

Letitons

red man's culture has been uprooted, suppressed, and made impossible

Dear Editor,

I thank Mrs. Heather Botting for her comments (October 15) about my Coffee Spoons item (October 7). And I acknowledge that there is some sentimental value in salvaging what's left of "ancient legends and songs" and that there might be some value in "encouraging a greater knowledge and appreciation for the ways of the Indian."

I counter, though, by asking Mrs. Botting, "Among whom do you wish to encourage a greater knowledge and appreciation for the ways of the Indian?" If that knowledge and appreciation is aimed at the white man I am led to ask a further question: "To what end?" Because cruel, unjust and even ugly as it may seem, the productive economy, the technocratic imperative of our culture, will never tolerate any "living", tangibly, actually, realistically, of those "ways of the Indian", Mrs. Botting speaks of. The day to day, season by season LIVING of those ways of life is done. We killed it, are killing it, will continue to kill it. Making bibliographies will never avail toward a genuine rebirth of the old ways. Making bibliographies is a white man's activity. At best, what Harvey McCue is trying to do is to reconcile what is with what was. I admire the effort and that's why I acknowledge some sentimental value in his salvaging job, to iterate your word "salvage".

It's when I see your comment: "As for Mr. Schleich's criticism-- it is ill-founded and poorly researched and alternatives to the Trent and Laurentian programmes are glaringly absent". that I realize you didn't understand at all the point of Coffee Spoons, October 7. Let me tell you how I know that you didn't understand the point at all. A clue is in your use of the word "research". You use the word five times in your letter. You use it once to describe Harvey McCue who founded the Indian Studies program at Trent. You use it again to describe the students who take their Indian studies "very seriously" and who are "involved in original research aimed at the collection and organization of cultural data for the purpose of developing a large native information library". You use it again to associate yourself with your "fellow researchers" at Trent. Do you recall the phrase used in the Coffee Spoons article: "...Explore, analyze and explain away all there is and get assimilated to agree with you"? Mrs. Botting, you've been assimilated! Doing research is no way to salvage the way of living. The native Canadian's way of living, as far as I know, had nothing at all to do with libraries, documents, original research, catalogues, call numbers, bibliographies and periodicals. I repeat, that's all white man's stuff. The ways of life of the native Canadian have been absolutely uprooted, suppressed and

made impossible by the Europeans who came here. The Europeans' private property, highways, farms, lumber, companies, cities, towns, fences, Crown Land and so forth absolutely exclude the native Canadian from his traditional ways of life and always will. The fact, simply, is that the native Canadian is NOT living his "ancient songs and legends"; So final and so thorough has been the steamrolling process that those songs and legends are no longer part of each day, each season, each generation. And now you and your fellow researchers advise that native Canadians shall have to resort to libraries, and bibliographies, resort to the technocrat's own living room, in order to learn about their cultural heritage. Or is the library for the white man? The interested whiteman? Does the library and its bibliographies intend to change the attitudes of the whiteman? Perhaps. But it's a fool's errand. The white man will not give the native Canadian his land back, his life back. Not today. Not ever. Mrs. Botting, their heritage is no longer their heritage. Because of the "researchers" it can not even be memory. It has become a specialty, an "Indian Studies Program" and Dean Symons and the Ontario Government and the European populace allow it because it is a program. You know, like B.A. program. Commerce Program, or Graduate Program. If the white man genuinely cared he'd give the native Canadians at Curve Lake near Peterborough and Trent the Kawartha Lakes back. But the cottagers wouldn't stand for that! Nor would Bowes and Cocks Real Estate on Charlotte Street in Peterborough. Nor would Trent University because it stands by the Otonabee on what was once

native Canadian land. You indict me for not providing alternatives. Mrs. Botting, there are no alternative to real living. My point in the Coffee Spoons item was that "what's done is being re-done". I reiterate that the Indian Studies Program at Trent is a statement of the absolute and final success of the white man's way. It is a statement much after the fact. The Programme is ultimately helping the European to assimilate absolutely the native cultures.

What is Harvey doing, researching? He should be "living" those songs and legends. Not documenting them. Only living those cultures can give them life. I don't deny the right of native Canadians to have their cultural heritage preserved in books. What you and your fellow researchers are "achieving" only supports the real point of my "Coffee Spoons" article.

David Schleich

res a viable living experience

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify a few points for Fiona T. Campbell based on her recent article on the Lister Complex Residence. To begin, Student Government in Lister realizes that Residence is not 100% ideal for all people but at the same time realizes it is providing the best possible administration for the maximum benefit of the resident students. Also, student government is not sitting around complacently thinking that there is no need for improvement-- there is, and student government has, and will be most responsive to any resident students and their suggestions as to possible improvements.

I gather from your comments you feel Residence should closely assimilate a home atmosphere, which is acceptable to a point. However, Residence cannot be considered a substitute for home, but should provide a viable learning experience as a place where the individual must cooperate in an interaction with others. This is not said to mean all resident students must be conformists. If nothing else, Residence should teach a person the self-discipline that everyone must be an individual.

Now to specifics. The tone of your article would lead me to believe that you are likely

dissatisfied with the existing regulations in regard to the consumption of alcohol in the complex and mixed visiting regulations. In regards to liquor, our regulations are identical to the Alberta Liquor Control Board regulations which state liquor cannot be consumed in a public place, which in the case of Residence means outside your private room. Surely, you are not advocating student government go beyond legal provincial regulations and jeopardize all standards of respect for the law.

Secondly, you mention the "ludicrous" mixed visiting regulations. You state at the beginning of your article your comments are based on the fact that you lived in the Lister Complex since September. Therefore, you are aware that in Woman's Res each individual floor chairman approached their floor as to what they - the floor members- desired as mixed visiting regulations for the Woman's Residence. This was carried out by a democratic majority vote. These individual floor votes were then compiled into the current mixed visiting regulations at a Women's Residence Committee meeting. The entire regulation was established by a democratic series of votes. May I also add, this entire democratic process was

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LIKE TO TALK ABOUT
JESUS?
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SHARE YOUR FAITH?

Campus Crusade for Christ is sponsoring a weekend institute on campus, Room 104, SUB, Friday and Saturday Oct 22 & 23. Register Room 104 at 7 p.m. Friday Oct 22, or call Eric at 439-1106, evenings.



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18 Oct	1:00 - 4:00	445	Physics
19 Oct	9:00 - 12:00	752	Engineering Centre
19 Oct	1:00 - 3:30	821	General Services Bldg.
20 Oct	9:00 - 12:00	3130	Medical Sciences
20 Oct	1:00 - 4:00	Library/	Electrical/ Civil Eng.
21 Oct	9:00 - 12:00	334	Agricultural Bldg.
21 Oct	1:00 - 4:30	6 - 102	Clinical Sciences
		6 - 103	
22 Oct	9:00 - 12:00	b - 319	Biological Sciences Bldg.

ELECTION RALLY

To be held in SUB Theatre on Wed., Oct 20 at 12:15 including:

Candidates for science rep. and education rep. on Students' Council and an explanation of the of the referendums on Second Term Reading Week and Trimester System.

ELECTION DAY IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22.

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