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Opinions Expressed Not Necessarily Those of the Students' Representative Council

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On Lectures . . .

The University of New Brunswick is noted among a very great many other things, for the vast number of public speakers giving lectures and addresses during the academic term. The past month has been noted for visits by Lewis Perinbam, E. R. Rowzee, J. H. MacKay and James B. Hunt, just to name a few. These speakers all noted men in their fields, have found, on their visits here, a complete lack of interest in their topics and discussions. This exhibition of attendance is not to be blamed on the students alone, it also runs rampant among the teaching and administration staffs.

There is no way to condone such an attitude in this university. Since these men have come to the top level of their professions and their talks are of definite benefit to every person on the campus, students and professors should be compelled to attend these speakers. Mere courtesy alone on the part of the university body should at least be regarded as a reason for compulsory attendance.

It appears that one of the main reasons that our guest speakers feel like mere "voices in the wilderness" is the administration's attitude in assigning cancellations of lectures for these short visits. We are all too aware that the administration's past policy has been to assign the last period of the morning for guest lectures. Every one, from the lowest student to the most lordly professor regards the hour as an extra one for dinner, and not for its real purpose, that of attendance at the lecture.

It would seem quite in order then, that the university assign the hour from ten to eleven for these lectures, and that they make attendance at these lectures compulsory. We all know how low our student facilities have sunk this year with the loss of our canteen and the postponement of the completion of our student centre. The administration has no need to fear that the lectures would not be attended. There is no other place for the students to go.

On Councils . . .

There has arisen a feeling of mistrust, among a certain group of students, that the Student Council Meetings are not being run in the proper methods of parliamentary decorum. They are quite right, parliamentary procedure goes by the books at the Wednesday night conferences held in the Forestry Building. The Student's Council has created a grave error in this respect.

However, there is a great deal to say in support for their seeming ignorance of the proper way of doing things. So much so, in fact, that the Brunswickan heartily condones this horrendous breach of parliamentary discipline.

Parliamentary procedure demands certain protocol at all times. The demand, when applied to several of the members on the council, would only lead to their complete silence on all matters of discussion. Lack of these rigid rules has lead everyone to voice their thoughts, whether they have or have not the floor at the proper time.

The method so used by the council has made the meetings a series of interesting discussions that seem to be mere venting of humour by some of the more volatile members. Rather it has become a means of keeping interest up in the rest of the members of the council. Last year the mood established by the council's dreary meets was, "Another damn council meeting — I suppose I'll have to attend this one". This year not only do the members want to go, they even arrive early and hold a gab-fest before the council sits in session.

Lastly, the method used by the council is producing their required work in a much shorter time. Last week's budget meeting took a little less than two and a half hours to hash out. Previous councils would still be in session in the Forestry Building, trying to allot their funds to one hundred and one useless organizations and still trying to stay in the black.

On Politics . . .

Mr. Ballance's decision to pass the correspondence pertaining to the proposed Maritime Mock Parliament into the hands of one organization was a grievous mistake on his part. By doing so, he effectively pushed the action required to elect delegates back two weeks while the conference in Halifax is just four weeks away.

We wish to disagree with Mr. Ballance and his statement that such attention to this matter would involve the council in political controversy and that the council should not maintain any political stand. The only thing the council has to do in this case is to hold the elections. They do not have to create parties. Nominations as such will come from the student body. The student body will do all the creating of political opinion.

As for the matter of maintaining a political stand, we believe that the council has a definite political stand to uphold. The council should foster the inception of political parties on this campus. They are the only organization on the campus that can hold an honest and representative college-wide election and they are the only organization on the campus with the funds to finance such an election. There is a committee already created for the purpose of holding elections, let's use it.

Mr. Fred Drummie was snowballed by the council to accept a mandate to investigate the situation. We trust that his recommendations to the council will have the effect of shaming the honorable members into concrete action on the Maritime Mock Parliament before the sessions are over.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor,
The Brunswickan.
Comrade:

I wish to take violent exception to the inaccurate letter last week in this column entitled "From Our International Correspondent". In disagreeing with the comrade correspondent's report, I very much fear that the comrade has been looking through the bottom of his Pepsi-Cola bottle at the Club 252, blocks away from any of the incidents mentioned. The glorious Coup d'Etat of August 19th has not been a great success. In fact, it has been a big fizzle. There has been no reaction of any kind, either a general strike by the slaving students nor a mass movement of the imperialist faculty to the Rush-agonish Salt Mines. The patriot that the comrade correspondent refers to in the UNB cell are nothing but the party-waiter sons of capitalist beasts, without party unity, party spirit, or party discipline. It has been years since any fascist bandit has been hanged, burned or shot on this campus. Where has the zealous spirit of the purge gone to?

Students unite! We are being kept from our true destiny by reactionary seum; Down with these violators of culture! Long live student freedom, student democracy, and student solidarity.

ISAAC MACCARTHY.

The Editor,
The Brunswickan.
Dear Sir:

I have heard that we are going to build a student centre. Will it be a glorified Art Centre? A meeting place for society club members? A place to study with "Keep quiet, do not move" signs all about? A developing room for weight lifters or photography fans? — Or a Student Centre?

To be successful, to be worthwhile, as I am sure you will agree, the centre must attract all students AND must fill some presently existing need. Let us not put a table tennis set in it; we have them; nor a large room to study; we have many. It isn't likely that the canteen will exist to sell pop and doughnuts alone. What then shall we use it for? Has anyone thought of that?

What do most students do on Friday evening? Many go to dance in the bare cold armchairs, the place where girls sit around in chairs looking like animals in an abattoir. On Saturday evening some students repair to a local hotel where, if they are lucky, they wedge themselves onto the dance floor and dance cheek to cheek because space limitations deny any other method of locomotion. On Sunday evening some go to one of the service messes; others attend meetings of our three religious organizations. Is this the best we can do?

Now suppose — just suppose — that the student centre was put to the best use for the student body as a whole. On Friday or Saturday we might have a dance, hear debaters or speakers, or perhaps, even have the occasional star night where bull could be shot. With student and S.R.C. support a film could easily be arranged for Sunday night — would this not fill a need. Would these ideas not rectify much of the alleged lack of "campus spirit"?

The S.R.C. recently gave the Drama Society \$200 in return for which students will be allowed to attend the two play productions organized each year by that society. Suppose the S.R.C. gave \$300 to the newly organized Film Society, this money could be used

The Editor,
The Brunswickan.
Dear Sir:

With the New Year come new ideas. One of these is the proposed plan for the Maritime University Student Parliament sponsored by Acadia University. The university campus is traditionally a center of political controversy and many universities already have active political organizations. Whether you have or not, here is a chance to gather with students of other Maritime Universities to debate our views on Maritime and National issues across the floor of the Model Parliament, and at the same time learn more of the form and functioning of our parliamentary institutions.

The Premier of Nova Scotia has graciously given us permission to use the Legislative Chambers in Province House in Halifax for our meetings. Sessions are expected to be held Friday and Saturday, March 5 and 6, 1954.

Each university will be represented by five delegates, at least one of which should be a girl. These delegates must represent student political opinion. Campus elections may be held, and contested by campus political parties if they have not already been held. The five delegates can be apportioned according to the party percentages of the votes cast. In any case, when you have made your selections, send us the names of your five delegates and two alternates, together with their party affiliations.

The Model Parliament will be organized along the lines of the Federal Parliament with a party system. Liberals, Conservatives, etc., from the various universities will unite to form their respective parties. For example, the Liberals from UNB would join with Liberals from the other universities to form the Student Liberal Party. The party with the majority will form the government. It is important that you inform us well in advance of the political affiliations of your delegates so that you can be notified as to what party will form the government. We hope to have prominent members of parliament present to lead the major parties at the opening session.

The programme has not yet been finalized. However, we intend to include time to get acquainted, time to see the city, time to organize, addresses, formal sessions of the House, a luncheon and wind things up with a farewell dance.

Money is something students always think about first, so here it is at the last of the letter. How are we going to finance the parliament? We hope that by charging all delegates a ten dollar registration fee we can meet all expenses of the parliament, pay for the transportation of out-of-town delegates and possibly provide accommodations for Friday and Saturday nights.

Yours truly,
THOMAS R. DENTON,
Chairman,
Political Action Committee,
Acadia University.

to bring from SIX to TWELVE good films before the students at a very nominal average cost per student of from 4 to 8 cents.

My few chats with people involved in this centre have led me to believe that the general policy outlined above is not that in the minds of the administration. I think it might be considered.

Yours truly,
WILLIAM REDDIN.

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Time for another well-known natural good-living habits not weather this week. Many room-mates of their mealtime carlin alcohol (RUBBING) meters are in short strike fear into the he

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