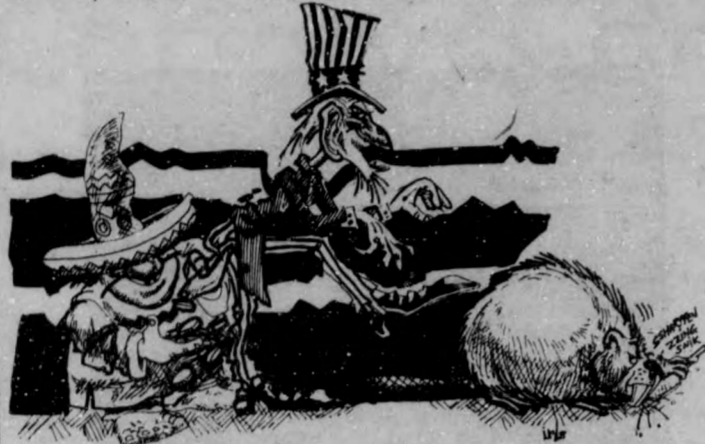


POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

With RICHARD HUTCHINS



In this week's perspectives I would like to evaluate the North American continent and its huge disparities in culture, economy and affluence.

The continent of North America is made up of the world's most affluent economically and technically advanced nation, the United States, the Middle power, strongly developed Canada and the developing, impoverished Mexico. The reason for this evaluation is to show how the United States controls the destinies of Canada and Mexico through economic and security dependencies.

Never in more than a half century has the U.S. faced even the faintest threat of political instability or hostility along either of its two long, undefended borders. By the end of this century Mexico could become the United States' toughest foreign policy problem. Potentially Mexico has all the advantages necessary to become one of the world's most prosperous nations. It has a well educated elite, a strategic location next to the world's richest consumer market and vast supplies of natural resources.

The large problem at present for Mexico is an 85 billion dollar debt which along with Brazil is the highest of any developing nation. Last August Mexico almost defaulted on the interest payments for that debt, they were bailed out by the U.S. and the International Monetary Fund. This is a temporary measure, however, and with inflation running over 100%, disaster could strike soon. The United States can ill afford a larger flood of Mexican illegal aliens over its border and must take a direct involvement in the Mexican economy to halt impending disaster. The implications of a failure to recover by the Mexican government could lead to civil unrest, a thought obviously closely monitored by the Soviets who would relish instability within the American's back yard. The most pessimistic scenario is that a revolution could occur as occurred in Cuba in 1959 and Nicaragua in 1979. Definitely Mexico is the biggest prize for communist adventurism in our hemisphere. All of this proves the need for a clearly defined and extremely careful foreign policy by the U.S.

To the North of the U.S. is ourselves, Canada. We are the United States' most important trading market and a hinterland of resources and secondary industry for their industrial machine. Most definitely we are also the strongest ally and defender of democracy in the Americas. Canada, however, is reeling in the recession and suffers from high unemployment and low productivity. Government protectionism and tariff restrictions could be needed to bring recovery. The Americans have vocally expressed their displeasure with national policy in the areas of resources and nationalization of key areas in industry. They have also expressed their displeasure with our defense spending and contribution to N.A.T.O. The future of Canada's recovery from recession lies in American recovery and renewed investment and growth.

After analyzing both peripheries of the U.S. it is obvious that the future of the American economy will dictate whether stability will remain in the North American alliance or whether civil war will occur in Mexico and a move away from American dependence will develop in Canada. Economists are projecting a recovery but it will be slow and difficult and could become worse before better. We can only hope that the new government in Mexico can curb runaway inflation and maintain a strong democracy. I felt this analysis was important since the media's concentration of news has not given much weight to North American interaction politically.

Although the Middle-East and other areas of conflict dominate the news headlines, problems in our own hemisphere are rapidly becoming worse. El Salvador, Argentina, Nicaragua and other developing nations are in a constant state of conflict and the possibilities for revolution remain imminent.

Seven appear at SP meeting

By NICK THE GREEK
Brunswickan Staff

Seven people showed up for Wednesday's weekly Student Party meeting in Room 103 of the SUB. The president felt Student Party members should be phoned on Tuesday evening and reminded of the meetings in view of the low turnout. It was also decided that announcements would be made Tuesday night and all day Wednesday to inform students of the upcoming meetings.

Another idea, coming from Randy Brodeur, was to set up a permanent booth in the SUB every noon hour. The purpose of this booth (complete with a 10 x 5 foot SP flag) will be to hand out SP pins and posters, along with information pertaining to the SP and its various splinter action groups such as CAUSE/SP and Solidarity. The SP is having 500 posters and 800 buttons made up for distribution.

The president talked of hiring guest lecturers for the students. One of the topics mentioned was disarmament, with both the pro and con sides being represented.

It would seem CAUSE (Committee Against Unnecessary Student Expenditure) will soon be no more. Aian Roulston plans to change the name to the Club Against Unnecessary Student Expenditure, since he despises the word committee and plans to eradicate the word from the university before he's through here. At present, CAUSE/SP is not involved in anything.

The club intends to meet every second Tuesday afternoon, mainly because the Student Union Building Board meetings are also on

Tuesdays, and the SUB Board is the major enemy of CAUSE. In

the near future, CAUSE will be looking into the Brunswickan's

and CHSR's budgets, prices at the bookstore, the mess in the Blue Lounge, and tuition hikes. Roulston also plans to look into parking on campus. It is his opinion that students should have free parking all over the campus so they will be able to park near their classes. He also voiced his concern over parking during events at the Aitken Centre. During these events the parking is literally 'screwed up' and something needs to be done about it.

The president and Brodeur then commented on their trip to the NB Coalition of Students meeting in Moncton. The meeting was dominated by the president and Brodeur. There is now a strong possibility other branches of the Student Party will be set up on campuses in New Brunswick; the first one will likely be in Moncton.

Next on the list was the SP newspaper. The SP plans to start up their own newspaper, tentatively entitled the *Student Party Standard*. According to the president "If the Brunswickan is going to continue to censure all those opinions it doesn't accept, then it's about time the students had an alternative newspaper."

As a final note, the president also felt the Student Party is above UNITY, the banner under which the SP and some others ran in the last elections, and SP goes beyond campus.

Computer show draws over 1000

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
Brunswickan Staff

The Fredericton Computer Show, FCS'83, was a success far above its organizer's expectations. Estimates put the number of people making their way through Head Hall Saturday at well over a thousand.

The UNB Microcomputer Club, with financial support from the SRC and public relations support from the university, attracted a large number of computer distributors to display their wares.

Items on display included a robot arm belonging to the UNB mechanical engineering department; Microcomputers from Radio Shack, Atari, Apple and many other companies; a display from the Power Commission showing how they keep track of electricity consumption; voice synthesizers; word processing systems; bookkeeping systems and numerous other things. Each display was accompanied by a knowledgeable professional, willing to explain his exhibit on terms understandable to the novice or to the experienced computer programmer.

In addition to the displays were videotapes about the computer revolution, workshops, and tours of UNB's own computing hardware.

The show was such a success that it prompted Microcomputer Club President, Robert Blue to propose moving it to the Aitken Centre and running it for two days. "It could be

made into an Eastern Canada show."

Most of the organizing work was done by show chairman Gaetan Roy, a CS student at UNB. He also conducted the workshops.

UNIVERSITY LOANS JANUARY 1983

Applications for UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK STUDENT LOAN (not Canada Student Loans) will be available at the AWARDS OFFICE, Room 109, Alumni Memorial Building, January 6, 1983 until January 26, 1983. A short interview is required with the Financial Advisor.

University Loans are small, low interest loans. This may be the only opportunity to apply for University Loans support for the second term. Therefore, students who anticipate a definite need for loan assistance to complete this academic year, should apply now.

Should you require a University Loan, **apply at the AWARDS OFFICE before Wednesday, January 26, 1983. Applications will not be accepted after January 26, 1983.**

Students are not considered for University Loans until they have successfully completed one term at the UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK