

# The Brunswickan

THE WEEKLY NEWS AND LITERARY JOURNAL OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Est. 1880

Member, Canadian University Press  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

E. R. ERSKINE CARTER '44

R. H. B. McLaughlin '43

BUSINESS MANAGER

VOL. 61

FREDERICTON, N. B., MARCH 13th, 1942

No. 19

## C. O. T. C.

Recently, "a letter to the editor" was printed concerning C. O. T. C. training in this University. Consequently much comment ensued in which facts were distorted, and The Brunswickan felt that some steps should be taken to point out the true situation. In this issue, Dr. MacKenzie has written a letter revealing those who are primarily responsible for the training syllabus of the male students. We feel that what he states needs no further explanation.

In addition, however, criticism has been launched by some against the type of training received in the C.O.T.C. They complain that it will serve to advantage only those who enter Infantry or Machine Gun units. This, The Brunswickan feels, is a gross mis-statement, and therefore is taking the liberty of publishing extracts from letters received from graduates and undergraduates of this University, now serving in the Canadian Army Overseas.

From an Artillery Officer: "The Infantry background that I built up at C.O.T.C. at U.N.B. has been a very solid, accurate and useful one in spite of the hopeless way I worked at it."

From an Artillery Officer: "I also have come to another conclusion which has definitely shown itself in all Artillery units. Every man and especially officers should qualify in Infantry before starting Artillery. I thought I had wasted a lot of time by taking Infantry and then being changed to Artillery, but I never used a branch of the service so much in Artillery as Infantry tactics. The hardest part of Artillery is knowing Infantry tactics."

From an Infantry Officer: "If the boys take their training seriously they will be a great asset to us. That is if they learn to be responsible. The hardest to teach are those just out of college and who have never had a job. They have no sense of responsibility."

Surely, there could be no better authorities than these men, trained for battle and experienced in advantages of the various phases of military training. Then indeed, the drill, the organization, the map reading, the tactics, the administration—in fact everything connected with Infantry training—forms an integral part of any future officer's training, regardless of what branch of the Service he intends to enter; and furthermore it adds something vital to the character training of any responsible citizen.

## What Has Happened to the Spitfire Fund?

Last fall, a Spitfire Fund Committee was formed to help the University's War Effort by raising money to be contributed towards the purchasing of aircraft. Such was the idea—but it is with regret that we realize that, although the plan was good in theory, it has, from all accounts, failed to materialize in practice. The Brunswickan investigated what progress has been made by the committee and it was shocked by its meagerness.

In the first three months of last term, by means of various enterprises, \$300 was realized. That was indeed a good start. But on further searching it was noted that only \$40 has been collected during the whole of this term. Such a sum is a disgrace to both the committee and to the students as a whole. From what 'pot of gold' those concerned expect to amass sufficient funds in the remaining few weeks to equal even last year's total of \$575 is a fact unknown, or at least not made public.

The blame for the failure of the Spitfire Fund cannot be placed solely on the shoulders of the committee; part must be shared by the undergraduate body. It is true that the committee members should have been more energetic and resourceful, but the active support of the student body has been lacking. Every cent raised has had to be pried out of a reluctant and unenthusiastic student assembly, which has not really given its money at all, but only exchanged it for entertainment or some material gain.

Across Canada, today, the University papers are urging the students to shake off their lethargy and do their utmost to help the prosecution of the war. There is no need to repeat again what will happen to our country and ourselves if we lose this struggle. Every undergraduate realizes that perfectly well. "What we do not yet seem to realize is that one does not have to hold a rifle or dig trenches to fight; and that those famous strategists Generals Too Little and Too Late may yet defeat us."

Wake up Students! Is not the price of winning this war small, if all we must do is to contribute as much and as often as we can? But if we are to win this war, we—all of us—have to give. The Brunswickan has said before that the students are a privileged group. We reiterate it. But if the students forget their responsibilities and the fact that they are privileged, then they are no longer worthy of what they have.

## Letters to The Editor

March 16th, 1942

The Editor,  
The Brunswickan,  
University of New Brunswick.

Dear Sir:

I was interested in two statements that appeared in two of your recent issues and as they were not wholly accurate I thought that you should have the facts in respect of them.

The first was in the letter written by the "Gentleman Cadet" about the C.O.T.C. training which appeared in your issue of March 6th. I agree with much that your correspondent has stated but he apparently does not realize that the Senate and University authorities are not responsible for our present programme of C.O.T.C. training. The responsibility for this rests ultimately upon Hitler and our other enemies and more immediately with the Department of National Defence at Ottawa. We, at the University of New Brunswick, in common with all other Universities in Canada are obliged to provide a minimum of 110 hours of military



DR. N. A. M. MacKENZIE

training plus two weeks of a summer camp each year for every male student who is a British subject and physically fit. The same applies to the content of the course itself. This course is prescribed by the Department of National Defence and we are obliged to carry it on to the best of our ability. While one may agree that the content of this course could be made more interesting and more useful it should not be forgotten that the main task of the Department of National Defence is that of training the men who are on active service; it follows that we must take what is left in terms of instructors and equipment and while we have been fortunate in respect of the quality and character of our instructors there is no doubt but that our courses could be of more benefit and of more interest if we had a larger number of full time instructors. About the only thing that the University has control over is the time during which the C.O.T.C. work must be done. I have discussed this matter of time with other University heads and to the best of my knowledge the time set aside for military training at the University of New Brunswick, 4.30 to 6 p.m., is the most convenient and most suitable that could be arranged. Certain other institutions require the training to be done in the early morning before breakfast or on Saturdays and Sundays as well as throughout the week and it may be that this could be arranged here if the students preferred it.

It must not be forgotten that our country is confronted by a very grave crisis and that our young men may be urgently needed at any time for the defence of our coasts or for active service overseas. The training that they get with the C.O.T.C. does make it easier to fit them for such service if it becomes necessary and at the same time it does permit them to carry on, without major interruption, their University courses. It should not be forgotten too that the alternative to this seems to be compulsory training in the training centres for all those who reach the age of 21. My information is that those called for this training are kept on in a permanent capacity. My information too is that most students reach the age of 21 before their final year in the university and if it were not for the C.O.T.C. arrangement the majority of them would be re-

(Continued on Page Five)

IF THE VENUS DE MILO COULD TALK—

"I'D GIVE MY RIGHT ARM  
FOR A SWEET CAP"



SWEET CAPORAL CIGARETTES

"The purest form in which tobacco can be smoked"



## The Inquiring Reporter

DO YOU THINK A MEN'S COMMON ROOM IS NECESSARY ON THE CAMPUS?

It would be a great benefit to all concerned and it would give more room in the tuck shop.

Ron Miller

Yes, absolutely. We are cluttering up a basement as it is.

Doc Morehouse

Yes, definitely. It has been neglected long enough.

Bryce Keays

Yes, sure is. It should be as

completely equipped as the ladies' room.

"Jeep" McElwain

Yes, I do. It would give the boys some place to eat their lunch and would be a place to stay during spare periods.

Marjorie Dickson

Yes, I think it would be a good idea if they would treat it properly.

Mary Kesson

Oh, absolutely, I don't see why we were deprived of our old one.

Murray Stephenson



IT IS PATRIOTIC TO SAVE — to help provide the dollars urgently necessary to the Fighting Forces and the production of vital War Supplies.

IT IS WISE TO BE THRIFTY—to help control the increasing cost of living. The demand for War materials is reducing production of ordinary goods; at the same time there is a large increase in money in circulation. All unnecessary buying of non-essentials means bidding up of prices for the available supply of such goods. THRIFT will help curb rising prices—THRIFT on the part of all.

Money Saved NOW

Provides a Reserve for the future.

An account at this Bank will be helpful—all banking services are available and your use of them will be welcomed.

For Canada and yourself—

BE THRIFTY

Buy War Savings Certificates

# The BANK of NOVA SCOTIA

J. A. McLEOD  
President

H. D. BURNS  
General Manager

EST. 1832—OVER A CENTURY OF BANKING EXPERIENCE