

Take the money and run

Wanted: One New Industrial Development Policy for N.B.

The latest closure of a government sponsored venture, Brunswick Mills, shows the utter failure of New Brunswick's industrial development schemes.

The scheme is a cozy government-business arrangement of *take the money and run*. The government pours millions of tax dollars into companies to produce jobs, a very laudable

purpose. But then many of these companies complain they can't make a go of it and close down sinking tax dollars down the drain.

At this point a truly responsive and compassionate government would take over a failing company and run it, perhaps at a loss, to save jobs. But the present government buys them, closes them down and waits for a new "developer" to buy them.

At the point where private industry either "fails" or refuses to

take initiative to create work the government should "go it alone" so we can have some say over how taxes are spent and so that more benefits will stay in the province.

In the long run, the major economic problem is that private enterprise refuses to establish anything but resource extractive industries which provide limited employment and few side benefits for the economy.

What must be done is to

establish manufacturing in the province. This will create more jobs (which will be more lasting) and produce general economic development.

Since private industry is only interested in ripping off our valuable resources, public control and planning of our economic development must be our recourse. If our taxes pay the piper, we too, should call the tune.



Nineteen seventy seven

Nineteen seventy-six was not what you would call a "real" good year for the University of New Brunswick. Students from Moncton, Saint Thomas and UNB lived in the Glass Palace for a while early in the year while the Hatfield government was deciding that the University budget would be adjusted to barely cover inflation.

The Aitken Centre was handed over from the contractors to the University in time for graduation in the spring, and subsequently officially opened in the fall of 1976. At the time and even now, the fact that half a million dollars is not available to finish paying for it, is not discussed in polite conversation.

The Student Union spent three months coming up with a constitution (for the want of a better word) which is so bad, that they are, one year later, writing a new one. With the creation of a company to handle certain

business affairs, CSL the student union found itself plagued with bad luck, bad timing and management problems and wound up with a deficit budget.

Nineteen seventy-seven will be a terrific year for the University of New Brunswick. The Hatfield government will feel so guilty about last year's budget that they will increase it 20%. Student aid will become equitable and just and neither rip off society or the student.

Early in the year a smiling John Anderson will emerge from his office with a cheque for six hundred thousand dollars, thus preventing his completely going 'round the bend.

The Student Union will elect a slate of officers, the like of which we have never seen. Student government will reach a new pinnacle of achievement. CSL will make money.

....Something to look forward to!

Red Tape !!!

At the Council meeting of November 1, union vice-president external, Alex Kibaki, announced the formation of a committee for the review of electoral procedures to investigate ways of generating more student involvement in campus elections. At present the committee has not been approved by Council and has only had one meeting.

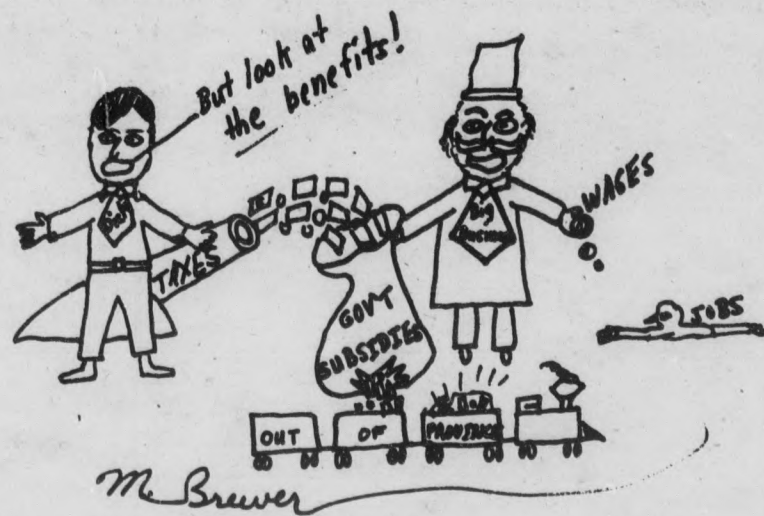
The problem for students anxious to work on SRC and Senate committees is the strangulation of their enthusiasm by red tape. It is not enough to offer your services to a committee. You must be "approved" by the parent body of the committee. Although this is usually only a formality in the case of the electoral procedures committee it is taking months. People who volunteer do not even receive a phone call to

encourage them. Committee organizers say they can't meet until committee are approved. If half a dozen adult persons can't even get together for an informal meeting without first receiving a court order, then committees are exercises in futility.

One student at the student union "general meeting" amply summed the problem up: "You keep saying you want people to sign up for things. I've signed up for two committees and I haven't even got a phone call yet. So what the hell do you want?" Indeed, what the hell do they want?

As for Mr. Kibaki's committee. With elections in February, it won't even have time to properly find out the problems of elections, much less propose adequate solutions.

Such is the legacy of burned-out student "participatory democracy".



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By
Hello there, I has just returned in Vancouver city. I think he Hello, where a Inquisition.

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