

LIQUOR BILL UNDER FIRE

ON THE CAMPUS

Several lectures were unexpectedly cancelled on Friday, as UNB was entertained by a visiting lecturer in the person of Miss Alwilda Bonner of Fredericton. Miss Bonner spoke for over five hours in Mem Hall, the Forestry Building and the Student Centre, giving her views on politics and temperance, and answering students' questions. The following are extracts from some of these sessions:

Q. "What will happen if N.B. goes wet?"

A. "It could not be any more

wet than it was last spring when all those people up along the Nashwaak got flooded out. For 17 years dear J. McN. kept his hand over the hole in the dam. Just as soon as he took it away my H. J. F. put his hand right over it again. But L. R. is going to let the dike go and let liquor flow all over N. B. and spoil the lives of nice young people like you boys up here at UNB."

Q. "Why do many of the people living to be more than 100 relate their long life to the consumption of demon rum?"



THE EVOLVING RUSSIA

The 5th Annual McGill Conference on World Affairs held from Nov. 20 to Nov. 22 in Montreal produced a series of stimulating speakers and discussion periods. The subject of the Conference was: "Russia and the West — Challenge and Response".

Professor Alfred G. Meyer of Michigan State University opened the session with a penetrating analysis of Marxist doctrine and the changes made in it in order to conform with conditions of today. Marx, he felt, declared that socialism was based on the equality and brotherhood of man. This attracted the humanitarian instincts of the Russians. Other tenets of Marxism had a ring of truth and allowed the Russians to progress while chastizing the West for its capitalism.

Conferences the next day dealt with "The Theory and Practices of Communism" and "Communism: the Nature of the Challenge."

On Tuesday evening, Professor William Y. Elliott of Harvard, spoke on "The Nature of the Communist Challenge." He criticized Communism as being merely state capitalism, more tyrannical than any known private capitalism. Communism, he believed, could never meet the people's demands. "Natural forces and human motivation are disregarded in a state capitalistic country."

The two Soviet students, Boris Pankin and Sacha Tchoubarin, whose proposed attendance at the Conference aroused some controversy, spoke after the morning session on Wednesday.

An unexpected highlight of the visit was an invitation extended by the Russians for Canadian students to exchange visits with those from the Soviet Union, possibly as many as 100 each year.

The Soviet Ambassador to Canada, Dr. Amasasp Aroutunian spoke on "Peaceful Co-existence among States" late Wednesday afternoon. He stated, "The Soviet Union will do its best to safeguard peace and avoid war." A question period followed his address, a unique event, since official representatives of the USSR do not usually submit to random questions from their audiences.

Harry Schwartz, a USSR specialist from the New York Times was scheduled to speak in the final evening session. The event was marred by the decision of the Soviet students not to attend.

Mr. Schwartz stated that there is no longer any true Communism or true capitalism, but "creeping capitalism" in communism and "creeping socialism" in capitalism. As the USSR becomes richer, he believes it will become more content. The world, he stated, is divided not so much into communist and non-communist as into "have" and "have-nots" and the Soviet Union is now a "have" nation.

A. "I was at the Beaverbrook for a big dinner one time and they put 4 or 5 glasses of wine at each table. Well, I turned mine all upside down. But our dear Lord B.—you know he's a friend of mine—shook his fist at me but I shook mine right back at him. The other day I was wondering how a man who drinks could be that healthy, and several days later I read that his Lordship was ill with arthritis and gout and all that stuff." Miss Bonner went on to explain that she felt Lord B. suffered from arthritis and gout due to the drinking of alcohol. A cortisone treatment, taken to cure this illness caused the balance mechanism of his inner ear to be upset. When 'Sir What's-his-name, the famous British doctor' was called in, Miss Bonner sent his Lordship a WCTU card, and 'hallelujah' he was cured."

Miss Bonner had further comments for her audiences:

On Politicians: "I don't believe a word a politician says."

On Fluoridation of water: "We should not put fluorine in water because it is just as dangerous as demon rum."

On the women of today: "Women nowadays pay more attention to perfume, jewellery and fancy dresses. In my day a woman was judged by her ability to make bread."

On the Russians and Alcohol: "Russian people drink vodka. It takes the wits out of people. Khrushchev wants his people to drink vodka."

On UNB spirit: "The boys at UNB have lots of spirit. But another kind of spirit, the spirit of the devil, is found in the bottle."

Q. Don't you think that prostitution will increase if the liquor laws are too strict?"

A. "The WCTU doesn't bother with prostitution."

Q. "If N. B. goes wet, will the WCTU go underground?"

A. "The WCTU women have as much spirit in them as the students of UNB and therefore they would soon come out in the open and fight the evils of liquor."

Q. "Do you think there will be a tavern on every corner?"

A. "Well, I think they'll have to have a lot of taverns to pay for hospitalization, but I don't think there'll be one on every corner. You boys at UNB can make sure that they don't have one on every corner."

Miss Bonner's purpose in coming to the campus, which she stressed several times, was to solicit student support for a petition to be sent to the Lieutenant Governor in Council asking for a plebiscite so that the people of N. B. could signify their approval or disapproval of the new Liquor Control Act.

NOTICES

The Maggie Jean Chestnut Society invites all coeds out of residence and their guests to the Maggie Jean Christmas Party, Dec. 8, in McConnell Hall. Tickets, at \$1.25 per couple may be obtained from Peggy Gammon, New House, or Betty Fearon, Murray House.

IN THE ASSEMBLY

by Bill Pierce

Conservative opposition in the New Brunswick Legislature does not seem to be taking a united stand either for or against the new Liquor Control Act. One of the key speeches last Thursday evening during the debate was delivered by young Richard Hatfield, newly-elected P.C. member for Carleton. In his speech, Mr. Hatfield stressed very strongly the following points:

1. That no Government can properly legislate on liquor control.
2. That liquor control is a matter of education and of discipline on the part of the individual. He said, "the wisest legal measures will be effective only if, by education, society becomes prepared to accept these regulations as desirable."
3. That he does not think there is a great measure of self-discipline in New Brunswick. He said, "I do not believe that New Brunswick society has been in any way educated to accept the liquor regulations contained in this bill."

He acknowledged that the Government has been under much pressure to change the laws; that there had been much criticism of the Bridges Commission Report; and that the Government cannot please everybody.

He said, although he thought it the Government's responsibility to control liquor, "I do not believe this Bill will, in fact, result in an improvement of Government control over liquor."

Replying to Mr. Hatfield, Jean-Marc Michaud (Liberal-Madawaska) said:

"Interested members of my constituency kept me on my toes," speaking in reference to the Temperance groups and other "drys" in Madawaska.

His views coincided with those of the Premier in that he felt, "this Bill will restore order and respect by virtue of the strict enforcement provided for and will produce (as the Premier said) 'the total eclipse of bootleggers'."

Speaking briefly, the Premier modified an earlier statement by saying that the new Act cannot be expected to completely wipe out bootleggers.

J. F. McInerney (P.C.-York) said, that he doubted the sincerity of the Government regarding their emphasis on reduction of the number of outlets. He also stressed the need for education regarding liquor.

George L. Keith (P.C.-Saint John City) asked: "Am I my brother's keeper?" indicating his feeling that it was not completely the responsibility of Government to legislate regarding the use of liquor. He re-stressed the value of education and re-habilitation of alcoholics. He felt that over-shadowing this new legislation there hung "a deep sense of politics."

The Premier said, that all employees of the New Liquor Commission will be Civil Servants, subject to the Civil Service Act, although the Commission would have the power to hire additional personnel during rush periods, such as the Season of Christmas.

The Premier noted after being questioned by R. G. L. Fairweather (P.C.-Kings and former Attorney-General), that it was the duty of the Attorney-General to enforce the new Act and to enforce liquor laws "even if they are not written here."

Also speaking for the Government, T. E. Duffie (Victoria), noted that whereas within the Scott Act of 1927, the Commission would dispense with penalties meted out by the Law Courts for liquor infractions, under the new Act, the Courts must hear all cases and the Attorney-General, not the Commission, would have the power to reverse the decisions of the Court.

Amid charges and counter-charges of "partisan politics" Fred McCain (P.C.-Carleton), literally exploded, severely reprimanding the entire legislature and reminded the Government "that the brains in the legislature are not necessarily concentrated on the right-hand side of the Chairman."

Replying to D. D. Patterson (P.C.-Saint John City), the Premier noted that the Commission was not responsible to the Legislature but to the Attorney-General, and that that was sufficient. Again answering Mr. Patterson, the Premier said that the Legislature could fire the Commission as they could under the 1927 Scott Act.

CASTING for "Hello Out There" by William Saroyan, Room 139, Carleton Hall, Wednesday, Nov. 29, 7 to 9 p.m.

* Badminton

There will be a Badminton meeting tonight at 9:00 p.m. in the Gym. All badminton playing will stop during the meeting. Topics on the agenda will be: 1. Election of an executive. 2. Tournaments with outside clubs. 3. Badminton ladder for competition within Club.

Casting for Winter Carnival Musical "The Boyfriend", Tues., Nov. 28, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in Mem. Hall. All interested are welcome.