

# editorial

## A plea to the administration for cooperation

As a prologue to this week's editorial, allow us to relate the story of what happened to one of our staff writers when he attempted to get a story on the supposed changeover of Jones House from an undergraduate student residence to a graduate student's residence. It was recommended by a senior member of our editorial board that he begin by talking to the acting dean of men, Henry Llambias. Logical enough, but easier said than done.

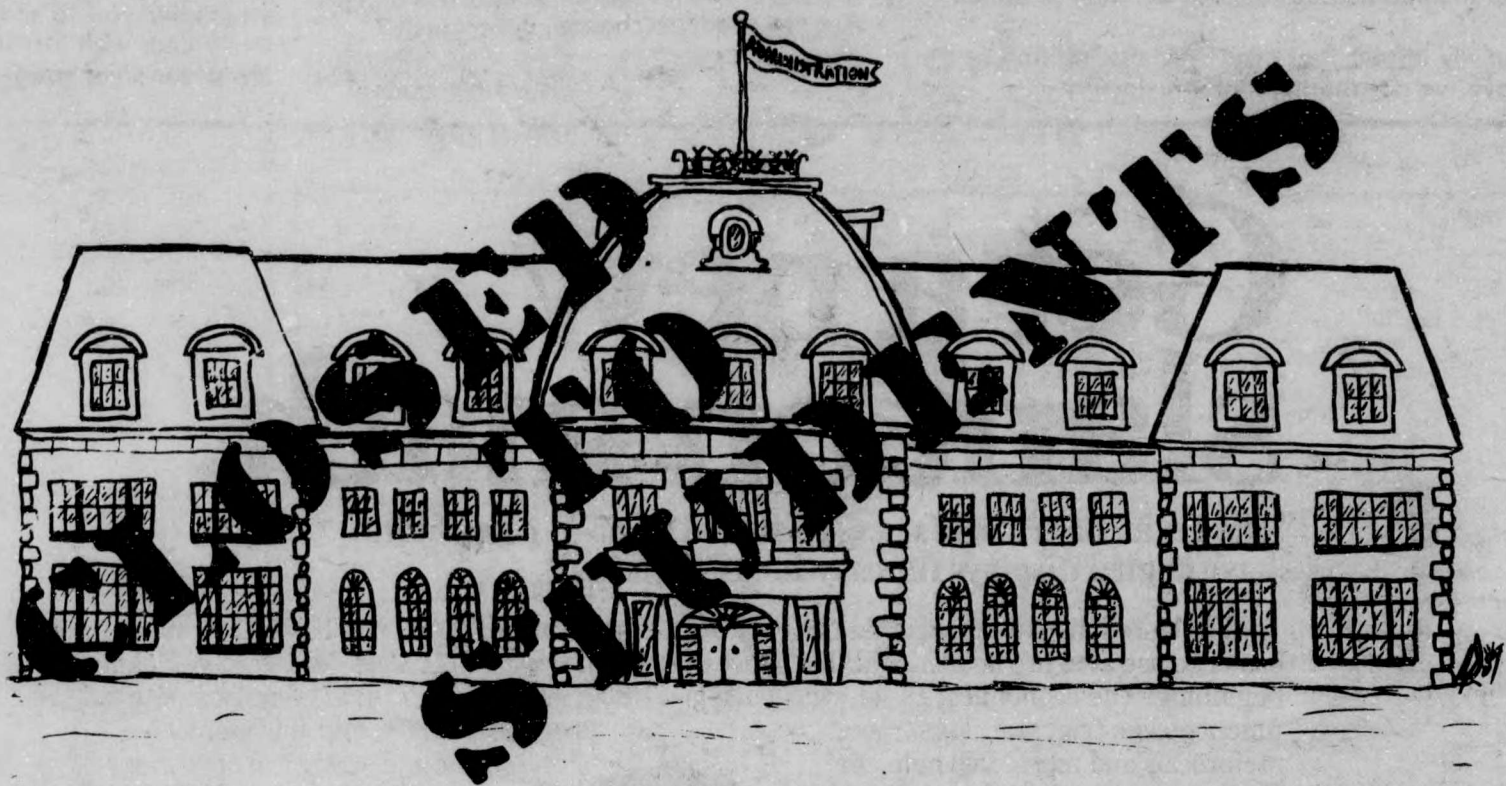
After finally contacting Mr. Llambias and requesting an appointment for an interview our staffer was informed that the only way he would get any information was if the questions were submitted in writing. In return, the acting dean would reply to the questions - in writing.

It took a week, but our staffer finally got his questions and answers, along with a letter from Mr. Llambias stating "... I understand that you intend to reproduce both questions and answers in full as this is the only way to avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretations."

No such agreement was ever made between our staffer and Mr. Llambias. Perhaps he has never read the Brunswickan (or any newspaper, for that matter) but news stories are just not done that way.

Which brings me to the point of this editorial. It becomes painfully clear to members of this newspaper that some members of the UNB administration need a good kick in the ass.

Before proceeding further, let us make it clear that this editorial is not an attack against Mr. Llambias as an individual. He is merely one bureaucrat, symptomatic of a tragic lack of perspective on the part of some UNB administrators as to who they are and why they are here.



Simply put, the administration, staff and faculty of this university are here because of - and supposedly for - the students. You can pout and whine all you want about research or service to the community or whatever, but the bottom line is: without us, you're on the unemployment line. As the official student publication of UNB, we feel it is our responsibility to represent and speak on behalf of those students, and the attitude of mistrust which emanates from some offices on this campus cannot help but be reflected back by the students.

And that is simply not good for this university's development.

At this point you may think we are being too harsh and making far too big a thing over an isolated incident. Let us assure you that this uncooperative attitude has existed for as long as senior members of this newspaper can remember. As an exam-

ple let us quote from an editorial which appeared in the March  $\pm$ , -@§- issue of the Brunswickan. Coincidentally, the editorial dealt with the closure of house bars and the handling of the situation by Dean of Men Bob Smith:

"It also seems obvious, however, that Dean Smith has failed in his responsibilities. Surely the position of dean of men's residences requires that the holder of that office communicate with the leaders of the residence system as well as the SRC and the media on campus. If Smith is not willing to fulfill that requirement then the time has come to find someone who will."

I hope those reading this who are by now very steamed up will not make the big mistake of adopting a resentful attitude towards the Brunswickan. It is not our intention of holding a grudge against a respected member

of the university administration because he lacks the confidence to deal with the press in a straightforward manner. Rather, we hope to point out to all members of the university community that that we take our responsibility of informing the student body seriously. And the only way to get this information is by talking to those who know, face to face, asking questions and more

questions, often based on the answers to previous questions, and finally sorting out all the relevant facts and putting them into a readable story for distribution to the students.

Hey gang, we all have the same final goal - the betterment of the community - and world - in which we live. Who knows... some of us may be university administrators someday. Let's not go out of our way to make each other's stay here unpleasant.