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Self Styled Maritimers

Self-styled Maritime rightists are still denouncing the contents of the recent Gordon Report. Certain segments of the press deplore what they term "a defeatist attitude", which, it is alleged, characterizes the whole report on the Maritimers? I would venture to suggest that this so-called defeatism is a figment of the critic's imagination. It might even be said critics were looking for yet another stick with which to beat the government.

There is nothing new in the possibility that Maritimers will leave the region. In addition, there is nothing shocking in the revelation: it is a simple statement of practical fact. If it should prove impossible to raise the standard in the Atlantic provinces, then those people who refused to live in a depressed area would move: to help them would surely make it easier to affect a change which otherwise might render them insolvent. As the report points out, there would be those who would not move. If they decided to stay here, then acceptance of a lower standard of living is only the logical outcome. The Gordon Report is simply a statement of the economic situation in Canada at the present time, coupled with intelligent prognostications about the future. It is not an ultimatum, as some misguided people seem to think.

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Too Intellectual Perhaps . . .

Last Friday night the UNB Debating Society began its annual schedule of intercollegiate debating in the Maritimes. This, unfortunately, is an activity that provokes little or no interest among students at UNB. Between the approximately ten universities in the Maritimes, is held each year a Debating Competition to see who will represent the Atlantic Region in the National Finals. Last year it was Dalhousie. We hope this year's champions will be from this college. On the fourteenth of February, two debates will be held in the Art Centre at UNB. They involve UNB and teams from St. Mary's University, Halifax and St. F.X., Antigonish, N.S. On the 22, two UNB debaters will journey to Montreal to take part in the McGill Winter Carnival. This latter event is one of some significance, as the University of New Brunswick is the only college in the Atlantic Region which attends the Eastern Canadian Festival. Last year, our debaters, pitted against McGill, as well as some of the finest debating teams in the U.S., made a very creditable showing; they won 2 of their three scheduled debates.

In past years, and one could venture to say, for a very long time, there has been negligible response on the part of the students to Debating. This may be because we are not interested in pursuits that involve a little intellectual preparation. Or it might stem from a feeling of inadequacy. Both of these statements are false, or at least some of us hope so. However, there are some students here, (perhaps they could even be said to be characteristic of certain faculties) who express not only complete uninterest, but contempt. In their eyes, anyone who debates is either a slob, a nut or both.

It would be wrong to imply that this lack of interest is a recent stigma exclusively. There has always been a minority interested in such activity. However, precedent, if erroneous in character, should not be followed.

Intercollegiate Debating is the only activity, outside of sports, in which UNB students are involved in competition with other universities. Debating is every bit as important as inter-varsity sport. Perhaps the answer lies in the fact that debating demands more exacting an audience; one more attuned to what is everlastingly valuable.

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Rah! Rah! Teams

UNB athletes are to be commended for the superlative showing they made at the Carnival last week-end. While one might reasonably expect UNB to share a large representation of the honours, the fact that we won, for all purposes, all the events, is a matter of some significance. It establishes a precedent that future teams will find difficult to attain.

Of special interest to UNB fans was the fast, well played hockey match against Mt. Allison Saturday afternoon. Both teams fought hard, exhibited an exceptional brand of hockey which remained spirited up to the last whistle. It is obvious to most of us that UNB has a hockey team to be reckoned with. Our plaudits to the players, and their coach, Pete Kelly.

The Winter Carnival has provided stimulating competition. The fact that the University of New Brunswick overcame this competition, shows that we have athletes of which we can be proud.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor,
The Brunswickan,
University of New Brunswick.
Dear Sir:

In view of the recent articles in the Brunswickan re the proposed Hungarian Scholarship Programme I must confess that I have been disillusioned. In my previous letter of January 22nd I said: "If every eligible and talented Canadian is at this moment having his educational desires fulfilled, then it is a most commendable and charitable act to aid foreign students in achieving their educational goals". It now appears that my illusion was in considering the proposed aid for the Hungarian students as "Charity". My illusion was first dispelled by the words of Mr. Teller who complained in the January 25th issue of the Brunswickan and I quote the Brunswickan: "they", (the University authorities) "wanted all the glory for themselves". Mr. Teller later stated that he felt it was not glory but publicity that was being sought. Hereupon I was disillusioned, for I must confess that the seeking of glory or publicity is not particularly "commendable or charitable". Is this why we are being urged to aid Hungarians? What next! Perhaps someone will be so bold to suggest that on a national scale it amounts not to charity, but a policy of "how to buy friends and influence people".

Again I was disillusioned and puzzled by a more recent letter to the editor written by Mr. G. R. Pearsall and published in the February 1st Brunswickan. Mr. Pearsall has cleverly boiled my previous letter down to a proposition "Should we help foreign students at the same time as or prior to granting assistance to prospective Canadian students?" If Mr. Pearsall would boil it some more he would have my proposition, or erase the words "at the same time as" from the above.

Although Mr. Pearsall has apparently interpreted my remarks quite correctly he completely evaded my proposition as he calls it. I will not argue with Mr. Pearsall as to the economic or cultural value that we will receive from these Hungarians, for what we will gain from one who is educated, be he Canadian or Hungarian was not what I considered the questionable part of our investment as Mr. Pearsall seems to infer.

The most intelligent comment that I have read to date on this subject was made by the President of the University of Western Ontario, Dr. G. Edward Hall, who was quoted in the CUP Journal as follows: "I feel that spending a certain period in Canada before beginning studies would help Hungarian students to benefit more

from their Canadian university education and would make them more independent financially."

I ask you now, why a Hungarian who has supposedly come to Canada for the sake of enjoying our freedom and to become a Canadian should not be treated as Dr. G. E. Hall suggests? Furthermore, following Dr. G. E. Hall's suggestion why should a Hungarian, a new Canadian, not then be eligible to the same aid given to all needy prospective Canadian university students? Could it be that the financial assistance given to a needy native Canadian student is not sufficient to support a new Canadian?

Yours truly, D. R. Mount.

Festival Time . .

The Festival of the Arts opened in the Art centre yesterday evening with a talk on painting. Tonight architecture is featured, and tomorrow the Drama Society is to present a rehearsed reading of 'The Gioconda Smile' by Aldous Huxley.

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