

Brunswickan

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"Midnight Alley"

Why has **Midnight Alley** been cancelled one week before it was to be presented and after two months of rehearsals? The overt reason is Mr. Charles' recent withdrawal of original permission allowing the Society to perform the play. Yet this permission was only revoked following the Administration's strong suggestion that the Drama Society not present the play. This suggestion was given apparently slightly more than a week prior to the scheduled performance.

The effects of this cancellation are not insignificant. Not only are UNB students not going to see the play originally intended for their entertainment and consideration but the Drama Society is also cast into the awkward position of having to withdraw their entry from the Regional Drama Festival. In a laudable attempt to represent UNB in the Festival they are immediately beginning rehearsals on another play. Whether this "face-saving" endeavor will be worth the overwhelming amount of time and work remains to be seen. Unfortunately they are beginning with two strikes against them — they will be competing against players who have been rehearsing their production for three months or longer. They will also be working on somewhat less than a shoestring budget since \$700 has already gone into the production of **Midnight Alley**.

Do the reasons behind the cancellation justify its negative effects? What are the reasons behind the cancellation — is the play at fault? This seems unlikely — would the 20 students concerned in its production spend eight weeks, rehearsing four nights a week, for five hours a night for a play that would only bring denunciation with its presentation? Would a minister who has read this play give his approval and praise if it were not worthy of it? Would other highly respected persons of this campus who have seen the script commend it, if its merits were debatable? We will never know as we shall not be seeing it. Perhaps when and if it is produced elsewhere the truth shall be known. However, the adjective "controversial" when applied to a play was never one to imply its immediate condemnation and end.

Not without significance is Ryerson's recent campus production of Sartre's controversial play "No Exit" — a play whose characters are undoubtedly immoral but who through the structure of the play portray a belief that cannot be judged on the basis of its characters. The value of a play cannot be estimated by the moral excellence of the characters who are portrayed in it. What they do or supposedly have done — their character good or bad by our society's standards — is incidental. The play as a whole, complete only in its presentation must speak for itself and is the only basis for judgment. And we can only hope that **Midnight Alley** was not denied this basis in its recent evaluation.

Letters To The Editor

Managing Editor:
 Re your editorial, "Let's Bring the Carnival Back To the Campus":

Sour grapes, Miss Farrell!
 Dave Folster
 Daily Gleaner

CAMPUS CALENDAR

by MARY TRITES

For listings in the Brunswickan of coming events contact the Campus Co-ordinator at GR 5-5234. Deadline for Tuesday issue is 6 pm previous Thursday and for Friday issue, 6 pm Tuesday.

Today:

STUDENT WIVES MEETING: Tartan Room, Guest Speaker.

BRIDGE CLUB: Oak Room, 7 pm.

Wednesday:

SRC: Oak Room, 7:30 pm.

SKIN and SKUBA CLUB: LB Pool 7 pm.

Festival Adjudicator

Adjudicating plays presented in both English and French during the same Drama Festival could prove to be a sticky problem for many a veteran of the theatre. But for bilingual Roland McNicoll it is no problem. He is not only bilingual but he has been acting in both English and French since he was 12 years old.

Mr. McNicoll will be the adjudicator for the New Brunswick Drama Festival, scheduled for the Fredericton High School auditorium March 1, 2, 3, and 4. His task will be to pick the best play from among five — three of them in English and two in French. The two French plays are "Un Inspecteur Vous Demande" by J. B. Priestley, which will be presented by Sacred Heart University, and "Antigone" by Jean Anouilh, presented by College Notre Dame d'Acadie, Moncton. University of New Brunswick, Mount Allison and Stage Door 56, Moncton, will present English plays.

Mr. McNicoll has been an active member of the Ottawa Drama League, now the Ottawa Little Theatre, for about 35 years. He has been artistic director of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Athletic Association's drama group and has acted in that group. He was also musical director of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's mixed choir and has been decorated with the medal Silver in elocution by Ottawa University.

THE COLUMN

by Ed BELL

This is a brief brief. It will not be presented to the Liquor Commission. It will not contribute to a change in the Liquor laws. In fact, it will do little more than fill up space in this newspaper. I am not a reformer out to make New Brunswick an alcoholic's Paradise, . . . nor am I a straight-laced conservative trying to implement total prohibition. In discussing the Liquor laws, the emphasis in this article will be on the "laws", since my interest in the "Liquor" is little more than negligible.

The Liquor laws, as they stand at present, are wrong . . . Wrong because they are unfair . . . unfair because they are unrealistic. Because the laws are unfair and almost impossible to totally enforce . . . and because law enforcement agencies and the judiciary realize this, they are sometimes enforced, sometimes ignored and always condemned. This brings up a fine point of legal ethics. Should a law which is half-right . . . half-wrong be allowed to stand? Under such a law, some infractions are prosecuted and others overlooked. Would it not be better to have a good or bad law totally enforced than to have a mediocre law half-enforced?

Under the present laws everyone, including those with particular interests, agrees that justice is not being done. "Offenders" break the laws, in full knowledge of what they are doing and of the laxity of enforcement. Some law enforcement officers deliberately overlook the infractions to the full degree with decorum and duty will permit. Others persecute to the full extent of the law, acting upon a genuine sense of duty. Can you blame any of these three people for their action?

This "brief" is a series of questions . . . about regulations which are questionable. The use and misuse of liquor and its sale and distribution is a serious matter . . . especially since the topic is political dynamite, with pros and cons being put forward by every type of organization imaginable. I have little concern with what is done about the liquor . . . but something must be done about the law. Enforce it or implement a new one. An unenforced law is no law at all . . . leaving obedience to it a matter of personal morality and good taste. An enforced, uniform law does what laws are meant to do . . . it provides security for all the people and promotes respect for all laws. Can we afford less?

ODDS 'N ENDS

—Is UNB in the throes of growing pains in the form of unnecessary red tape. It has been said that the window of a Dean in Carleton Hall got stuck in the open position . . . he called the janitor to bring a chisel and put it down . . . but the janitor could not take action until it was checked through Maintenance . . . and Maintenance had to check with Administration . . . while the Dean got thoroughly frozen. Might not be true . . . but if it is, we are getting the same "triplicate" disease as the Pentagon.

—A week ago there was a fire scare up the hill . . . the electricity went off in every building . . . and the clocks in Carleton Hall are still three hours slow . . . Please-e-e-e, Janitors . . . mornings are tough enough as it is.

Editor Expelled

SHERBROOKE (CUP) — The editor of Campus Estrien, the University of Sherbrooke student newspaper, has been expelled from university for failing three term examinations, but the paper says that his academic record was not the only consideration in his expulsion.

Maurice Giroux a third year student in law was advised of his expulsion Jan. 9, and a students' council (AGES) meeting last Thursday agreed with the action. The staff of the paper resigned leaving one member who is now the editor. In the past Giroux had opposed the council on certain measures.

In the Jan. 18 issue of the Campus, Jue Lavoie, news editor, stated that the Council of the Faculty of Law does not follow a set of rules in dealing with failing students. Each case is dealt with individually. "Furthermore, adds Lavoie, it is no secret that the authorities of the faculty have never approved of students in extra curricular activities."

Then, the article continued, there was the fact that Giroux had his own ideas on the issue of a site for the new faculty of Law. He wanted it to be on campus while the majority of professors

and administrators of the faculty wanted it to remain near the courthouse in another section of the city. Lavoie did state this in the article but it was implied from the overall content.

Asked if the expulsion was subject to appeal, Albert Leblanc, dean of the Faculty of Law stated that he did not usually answer such questions by journalists. He refused to say whether or not Giroux had the right to appeal.

Giroux said he would continue to work as a journalist, and perhaps study abroad next year.

News for youse

"Girls who don't repulse men's advances, advance men's pulses".

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