forty-five or fifty years ago. Why? For the simple reason that the would-be journalist of today is confronted with a very different aspect than that which he would have faced half a century ago.

I will cite a first hand experience which will help to clarify my previous statement. Six months ago I went to see the editor of a fairly large daily newspaper. I told him I was interested in journalism and was seriously thinking of making a profession of it. He looked at me steadily for a few seconds and then ejaculated one word "Why?"

"Well," I replied "I like the work. I think I am suited to it, above all there's a future in it and . . ." He stopped me cold! Any dreams I had ever had of a prosperous future in journalism were shattered on the spot by his next few sentences. He wouldn't think of advising anyone to go in for journalism, —no future in it at all—dog's life—

newspapers were practically a thing of the past—radio was what I should go in for . . . that was the up-and-coming thing today. Radio was where the openings were going to be found. . . . This one-sided conversation went on for a matter of a few minutes. I just sat there with my mouth open, picturing a dusty, cob-webby newspaper office of twenty years hence—a once far-flung newspaper service now reduced to a few hundred copies circulating among the urban population. I thanked Mr. Editor and staggered out the door.

After lunch I was supposed to go and meet a friend of mine—a graduate of Queen's University, who had a good job on the staff of another large daily. He was working on night shift and I had to drag him out of bed. We talked newspaper! When I left him I again had a changed conception of this journalism business (but I was still going to inquire into the radio racket at the earliest opportunity!) He said that Mr. Editor had painted the picture an awful lot blacker than it really was. Of course there was a future in journalism for anyone who was ambitious enough, and who would work at it. I was convinced from the tone of his conversation, especially coming from a man who had just been roused from his bed after a hard night's work, that the outlook couldn't be so bad after all.

I've thought a lot about it since. In viewing the situation from a practical standpoint, advantages can be seen for both newspaper and radio in the wide field which the circulation of news encompasses.

Some situations crop up in one's mind that are pretty hard to visualize. For instance—the business man comes down to breakfast in the morning—he wants to glance at the headlines of the morning paper, read one or two items of the most importance or interest to him on the front page, perhaps he'll want a peek at the editorials, or a gan-



"Is it true what they say about Ted and Mary?"
"Well, he is sending her a lot of Sweet Caps."

SWEET CAPORAL CIGARETTES

"The purest form in which tobacco can be smoked."



AN ARTS "HAMMERFEST"

The suggestion has been made that the Arts Society hold this year a gathering similar to that held every year by the Foresters' with their "Hammerfest" and the Engineers with their "Wassail." The idea is a good one and the executive of the Arts club should take immediate steps to sound out the general opinion of the male Arts students on the subject. While no students except Foresters or Engineers have ever been admitted to the sacred ritual enacted at "Hammerfests" and "Wassails" it is understood that these meetings usually take the form of social gatherings imbued with the spirit of good cheer.

During the past two years the Arts Society has undergone a great revival on the campus holding several banquets each year at which interesting speakers have been heard. However, the Artsmen are still far from being as active an organization on the campus as either the Foresters or the Engineers so let's see the society get busy and organize a gathering that will put the Foresters and Engineers to shame . . .

der at the financial page—or see who won yesterday's major league ball games. Without a newspaper can you imagine this man, in a hurry to get off to work, sitting beside the radio, coffee cup poised in one hand, a piece of buttered toast in the other, listening impatiently to the morning news-cast, while the announcer wades

through the Smith vs. Smith divorce case, the birth of triplets to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, the unexpected arrival of Mr. So-and-So, the adventures of Lil Abner, etc. etc. Can you? No. Neither can I!

Can you imagine Mrs. Housewife tuning in on the "afternoon edition" to hear the latest fashion

(Continued on Page 5)

Helpful Service...

With over a century of successful experience behind it, this Bank stands ready and willing to render helpful service with any banking problem.

Personal and business accounts are welcomed

World-wide facilities in every department of banking

The Bank of Nova Scotia

Over a century of banking service

Fredericton Branch : J. H. Malcom, Manager