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THE PATHS OF LEARNING LEAD BUT THRU THE MIRE

In this day and age emphasis is placed on the importance of progressive technical development. This is as it should be. Comfort and convenience are often stressed as criteria of improvement adopted by the automotive industry, the production of home appliances and new soaps. It may be a debatable point to regard progress to be interpreted as advancement in materialistic objects only. Many philosophers consider progress to mean development in culture and thought. But away with this debatable point! Progress is probably the result of both ideals.

Back to comfort and convenience... Slogans have become all-important in the minds of the individual in today's society. Housewives are often sold on an article because of its fancy slogan... "Get the extra soapiness you need for the extra dirty parts of your wash." Or they might be persuaded by some new soap-flake reminiscent of the tides and surfs: "Oceans of suds", "Pan-dried", "Shot From Guns", and "LS/MFT" are also prominent.

The motorist may even ignore the closest gasoline station so that he can get "The Pick of Them All". But alas! Again we are wandering off the beaten track.

Perhaps we're not off the beaten track. Or perhaps we are. If you consider U. N. B. in its relation to the town of Fredericton then we are off the beaten track. But if you consider how beaten this track is, then you'll agree that we're darned well on it everyday.

PAVE THE PATH TO PROGRESS

In fact we're usually bogged down every spring around exam time — because of this beaten track. A number of years ago University Avenue was paved — up to the railroad tracks. And this year we are led to believe that there is a good possibility that Albert street will be paved — up to the Residence. Our problem still remains — mud — and plenty of it.

Paved roads are the order of the day in New Brunswick. We hope we will not be accused of playing politics when we mention the fact that in the last decade over 1,000 miles of road have been paved in New Brunswick. But this institution, supported by the Province, has not yet had its one mile of road treated in the same fashion. This one mile or less is probably more travelled in the run of an average day than any other mile of paved road in the province with the exception of some urban areas.

To make matters worse sidewalks are non-existent on the campus. Thus it is that the student body, the faculty, the administration, and everybody connected in any way with the University are subjected to a great inconvenience.

Now 'tis often said that not to offer constructive criticism is deplorable, especially in an editorial.

May we sincerely urge the University and Government administrations to seriously consider paving the U. N. B. Campus this summer. A deal could possibly be arranged with the city whereby the U. N. B. campus could be paved cheaply by the use of the same equipment which paves Albert Street. We have heard many talks about improving the U. N. B. landscape.

We suggest that U. N. B.'s administration take under study the following slogan: "Pave The Path To Progress". That should be one of our first considerations.

R. G. H.

LETTERS To the Editor

Letters To The Editor must have the signatures attached thereto. Otherwise they will not be printed. The Editor reserves the right to refuse any letter for either length or content. Letters over 300 words will not be accepted unless under special circumstances. Your contributions to this column are appreciated.

King Midas

Dear Sir:

In a recent editorial there appears a eulogy of the Chancellor of U. N. B., Lord Beaverbrook. This is entirely fitting. This same editorial found it appropriate to compare the Chancellor to King Midas. Undoubtedly the Editor-in-Chief (or that member of the editorial staff assigned the task) is familiar with the Greek myth in which the story of King Midas is told. The myth relates how Midas, after rescuing a follower of Bacchus, was granted any wish desired for this kind act. Midas asked that everything he touched might be turned to gold. The wish was granted but Midas found that even his food turned to gold, forcing him to beg of Bacchus that the wish be dissolved.

Besides this symbolic treatment of greed, the myth also tells of how Midas suffered the misfortune of having ears like those of an ass. He was given an ass's ears by Apollo in punishment for declaring Pan's pipe more musical than Apollo's lyre. Hence "ears of Midas" is a phrase often used when describing ignorant critics. Unfortunately for Midas, his barber discovered the king's secret deformity: and whispered it into a hole in the ground, from which reeds grew up whispering the story in the wind.

Now, as I said before, this myth is probably common knowledge to the editorial writer concerned. I am curious to know, however, whether the Brunswickan thinks Lord Beaverbrook is essentially a greedy man or that he has ears like those of an ass?

Best regards,
Murray V. Jones.

Ed's Note:

Perhaps we may safely assume that Mr. Jones made a fairly recent and thorough study of the historical circumstances surrounding the mythical King Midas. In view of this we cannot lightly excuse his apparently complete and lamentable ignorance concerning the modern interpretation and application of the term.

There are usually various meanings which can be taken out of references to Greek mythology. It is unfortunate that some individuals who wish to discredit the generosity of benefactors such as U. N. B.'s Chancellor Beaverbrook would make such inferences as are suggested by the above letter-writer. We feel that these inferences by Mr. Jones are an attempt to belittle the good intentions of The Brunswickan Staff as well as to cast poor reflection on the one man who has taken a great interest in the welfare of the U. N. B. student.

When we referred to the Chancellor as King Midas we felt that normal readers would take what we consider to be

New Brunswick's King Midas

Continued from page three

wick, was the name "Maxwell Aiken"... "We lead, let those who can, follow." Little did anyone realize in contacting that forty-eight-years-ago Student at the U. N. B. that the same ordinary looking chap would one day become one of the world's leaders, also a veritable King Midas to his native Province: made possible a University Education as well as world-travel and world-contacts for scores of New Brunswick young people. And via these generous Scholarships to his Alma Mater—, doubtless raise up countless other Leaders from New Brunswick. "We lead, let those who can, follow."

Not only has Lord Beaverbrook expanded his helpfulness to the youth of his native province with this new scholarship to the London University, but has added still another. This time to Mount Allison University at Sackville. Previously, his scholarships, as was natural, went to his Alma Mater, the University of New Brunswick. But this year, for the first time, five students are in attendance at the Sackville institution because of this new generosity.

Talking to the mother of one of these lucky five — an unusually brilliant and ambitious seventeen-year-old, who led her High School this year (as must all the recipients of this award), she said:

"Oh dear — oh! We could never have managed to put our daughter through the University if it hadn't been for this Scholarship! And was she wild with joy when the news came! You see it's actually five hundred dollars to her four years — they have to make good the first year to continue it. And I'm sure my daughter will. Just think, that means that New Brunswick's King Midas will pay out for these five scholarships alone over \$50,000 in the next five years. And they say this will be augmented for those who take certain courses. And all coming from a boy who used to live in New Brunswick — not many would do it, even if they had the money."

At the very time of preparing this article, news has come from London that the Daily Express there — one of the Beaverbrook papers, has reached a new high; an average daily sale of 3,923,362 copies. How's that for the Newcastle youngster who at the age of fourteen got out the little LEADER school-sheet! Just shows what initiative, ambition and hard work can do. So... Here's New Brunswick's THANKS to this famous son! May we have more of the same!

the proper meaning out of the reference, namely: a gentleman who through his magic golden touch has improved the lot of the U. N. B. student by the erection of a residence and a gymnasium, by the countless thousands of dollars he has contributed in U. N. B. and Overseas Scholarships, and by his many other gifts to the University.

For what we consider another proper reference please see an article printed in this issue captioned "New Brunswick's King Midas". The story with the same caption appeared in a recent issue of The Maritime Advocate. Probably Mr. Jones will not refer to this story — it may not be "proletarian" enough for him.

Campus Journalists

647 Windsor St.,
Fredericton, N. B.,
March 16, 49.

Dear Sir:

From time to time one hears criticisms made of the Brunswickan by the "campus Journalists" — blood relations to "sidewalk engineers". This is not a criticism, but a sincere compliment to Ralph Hay and his hard working staff, who spend many hours each week in putting out the Brunswickan.

As one might expect, most of the people who make any criticisms are the very ones who never make any contribution to the paper, although they often have the ability. They seem to think that Ralph and his staff should write all the stories, draw all the cartoons, and take all the pictures.

Although I'm not on the same side of the political fence as Ralph, (in fact I spend a lot of time looking through a knot hole to see what is going on — that's the only way to find out), I find his editorials extremely interesting and not tainted with politics, as they might easily be.

To the Brunswickan staff: thanks a lot for a swell paper!

DAVE HIGGS.

We know of a girl so ugly that if she played Lady Godiva the horse would steal the scene.

Serious Breach

713 Albert Street,
Fredericton, N. B.,
March 15, 1949.

Dear Editor:

This is to let people know that a serious breach of constitutional rights has occurred within the past few days.

On Sunday I posted a notice to the effect that a member of a certain political party was coming to speak on the campus. Early Monday morning I noticed that it had been removed from the bulletin board in the Forestry Building.

I may state that the notice was put up by a member of the Political Speakers' Committee and therefore under the jurisdiction of the S. R. C. This action was contrary to the democratic principles of our university.

Lloyd Kingsland,
Chairman, National Union Party.

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