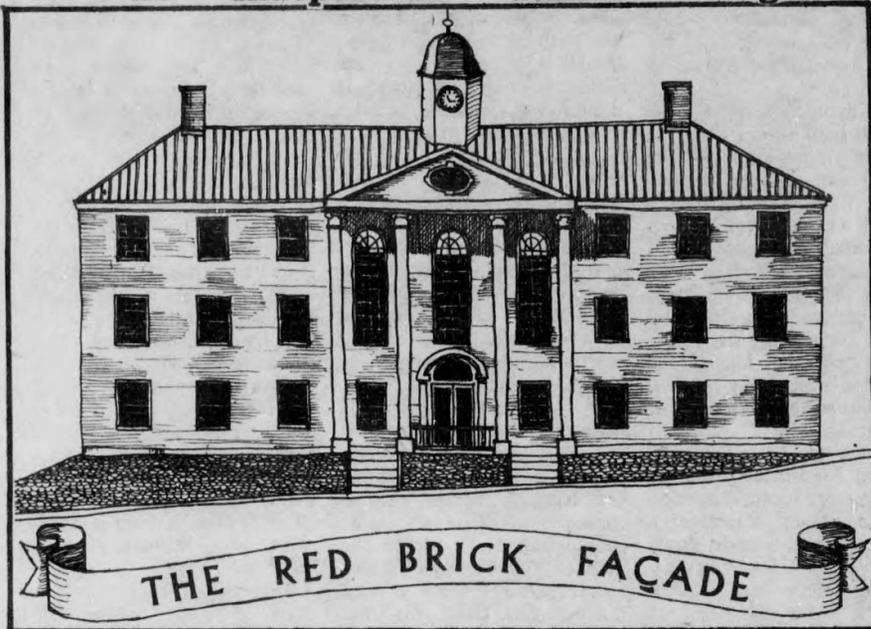


the mysterious east

DEC 1969

an independent atlantic magazine



THE RED BRICK FAÇADE

The Maritime Press

Your Landlord and You

Pesticides and People

A Critique

by Jon Narcowitz

The December *Mysterious East* is on the news stands this week, to the relief of the optimists and to the disbelief of the skeptics. There have been noticeable improvements.

The masthead tells us who the editors are. We find that they are post grads and faculty in the English Departments of UNB and STU, all full-time people. But we still don't know who wrote each of the articles (except for two) or whether they were jointly written.

"The Red Brick Façade" was a good in-depth criticism of the "pseudo-Georgian" architecture in Maritime Universities. It was surprisingly well-researched, and gave good insights on why the buildings on this campus look like hell and are almost dysfunctional. We all realize that the fault is of irresponsible planners, but the *Mysterious East* also gives us a case for faculty and administrative business interests being a causal factor, at least in the case of the dysfunctional aspect of the designs, not to mention the ugliness. But rightly enough, the ME concentrated on the unworkability of Georgian. This basic design has many implications, such as campus-community conflict.

Bagnall's "The Maritime Press" is an eye-opener. The press here must be criticized into responsibility and these reports are badly needed. There must be more Maritime journalists with similar experience that we haven't heard from; thus far it is only Bagnall that is doing any major writing on this subject.

You, Your Landlord, and

the Building Code, I hope, is part of the *Mysterious East's* policy to include at least one article on people's rights in each issue. It speaks for itself.

The DDT article is part of a series of "specific" articles on pollution. This is contemporary. It seems that unless we watch the national news on the CBC, we will accept such statements as that of Adrien Levesque, N.B. Minister of Agriculture, that DDT is an "excellent pesticide". Why is it that the Maritime provinces are always behind the rest of the provinces on matters such as DDT?

One of the things that I do not like about the magazine is that it is Fredericton centered, and at best, New Brunswick oriented. But it boasts to be an independent *Atlantic* magazine — it is not. There are only passing references to the other provinces, with Halifax getting frequent mention. For example, the examples in the articles were UNB and STU, *The Telegraph-Journal*, the DDT spruce budworm spraying in New Brunswick, and Theatre New Brunswick.

But since the paper is not a professional one, the editors justifiably say they "can't travel around digging up material as we'd like to. We need help to cover the whole region in depth." They do. Ideally, the *Mysterious East* would adopt the suggestion by Bagnall for the *Halifax Chronicle-Herald*, that is, locating bureaus in all the Atlantic Provinces. This I think could be done and still keep the mag non professional.

Advice For The Worried

To those who have been studying and working steadily throughout the term I offer my best wishes, and hope that you keep it up. Don't be led into the trap of loosing too much sleep before exams. Remember that, however well prepared, you can do your best if you are energetic and alert. Don't be too discouraged, either, if the first steps, chapters and lectures seem to be taking you too long to cover. The first stages in a course are bound to take you longer, and you will probably find that the work you do in the early stages will pay off and you will become faster next term. Keep going.

Some of you have not done as much as you should have and may be suddenly shocked by the nearness of mid year examinations. This is precisely what mid year examinations are for! They are intended to remind you of the reason why you came to university in the first place. If you have trifled away much of this first term, there is no point in sitting weeping about it. Get to work this very minute, right now postpone that cup of coffee, turn your back on the TV and map out a campaign plan, list the most essential points which must be covered in each course and see what you can do about them. It may be too late to do well in December exams, but you can salvage something; it is not too late to do well in April if you start now.

Before you assume that your work and attendance have been so bad in a course that you could not possibly pass it now, consult your professor.

He won't be pleased with you, needless to say, but he may be willing to give you a chance if you back up your good intentions by, for example, getting in those late assignments, appearing in class and paying some attention to what he suggests.

In the next few weeks, if this year is like others, I expect to see students who want to withdraw because they have not worked till now, and there will be others who "slip away in the night". It is the easy way out, but in the long run, not the wisest. Most of the students who withdraw at this time of year want to return

sooner or later. You may be losing a year and gaining nothing.

If you are tempted to withdraw consider this. You may "find yourself", discover your "real interest" or learn to enjoy studying better by staying and tackling the work of your courses, than by going out, and you may end up a year closer to a degree.

You have two weeks left before exams. Oscar Wilde wrote his most successful three act play in about the same length of time.

Dugald Blue
Registrar UNB



TIME OUT

by carolyn macleod

Give us freedom. People all over the earth are screaming those words with enraged faces and hardened fists. Often they are justified in making such demands but, strangely, in many cases these people already have all the external freedom they could possibly want. Why are they asking for more? They have been saturated with the philosophy that complete freedom is the answer to everything that is the matter with their world. The considerable freedom they enjoy now has not been the colution, instead of questioning the philosophy, they begin to demand even more freedom, including yours and mine.

Most of us are not anarchists, but it is amazing the extent to which people have accepted anarchist principles in their personal philosophies, only this is generally referred to as "overcoming the inhibitions that society has foisted upon us." Society declares that hallucinogenic drugs are undesirable, therefore one must overcome the inhibitions imposed on him concerning such drugs. This seems to be the line of thought. Apparently, one must ignore the opinions of authority and general society, whether the reasons for doing so are adequate or not. Everyone, according to this doctrine, needs to be released from the control of conservative and reactionary society.

This liberation of freedom from the judgments of the majority of the population has to be demonstrated in startling ways. You have to prove you are free by either unconventional appearance, unorthodox action, or both. One must use extreme profanity and vulgarity in speech, be daring with drugs, and blase with sex. How else can you let most people know that you are free of all their restraints, especially since unusual clothes are a bit too common to be startling any more?

While people used to be afraid of doing certain things because of "what the neighbours will say", the situation has changed considerably. Now we are often afraid of not doing something because we might be open to the charges of being robots, unimaginative, unthinking products of a stupid society.

Unfortunately, freedom refers not to political rights bestowed by a government; nor does it refer to the social approval of the majority of the population. Quoting from my favourite Reference Book, "truth makes you free". Nobody else gives you your freedom, therefore you do not need to fight anyone to get it — no one but yourself. We are our own biggest obstacles to freedom, because we fear the truth — the truth about God, about evil, about love, and about ourselves.

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