

A PLEA FOR EFFECTIVE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Dear Sir,

We notice that at the recent "Teach-In" on Student Power there was considerable talk about "student democracy". The SRC has attempted to convince the administration and student body that this undoubtedly fine idea can now be best served by placing student representatives on academic councils and the university senate. We would suggest that there are serious problems in "student democracy" on this campus that deserve attention before idealistic attempts are made to extend so-called student power. This is especially true since there is every reason to believe that the same problems will accompany the expansion of student representation.

The very name SRC is something of a misnomer. The SRC does not effectively represent the Student body on this campus in meaningful issues. It is true that the SRC, as keeper of the public purse, does fulfill certain necessary functions - voting money to Radio UNB, the press, yearbook and Winter Carnival. But these functions could be handled just as efficiently by a much simpler administrative system. It is even doubtful that "student rights" would be compromised if these functions were turned over to the university administration. Most of the SRC's time is spent debating trivialities such as the number of delegates to send to CUS and CUP conferences. Even when these delegates return the only positive result seems to be that a few students get free trips. As one post-grad speaker told the SRC, "After listening to the discussion here this evening, I wonder how you manage to sit here, Sunday after Sunday, and not become blithering idiots." Little wonder the Student Body is apathetic. They are here to improve their minds, not deteriorate them.

As long as essential functions are handled, let those so inclined go to debating society on Sunday night; so says the average student. Unfortunately, however, the SRC does occasionally manage to advocate policies which are not in the interests of the student body. Then the failure of the SRC to represent becomes important.

Open rooms for men's residences stands as a case in point. Here is an issue that has real relevance in the day-to-day affairs of a large number of students. The issue was initiated by the council of house presidents, discussed and debated by residents long before the SRC jumped on the band-wagon. Even when Wayne Beach's statements couldn't have been less meaningful. One was inclined to believe that Mr. Beach had been taking lessons in banality from Paul Martin and Hubert Humphrey. Lately the SRC has taken more interest in Open

Rooms, but this appears to be a play to enlist the support of the residence complex in the current attempt to gain representation on the Senate. The new regulations still treat us like children, but the SRC is not pushing harder; if we got what we wanted, the residence complex might withdraw support from the SRC.

We would like to believe that students run for SRC for more or less altruistic reasons, but the current debate over honorariums tends to provoke second thoughts. Most students do not see the logic behind money grants voted by student officials to themselves. No one is under compulsion to serve the student body, and it does not cost money to serve.

SRC members already gain social prestige and perhaps even better employment opportunities on graduation, for their service. Why, then, asks the average student, should our money be used to pay the functionaries in a useless bureaucracy? One would expect students, especially when they mouth the cant of the New Left, to be advocates of a simple democratic system of administration. Instead our hierarchy of presidents, vice-presidents and second vice-presidents parodies General Motors and makes Parkinson's Law look like reality instead of satire. And they expect to be paid for this!

Lawson Hunter has been travelling about campus preaching the ideal of community representation - meaning students on the Senate. It's a good idea. But we are inclined to believe that the SRC is simply trying to expand their own power and prove to student officials in other universities that UNB is "turned on" (note a recent Maclean's article). The administration has offered to appoint a Rector to represent the students on the Senate and the Senate does definitely need to be awakened to the students point of view. But SRC refused this offer. Yet a Rector would probably be more effective than student representatives of the calibre now active in university affairs.

Let's have effective student representation on the SRC before attempting student representation on the Senate.

Submitted by members of
the apathetic student body

Michael Finley, Arts III
Vincent J. MacLean, P.G. III
Barry Cox, Forestry III
Russell Derrah, Ch. E. III
Gilbert L. Chetty, M.E. II
E. Peter House, Arts II
William Byrne, For. IV
Allison Brown, SC. I
Stratford Canning, For. IV
Ron MacDonald, Arts I

COEDS TO ADOPT CHILD

The coed club of UNB has undertaken a project to adopt a child. Although they do not as yet know the name of the child, the agency they are working through informed them that the child lives in an orphanage in Korea. For \$10.00 a month, the child is assured of a better opportunity in life through more nutritious food, medical and dental care, and an education. Each month the child will write a letter to a correspondent of the coed club here. Both a translation and the original letter are provided. The first letter is expected sometime in mid-February.

BEER CANS AND KINGS

To finance the adoption, a Campus King will be elected. Coeds carrying beer cans are soliciting funds for the various candidates - one from each faculty. The candidate receiving the most funds in his name becomes Campus King. As in past years, the club plans to give a \$200 scholarship to a sophomore coed who qualifies according to need, academic standing and character.

Coed Week this year is another action filled week. Tonight in all the residences, coeds will be holding a "shoe shine and sew-in". This will give the bachelors of residence a chance to have repairs made on their clothes while getting their shoes shined. Completing the week will be the "Casual Coed Caper", a dance at McConnell Hall at which the Campus King will be crowned.



JELLYBEANS

by Tom Murphy

DOWN TO THE LAST WIRE

LRT27B JN1868
JOHN NEVERS

52 BLACK ROAD
FREDERICTON NB

JOHN YOUR FATHER DIED THIS MORNING STOP COME
HOME QUICKLY MUM

* * * * *

LXV56K JN1868
MRS JOYCE NEVERS
1215 SIXTH STREET EAST
TORONTO ONT

MUM ONLY TIME AND SPACE SEPARATES YOU FROM ME STOP AND NO MATTER WHAT YOUR CONVICTIONS ARE RIGHT NOW IT IS ONLY TIME AND SPACE THAT SEPARATES YOU FROM DAD STOP THE TIME IS ETERNITY THE SPACE IS INFINITY THE WAY I DO NOT KNOW STOP BECAUSE I DO NOT BELIEVE IN A GOD THAT IS GOING TO TAKE THE SOUL OF MY FATHER AND QUIETLY STORE IT IN HEAVEN TO SING HYMNS AND PRAISE THE MAKER I MUST TAKE A DIFFERENT APPROACH STOP I WAS TOLD ONCE BY A MINISTER THAT DEATH IS NOT A TIME FOR SORROW BUT RATHER REJOICING BECAUSE CHRIST AROSE STOP BUT THAT DOES NOT MAKE DEATH A TIME FOR REJOICING STOP EVEN THOUGH OUR TEARS ARE FOR OURSELVES THEY ARE LEGITIMATE THE LOSS OF PERSONAL CONTACT AND PERSONAL DEPENDENCE ARE GREAT AND GREIVOUS LOSSES THIS COMBINED LOSS IS A SMALL PART OF OUR OWN DEATH STOP AND THERE IS NO GREATER PAIN GREATER THAN DEATH AND NO ANESTHETIC BETTER THAN TEARS

OH GOD MOTHER THIS IS SO UNEXPECTED SO UNCALLED FOR DAD HAS BEEN IN SUCH GOOD HEALTH STOP I ALWAYS SAID I WOULD FACE DEATH RATIONALLY BUT RIGHT NOW I FIND MY BITTER HEART GETTING MORE AND MORE BITTER DEATH IT REEKS OF IT WANTS TO STRANGLE AND CHOKE AND FIGHT TILL IT BLEEDS AND BLOOD DEATHRED BLOOD COVERSEVERY CORNER OF THIS OUTER INNER UPPER ROOM OH DEATH STOP STOP STOP DEATH STOP THIS RAZOR SHARP LINE BETWEEN LIFE MY LIFE AND DEATH A RAZOR SO SHARP

MUM WHEN THE SNOW GOES AWAY I WANT YOU TO DIG AROUND THE BASE OF THE MAPLE IN THE BACK YARD STOP MANY YEARS AGO I BURIED A SPOON THERE AN UNPATTERNED STAINLESS STEEL SPOON DIG IT UP AND TELL SOMEONE THAT SOME FIFTEEN YEARS AGO YOUR SON BURIED IT TELL SOMEONE HOW I TREASURED THAT SPOON STOP AND THEN SHOW THEM THE RUSTED ROTTED DECAYED REMNANTS STOP TELL THEM THAT IS WHAT HAPPENS TO TREASURES YOU BURY STOP BUT ALSO TELL THEM THAT AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS THERE WAS A MEMORY STOP A MEMORY THAT SURPASSES THE BLOCKADES OF ETERNITY OF INFINITY OF TIME OF SPACE OF DEATH

STOP ALL THAT TICKS STOP ALL THAT MOVES STOP ALL THAT IS NOT STOPPED FOR DEATH HAS TAKEN MY FATHER AND I FEAR THAT HIS ONLY SON WILL SOMEDAY DIE STOP I AM NOT SO MUCH AFRAID AS AWARE THAT I AM AFRAID STOP IT IS AN AWARENESS THAT EATS AWAY AT THE PRIDE OF MAN STOP IT GNAWS BECAUSE IT KNOWS THAT IT IS THE ONLY ULTIMATUM THAT MAN HAS STOP LIFE WOULD NOT BE WORTH LIVING IF IT WERE NOT FOR DEATH

I AM FINDING IT HARD NOW TO CONTINUE WRITING THIS CABLE STOP EVERYTHING IS SO STICKY MY HEART SEEMS TO BE PUMPING FASTER AND FASTER I FEEL FAINT AND TINGLY I FEEL LIGHT AND SLIGHTLY DRUNK WITH LIFE I AM SHORT OF BREATH I BELIEVE THAT IN THE LAST FEW MOMENTS THAT I AM HEARING STRANGE THINGS AND BEAUTIFUL MUSIC THE LIFE OF ALL HUMANITY IS FLOWING THROUGH MY SOUL STOP BLOOD IS SO WARM SO SO WARM AS IT HARDENS TO THE FIBERS OF MY ARMS IN A WAY IT IS REFRESHING AS IT GUSHES MUCH LIKE A FOUNTAIN OUT OF MY WRISTS STOP FOR I AM THE BLOOD OF LIFE

JOHN