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Look To The Future . .

We would like to congratulate the successful candidates in the recent elections for the Students' Representative Council. We would also like to salute the unsuccessful candidates and we hope that they will maintain their interest in student affairs and run again next year.

The Council, which will be installed in office this evening, have a full year to provide good government to the campus and, with the present excellent state of affairs existing in the Students' Council, their job should be easier than that of any council elected in the past ten years. The S.R.C. is out of debt, most of the problems which have plagued it have been solved, the question of NFCUS has been settled once and for all, and the Council is left with no issues of any great magnitude to decide upon. This should be the dawn of a new era of student government.

It is our hope that the new Council members will not sit back and lose their interest in this new situation. The chance is there, for the first time, for the Council to expand and take the time to govern intelligently, without the constant worry and haste which has characterized the past Students' Representative Councils. Government in the past has been good, but the Councils have always been so pressed that little time could be allotted to serious consideration of the matters before them. Now, this time should be available.

We sincerely hope that Jim MacDonald and his able Council will endeavour to make fuller use of the committee system than has been possible to date. The committees are there, they need only be put to work. Much good can be gained if the contentious items on the agenda can be adequately reviewed by a committee of Council members before its presentation to the main group for final action. This has not been the case before and it has resulted in many long disjointed debates, wasting hours of valuable time.

The record of the retiring Council is good, and this last year has seen the last of our debts cleared up and the last issue of contention settled for some time to come. The bad things are the most remembered, even where much good has been achieved. The students have received the full value of their S.R.C. fee for the first time in five years, the Winter Carnival has been inaugurated, the Campus Police set on a more solid footing, and the Student Discipline Committee brought back into life. The latter two still leave much to be desired and it is hoped that the new Council can polish the rough edges and make them both operate as they should . . . for the students.

The question of NFCUS has been resolved at long last, no doubt with a sigh of relief on all sides. The Committee has shown new life in recent weeks and if it continues, as it certainly should, then NFCUS in '56-'57 should become the active and worthy body the students want it to be. The Brunswickan is not and has not been against NFCUS, we have always supported it in principle, we have only been against its ineffectiveness and the seeming inability of NFCUS to do the job it was set up to do. NFCUS is here to stay; we hope it will live up to the faith the students placed in it on February 29th.

We are finishing our political year in better condition than ever before and the future looks bright. With sufficient interest and support on the behalf of the students, Jim MacDonald, with his newly-elected Council, can see the Students' Representative Council take on new life. The best wishes of the students, as well as The Brunswickan go with you.

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Letters to the Editor

The Editor
The Brunswickan
Dear Sir:

"Campus Comment" for February 8th contains some inaccuracies regarding the Library. I should be grateful, therefore, if you would give space for this reply.

Books are placed on the overnight or three-day list at the request of members of the faculty who expect that these books will be in great demand by students taking their courses. They are not arbitrarily placed on reserve by the Library staff.

The heavy fines on overnight and three-day books are imposed to protect students who may need these books urgently against those who would thoughtlessly keep them for an indefinite time. A borrower may renew a book either in person or by telephone if no one else has asked for it.

Apart from reserve books, there is no fine unless another reader has requested a book that is overdue and the person using it has been notified of this fact and given five days in which to return it. Then the fine is ten cents per day.

The table at the drinking fountain was removed because it was creating congestion and making it difficult for people to use the Card Catalogue.

There is no factual basis for the rumour that the tables in the Reference area are to be removed.

Yours sincerely,
A. Robert Rogers
Librarian.

The Editor,
The Brunswickan,
University of New Brunswick,
Fredericton, N.B.

Dear Sir,

I have been a student on this campus nearly two years now and during that time I have seen a good campus paper lose its personality. I refer to The Brunswickan. When I was first introduced to The Brunswickan, I read it with interest and enjoyment. I learned what was going on around the campus by reading the regular columns written by some of the faculty organizations and groups on the campus. I also read with interest other local articles that were in the paper. Today I pick up my Brunswickan and throw it aside with disgust. If I want to know what is happening on the campus, The Brunswickan is no aid. The city paper is more informative. If I go to the bulletin boards, located in the different buildings, their unsightly appearance and the information I obtain leave me more confused than ever.

The Brunswickan is no longer a paper by the students for the students, and I find this rather surprising since it is financed by the students. I realize that to publish such a policy at present has taken from The Brunswickan the personality it once possessed. Nor is The Brunswickan doing the job a campus paper should do, and I believe that the student reaction is one of dissatisfaction.

Yours truly,
G. David Dwyer,

The Editor
The Brunswickan
Dear Sir:

I suppose several people will be shocked at the mention of exams at such an early date, nevertheless here goes.

Its high time something was done about the deplorable conditions under which final exams are written at this university. The tension before and during such an exam is bad enough, but when you are faced with one of those small, rickety, unstable, tables; and have to sit on one of those shaky, 1890 vintage, chairs, which are liable to collapse at any moment, it is quite distracting to say the least. In fact, in the boxing room last year a chair actually did collapse, causing a minor furor. Even the most stable character is bound to be upset by something like that.

Under such a system as at U.N.B., where the whole year's work depends on a three-hour exam, I think it is only fair that the administration provide better facilities.

I don't know who should be approached on this matter but somebody should be, and soon!

Sincerely,
Phillip Bird

The Editor
The Brunswickan
Dear Sir:

At the last meeting of the Students' Representative Council, held in room 106 of the Forestry Building on February 15th, I made a statement which, I must agree, was not very pretty.

Since then, letters have appeared in this paper, denouncing me for what I said at that time, and demanding an apology. I should like to announce here and now, that I have no intention of apologizing. For one thing, I sincerely believe what I said to be the truth, and to apologize would be to admit that I was wrong.

I am not writing in protest of those letters. No one who will say what he thinks and believes, can long hope to go unchallenged. Nevertheless, as a result of these direct attacks, not only on my statements but as well, my person, and in addition, the campaign which followed the meeting and which seems to have been directed towards representing the incident as one in which I not only made a fool of myself, but took advantage of an opportunity, as rumor has it, "to avenge a personal grudge against the President of the Students' Council", I feel compelled to answer.

Before I go further I should like to say that I am not aware of there ever having been a personal grudge between myself and the President of the Students' Council.

As for having made a fool of myself—I should like to repeat here the text of the statement I made so that all may be my judge. Before doing so however, I should like to make brief reference to certain misinterpretations occurring in the two letters of criticism published in last week's Brunswickan. The reader will please note:

With reference to the second letter, I did not, "refer to the referendum as a non-confidence vote and in face of this call for the resignation of the President."

I did say, that if the result of the referendum was in favour of withdrawal from the National Federation it would create a situation calling for the dissolution of the Council.

With reference to the four points listed by the author of the first letter,

1) I did not say, "that a petition requesting a referendum on the NFCUS issue was a vote of non-confidence in the SRC."

I said, that the petition represented a motion of non-confidence, regardless of whether or not those who signed it meant it to be so.

2) I did not say, "that because of this non-confidence motion the entire SRC was obliged to resign."

(I have answered this in my reference to the other letter.)

3) I did not suggest that "it was the duty of the President of the SRC to do the work of the NFCUS committee," and this task has not been assigned to the President by the NFCUS National Office.

4) By no means did I say, "that the entire council had failed to represent the students on this issue, and had spoken only for themselves without knowing anything about NFCUS."

Following is the actual text of my statement:
"In the past few weeks I have been questioned several times on my opposition to this petition (on NFCUS). I should here and now like to make clear the reasons for my opposition."

It is true that one of the reasons is partly selfish—this petition will bring to a general vote the question of whether or not this University should remain a member of NFCUS, a fact which I feel will require of me personally, a great deal of work in helping to assure that the student body is adequately informed on this subject.

Chief among my reasons for opposing this petition is, however, the fact that what it really amounts to, what in effect it really means, and what I doubt that few of you here are at all aware of, is that it is a motion of non-confidence in the SRC.

This may amuse some of you, but I must say that I find it hardly

(Continued On Page Five)



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