

...or Heaven help you

From now until the eighth of May students will be undergoing strains they are not accustomed to and will be forced to endure pressures which are highly unnatural and which will need an unusual amount of fortitude for survival.

These mental pressures due to increased studying may mean the difference between success or failure on final examinations. Some students, suddenly shocked into concentrated studying by the appearance of the examination schedule, may lock themselves into isolation and spend a phenomenal number of hours 'cramming' in an effort to learn a thousand and one facts overlooked during the academic year.

Students will gather in

groups to try to 'case' or predict, the questions on exams. Then 'cram sheets' will be written up, and an enthusiastic attempt will be made to absorb enough information to pass.

In the process, hundreds of students will not be able to stand the strain. Some will pass, others won't.

But in the case of a great many, the exams will be neither a measure of the students' knowledge, nor of their ability. This one quick view of the inside of the mind if the student will be no more than a blurred and inaccurate image of the real thing. How can such an occurrence be avoided?

First of all a student has to be sensible. He mustn't panic. There is still enough time to study, and to absorb a reason-

able amount of material, without overdoing it.

If a student gets too worked up, he won't be able to study at all, so it is necessary to keep cool. If a student is too excited, he should go for a walk for half an hour. That's enough to calm most people to a reasonable level, but if the student still feels edgy and tense, he should make an appointment with UNB's best advisor and the student's best friend, Dr. Black. He's the University psychiatrist, and he really knows what he's talking about. In fifteen minutes he'll probably have any tense student down to earth, or he'll tell how the student can help himself.

There's nothing wrong with seeing a psychiatrist, contrary

to what some uninformed students say, and it will do anyone a world of good and might save a year.

Another good sedative is a trip home. If you can relax at home with your family or other relatives, then go. It'll be worth it, because we all go a little bit astray here at UNB, and there's nothing like seeing people you knew when you were a kid to get you thinking straight again.

Don't let yourself do crazy things. Franks around the residences and noise in the dining halls or constant complaining about food all induces the growing tension around exam time.

If you feel yourself going off the track, help yourself or Heaven help you.

DAN SCANS

by Dan Mersich

Well that time is here again and the perennial complaint is about to be made once again. Why is it that senior marks are posted only two days before graduation? No satisfactory answer has been given in the past, and I seriously doubt that any will be given this year. Even the explanation that examinations cannot be marked in such a short time is not given. This obviously leads to the conclusion that the time factor is not a problem. Then what is it?

Needless to say, coming to Fredericton from outside of the Maritimes is an expensive business, but this doesn't seem to trouble the Administration at all. In some cases, parents have crossed the ocean to be at a graduation that didn't materialize until four months later.

For many parents graduation is a pretty important affair. Many of those who attend surely must use part of a precious two week vacation in order to be present. Similarly, there are just as many parents who cannot afford to attend, but do so just because graduation comes only once in a life time. This is all well and good so long as they are assured of seeing their sons and daughters graduate once they get here.

Graduations have a mercenary atmosphere about them right from the start. After some time at university (any university) one finds that even the most token service costs money. For example, it costs one dollar per transcript to have marks sent out.

One would hope that after five years of paying at every turn, at least graduation would be free of annoying deposits, charges and token fees, but not so. Indeed it even costs money not to be here; a degree in absentia costs \$25. When one considers that universities are so public relations minded, it seems somewhat humorous that they alienate the newest of their possible contributors and supporters. Ask any senior what he thinks of graduation and his first reply will be "It costs a helluva lot of money"; his second reply will be "just let them try and get a cent out of me after I graduate".

Necessarily, operating a university is costly, and I now offer suggestions that might put a few dollars into the treasury as well as dispell some of the bad feeling that exists. First, post examination results a week before graduation, so that parents can be assured their trip is not in vain. Second, make some of the residences available as hotels for parents; many would stay four or five days instead of the usual one or two at regular hotel prices. Make dining facilities available at McConnell Hall, and give parents a chance to feel at home at U.N.B. instead of considering it an institution to which they have lost their children. Third, inform parents in highly populated areas such as Montreal and Toronto that special group flights have been arranged with Air Canada at reduced prices. Hopefully these suggestions would attract more parents for a longer time, and also direct the

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LETTERS

ATROCITIES

Editor:

I was pleased to see the article "CP 24, Where Are You", because I saw the incident in question and agree with the remarks of Mr. Burrows. I hope some corrective action is taken to prevent such atrocities in the future. The CP's should be taken aside for a few minutes to learn the elements of good manners.

I. Witness

ANOTHER 'INMATE' SPEAKS

Editor:

No Teacher's College student reading "Opinion" in the February 19 edition of *Brunswickan* could put aside the issue indifferently. We, in the Secondary course at Teacher's College may be the particular target for Mr. Stanley's critical assaults since we will be the ones who, according to him, will be incapable of preparing the future high school students of New Brunswick and will be the ones who, according to him, will be incapable of preparing the future high school students of New Brunswick and will continue a burden for U.N.B. Let us therefore take a look at the B1 class and just see how incapable are the future leaders of our youth.

Of the 33 students in our class which presumably come from the low achievers of the graduating class, 13 had honour standing on matrics. The average total on matriculations for the class is 579. And what does the first year course involve? Why, the same Physics and Math as the UNB Science course, the same English and French as the UNB students. In addition we must take Education Methods and Practice Teaching so that the student

teacher becomes acquainted with the classroom situation in his freshman year.

We too at TC raise the cry, as Douglas Stanley has phrased it, "How long must we wait until New Brunswick schools clean up their act, start paying better salaries, start demanding stiffer courses, better teachers?" Any educated person knows that our educational system is not perfect. Time and time again cri-

tics have brought to the light the faults in the system, but what we need are not critics but interested people who will take up the challenge of the task. Already curriculum planners and educators all over the province are busily engaged in promoting much needed reforms, reforms that will take several years before they can constitute a more adequate system. Courses are changing, as any student

knows who has piles of unsold textbooks at home going as far back as grade 9. Teacher's College is not lagging behind in its role in the educational reformation either. Perhaps one change in its system which best gives evidence of this is the new higher requirements for entrance brought into effect last year.

Most of us here at TC admit the province needs better tea-

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IF YOU'RE BETWEEN YOUR 17th AND 21st MILLION, THE UNIVERSITY NEEDS YOU!

Brunswickan

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