

Raiders Stink Up UNB Admin. Bldg.

(Reprinted with permission from "Liberation" dated Thursday, December 18, 1969)

The UNB Administration Building was attacked by raiders on Dec. 15. Powerful stink bombs were released, and the functioning of the entire university Administration was effectively paralyzed for more than 24 hours. The bombs significantly hindered the Administration's preparations for the examinations that are being inflicted on UNB students this week. The Administration appears to have now become even more of an object of ridicule than it was in the past.

The Administration has apparently been making desperate efforts to prevent the story from getting out, and, as usual, the Daily Gleaner and Radio Atlantic have been cooperating with this attempt to hide news that is unfavorable to the UNB Administration and other men high in the New Brunswick power structure.

On the basis of information available from personnel in the administration building, it appears that there were several raids during the course Monday, and that several powerful stink bombs were set

off. Apparently most of the hallways in the building were bombed, as well as many of the most vital offices such as the Business Office and the Registrar's Office.

All windows and doors in the building had to be kept open throughout the day Monday and most of the night until Tuesday. Lights were kept on in all the offices throughout the night, as the Administration went through a crash program to wash off the stink fluid that had seeped into the wooden floors. By Tuesday morning heavy coatings had been laid down on the floors and the stink was becoming somewhat tolerable.

On Monday the stink was so bad that many students that walked briefly through the building found that the odor had gotten on their shoes and clothes and even followed them out of the building. By late Monday night, the stink had begun to permeate the entire campus.

The UNB Security Police were swarming all over the Administration Building most of Monday and Tuesday, and gradually became quite prominent at the SUB also at many examinations. Apparently infuriated by the fact that they had been made

fools of, the cops had begun to hassle and intimidate students in a desperate attempt to find someone to punish and serve as a scapegoat for the raid.

On January 1 the UNB Board of Governors (consisting mainly of rich businessmen and lawyers) is handing over the power at the university to the new president, Mr. J.O. Dineen. The raid on the Administration Building should probably be viewed, in part, as being a retaliatory blow struck in response to this completely illegitimate procedure. The president of New Brunswick public university should be chosen by the university students, the professors, and the people of New Brunswick including the farmers, the pulp workers, the miners, the unemployed, the Indians and everyone else. The president should not be chosen by a tiny group of rich businessmen, lawyers, and wheeler dealers.

The raiders have shown that the men in power won't get

away with this kind of thing much longer.

The raid also showed that students were fed up with being forced to write repressive examinations and were beginning to fight back. Examinations do not measure the extent to which a student has become educated.

The reasons that the people in power force students to write examinations are as four fold:

(1) Exams are a good way to measure how well a student has been trained, and how well he has been made into a human machine, and exactly what slot he should be put to work in. This is very helpful to the corporations and businessmen that own our society and hires such human machines to work for them.

(2) Exams are a good way to indoctrinate students and train them to compete with one another as separate individuals in a capitalistic society together rather than

cooperating with one another to build a better society together. Training the people below them to compete and fight with one another is one of the best ways for the men in power to make sure that they will stay in power.

(3) Exams are a good way to force a student to learn what the professor and the

Administration and the corporations want him to learn, rather than what he

himself wants to learn. The student must learn the topics that will be asked on the exam, not those which interest him.

(4) Exams are a good way to keep students cowed, and scared, and generally under control. They are a very effective weapon for smashing independent thinking.

It is time for the people to hit back, and the raid on the Administration Building shows that some people are beginning to hit back hard.

The Board of Governors Is Obsolete - Trueman

(From the Henry Marshall Tory lecture of Dr. A.W. Trueman, chancellor of the University of Western Ontario, ex-President of UNB, made at the University of Alberta, 30 Oct.)

In the past, certainly in Canada, boards of governors have usually been constituted to give heavy representation to business, slighter representation to the professions, and to the university's senior administration. In other words, the strongest influence on many of these boards is a reflection of the knowledge, experience and acumen of very able representatives of business and financial "know-how". No one can find serious fault, usually, with the quality of this representation. In the days when this type of board was developed, when our colleges and universities were smaller, when the proportion of income supplied by government for both operational and capital expenditure was much lower than it is now, these business representatives constituted a natural and no doubt necessary link with the business world, which was an extremely important source of direct supply. I don't think that a board of this complexion was ever an ideal answer to the needs of colleges and universities, but it is not difficult to see the rationale of the type; and I think all

sensible men will realize, on reflection, that we should be grateful for the services rendered by these hard-working and dedicated men.

But times have changed. Our college and universities have increased enormously in size, both of the student body and, consequently, of the faculty. The world-wide of conviction that the governed must have a much greater share in government is running swiftly, strongly and - I suggest - irresistibly. The direct contribution of private persons and business corporations to the coffers of our universities has been largely replaced by the contributions of government, both provincial and federal and sometimes, municipal. In other words an important part of the function of the businessman on the board has been practically eliminated. I don't mean to say that his usefulness to institutions of higher learning has vanished. Not at all. On any university governing body that I can see developing during this transition period, I would hope always to find a small, strong, extremely competent minority group that would represent certain aspects of managerial expertise, and financial knowledge, experience and judgement. The link with the business world should be maintained, and the business man's relation with government - municipal,

provincial and federal - should continue to be used to the university's advantage. Nevertheless, to carry the argument still further, I believe that the board of governors itself at the apex of university government, is a rapidly obsolescent institution. As a matter of fact, I think it is obsolete. I favour very strongly the one-tier form of government that President Bissell of Toronto is now advocating.

Professional pursuits of scholars, and the "higher" education of young men and women, all academic matters, are now usually handled by an overwhelmingly academic senate. The board is still the senior and more powerful body; it controls the purse strings; it sets up the budget; it hires the personnel; it fixes salaries; it sanctions and approves pensions and other forms of benefit; it creates new faculties and new departments; it works directly with administration. All these matters in Bacon's phrase, come home to the faculty's and the students' "business and bosom". It is not possible to show a dichotomy which neatly separates the professional pursuits of the scholars from other matters falsely thought to be purely administration or business. Hence the validity of the one-tier system to which I have referred. Perhaps I should add here that in speaking of the universities I am speaking as best I can of the total university situation, as I see it, on this continent and abroad, not of particular universities that you and I know; and in speaking of business men I am speaking of the general influence of the business world, not of individual business men. As a matter of fact I know personally, as you do, business men who, in my opinion, would be invaluable on any board of governors.

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