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A Democratic Student Body

A plebiscite will be held this Tuesday, January 25. Ample opportunity for you to cast your ballot on two important issues will be given. Foresters will cast their ballots in the Forestry Building, Engineers in the Electrical Engineering Building, and Arts and Science in the SRC Office. In order that the Students' Council may act according to your interests it is necessary to voice your opinion in this plebiscite. Too often at UNB have campus leaders been elected and issues decided by a minority vote of the student body. Such a vote was recorded this week in the Freshman Elections when four SRC representatives and a Class President were elected on a 46% vote.

Very frequently we hear serious condemnation of the SRC's actions on various matters of direct concern to YOU personally. Such condemnation is usually the result of unfamiliarity with the various aspects, OR the fact that you have not expressed your opinion adequately to your class representatives who decide such matters.

This plebiscite will be of no value, whatsoever, unless a large majority of the student body VOTES. We feel that a half-hearted vote for Canadian Football would not prove sufficient for the Council to act on the matter.

Real democracy can only exist as long as the individual exercises his rights and performs his obligations to society. Lack of interest and the indecision of the majority results in poor administration, dissatisfaction, and confusion.

The whole plebiscite is entirely useless without everybody voting. So we hope to see you at the polls on Tuesday.

Mass Participation

We do not often resort to pessimistic thoughts. We usually look on the brighter side of life. However, recent discussions on the Spring Budget brings us back to the reality that next year something will really get the skids. It may be those Non-Athletic Awards, our salaries, banquets or other luxuries. After seeing the mass participation in intramural hockey, basketball, bowling, badminton, and other sports, we feel that part of the SRC Budget can be dispensed with entirely. All Junior Varsity Teams should be discouraged! Next year what spare pin-money we have should not be spent on training a few individuals for the odd basketball game with other universities in the junior section but should be concentrated on mass participation in intramural activity. We would venture to say that over 400 students participate in these intramural sports while very little money is spent proportionately on these boys.

Junior Varsity sport is probably the most expensive luxury item we have. It came with the war and a large enrollment. It'll go with a smaller enrollment and normal times. (UNB's enrollment will probably be decreased by approximately 200 students next year. That's about a \$3000 loss to our piggy-bank.)

The time is now ripe to encourage greater participation in intramural sport and pave the way to support this activity to a greater extent from the funds we will save by cutting out the Jayvees.

The old argument that the boys in Junior Varsity get experience and then proceed to Senior Varsity doesn't follow. Only one Senior Varsity Basketball player for this year, played with the Jayvees first. Besides, any junior championship is a hollow victory. The Jayvees do not attract spectators, either.

R. G. H.

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A RINK OR A LIBRARY

"Workers of the world arise, you have nothing to lose but your chains,"—such are the closing words of Marx' famous "Das Kapital". This might be requoted as "Students of UNB arise, you have nothing to gain but a rink." On the campus, there seems to be a desire for a rink but no one seems to realize that unless some measures are taken, there will be no rink, but instead there will be a new library.

Now, granting that the present library is small and could stand to be enlarged, it would still seem more to the advantage of the university to have an indoor rink.

In the first place our Chancellor Lord Beaverbrook, has kindly offered to donate \$350,000 for the construction of such a building. Gifts of this magnitude should not be taken too lightly. An opportunity so offered should be grasped. He has also said that if it should be determined to build a library only \$250,000 shall be donated. It would seem that Lord Beaverbrook, himself, is in favor of a rink.

Second, I wish to draw your attention to some facts and figures concerning our present library. It is a modern up-to-date building housing 33,250 volumes. The circulation last year was 15,927. The building has seating and studying accommodations for 121 students. Of 1235 students at the college proper, there are 614 holding stack passes. Thus it would appear that less than 50% of the students eligible to use this library are taking advantage of it. Now the question arises, would less than 50% of those in a position to use the rink take advantage of it. You can determine this for yourself.

Third, I would like to place before you some facts about the proposed rink. If it is built, we, at UNB will have a much earlier starting hockey practise. It can also be used for skating nights. (This is talking for granted that it will have artificial ice.)

Also, remember that now every other major university in the Maritimes, Mount Allison, Acadia, Dalhousie and St. Francis Xavier have indoor rinks. Thus they can start hockey practice earlier and have a much better chance in interscholastic hockey than our teams have.

To draw this to a close I wish only to say that the only way to get that which we desire, either rink or library, is to unite and express our wishes.

Norman H. Kelly,
Freshman Science

Student's Forum

This space is provided for any student wishing to express his views on any subject. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent Brunswickan policy. Any opposing views will be printed in this space and not as letters to the Editor.

Canadian Football

By Paul Aird

At the present time there is a lot of controversy about Canadian football vs. rugby on the campus. It is inevitable that Canadian Football will invade the Maritimes eventually but there are many arguments for and against.

The cost of equipping and sustaining a team being too great seems to be the biggest point, especially as the day of the enrollment of vets has stopped. But the way to attract boys down to UNB is to give them as many attractions as is possible—like Canadian Football and a Rink. All that is needed is initiative and power to set it on its upward climb to popularity. Both these qualities are present NOW. To start it in later years when both may be lacking to a certain extent will be more difficult.

The initial outlay will be compensated by the receipts from games, because the game is a spectators' game while rugby is not. The spectators can put themselves in the coach's shoes.

place and try to predict the play, while Rugby is just a dull game of chance to watch.

To maintain such a sport it is necessary that material be brought up each year from the high schools. Here again cost enters the picture can the highschools follow us? A football player's equipment comprises a helmet, shoulder pads, pants, cleats, and sweater. Each school that plays rugby has cleats, and sweaters, and any school that plays hockey has shoulder pads, which just leaves pants and helmets. The schools should at least be in a position to purchase these. For competition we have Dalhousie University, St. Joseph's, St. John's, Dalhousie, Dartmouth Air Squadron, and Halifax Navy. If we start it is very likely other Universities will soon climb on the bandwagon, too.

In conclusion, I wish to say again that rugby is a dead game, as is shown by the fact that more people watched intramural soccer games than varsity rugby games. So let's be progressive and play Canadian Football.

Paul Aird

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Plumbers Go S

The first meeting of the Plumbing Society for 1949 will be the evening of January 21st. The meeting will be one of a series with the business part of the evening starting at 7.30 P. M. The main part of the evening will consist of a program of films, dancing and other amusements.

Wives and Respective All wives and girl friends of the members are invited to their respective husbands' friends. They are also asked to bring sandwiches or cakes etc.

During the business meeting matters pertaining to the coming week (i. e. Wages, etc.) will be discussed, also a number of matters of Society importance will be discussed. Members and those who wish to be requested to attend.

SINGERS AND STRIPPED

Singers in Trouble

With one of their friends in years ahead of them, the Singers stepped into the Sunday with Professors Tracy at the wheel.

The thrill of the sport harmoniously with the baritone, however, of strength of the intonation was quite evident. The efforts of the altos and tenors to no avail. The call for even more cheering low-voiced co-eds and males.

The Varsity Singers rehearsing for four performances. With the closest at hand, the most efforts were done on songs connected with the take note that, not one programme will be performed by the Singers.

per for further announcements.

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