

Reason No. 2 for supporting the Third Century Fund

One morning this week I got a letter from UNB president James Downey. I knew it was coming, but I didn't know what it was going to say. I knew it had to convince me that a \$10 levy for the next five years was a good idea. I knew it had to point out the reasons why students, including me, had to care. Lucky for James Downey and for the Third Century Fund they had me convinced in September that the Third Century Fund was a worthwhile project and that UNB was a worthwhile place. Now it's my turn to help convince you.

When I came to UNB three years ago, I had big expectations. We all do, I guess, and big hopes. Unfortunately, most of us are under the impression that universities run by themselves, that the administration and faculty are here mainly because they get paid and that there's lots of money around.

Let's get one thing straight. It is a serious

misconception to believe that money raised during the Third Century Fund will go towards increasing salaries, and that the money would just be dumped into a "university pot" only to be swallowed up into the oblivion of red tape. I can only say that this is not true.

The following are some of the projects the Third Century Fund campaign will be funding:

\$2,000,000 for new scholarships and bursaries; \$1,000,000 for new library acquisitions; \$450,000 to put all library materials on the PHOENIX computer catalogue; \$50,000 for the Baird-Turner Reading Room in the engineering library (already open for business); \$200,000 for renovations to the SUB; \$300,000 for renovations to the residences; \$25,000 to improve athletic programs; \$400,000 for cultural activities.

On October 1st, 1982 I thought we made a rather good case for supporting the

Third Century Fund. After researching the facts and figures involved, we were convinced that the students could only benefit for contributing to the campaign. Well, the figures speak for themselves. While UNBSJ has donated, through a student levy, close to \$100,000, UNB trails miserably behind with a contribution of just over \$6,000.

The students of UNBSJ, our Saint John sister, are working diligently towards a SUB, something that a similar levy gave us over ten years ago. They believe in the good intentions of the Third Century Fund, and there's no reason why we shouldn't believe, too.

On March 30, 1983, during the SRC spring election students will be asked this question: Do you approve, for a five year period beginning in Sept. 1983, and ending in Sept. 1987, that the SRC fees be increased to include an optional \$10.00 per year levy in support of the univer-

sity's Third Century Fund. Yes or No be included on the referendum.

That's the question. What will your answer be. Out of the \$10,000,000 the Third Century Fund hopes to raise, organizers ask only \$300,000 of students. It's not much to ask, really.

What is ten dollars? It is \$7.50 American, it is one case of beer, it is barely a new album, it is two movie tickets and a small box of popcorn, it isn't even a text book. It's a small price to pay for the improvements, renovations, and services the Third Century Fund is offering to students.

The year is almost over, and so are our chances to think of the future, because that is what Third Century really means. Perhaps it means hope.

Give Third Century a chance to make their hopes a reality. Vote YES on March 30th!