

EDITORIAL

Danger of campus industrialization

By MARK STEVENS

With cuts in funding threatening the research capabilities of educational establishments across Canada, many University Presidents are looking for corporate sponsorship to provide essential income. Although industrial patronage may be vital for the support of certain programmes, it would be foolish for the administration to ignore the implications of this industrialization.

In last Saturday's *Globe and Mail*, Dr. David Suzuki wrote an article about the threat of what he described as "academic free enterprise." According to Suzuki, universities are selling their souls to the highest bidder. "Academics who accept grants or investments from the military or the pharmaceutical, forestry and computer industries, for example, will be reluctant to jeopardize that support by criticising those industries when necessary", he said.

The recent motion to appoint adjunct professors here at UNB has been construed by at least one member of Senate as a threat to the University's objectivity. Coming from the ranks of industry, it is a distinct possibility that these adjunct professors will become little more than a mouthpiece for their companies.

Even though this has been denied by Dr. Burrige as "far fetched and narrow minded --the result of having read too many science fiction novels", I feel that a rather cavalier attitude was adopted by Senate. Some members felt that there wasn't enough discussion, particularly in the light of what has happened at some American universities.

Dr. Suzuki reminds us that the university plays a vital role in society. But if the objectivity of an educational establishment is called into question by its involvement with industry, it will lose its value as a repository of human knowledge.

"I don't condone, but can understand why university scientists, who have been given insufficient funds for so long, are welcoming the Faustian bargain with private industry", said Suzuki in an article appearing in the September 26 edition of *The Globe and Mail*. "But I fail to comprehend why philosophers, historians and sociologists who should know better are acquiescing so easily."

AIDS - the human challenge

AIDS has become the most recent medical challenge. Its cure or arrest has, up to the present, alluded medical science, despite intense research and millions of dollars. That's all the more serious because it has grown to what some might consider epidemic proportions, here and elsewhere.

AIDS has also become a human challenge. For many it is a frightful mystery. Some react with caution, others in panic. But, for most, too little is known and too much is hearsay.

There are those who have little sympathy for its victims. Frequently associated with homosexuality and a loose sexual lifestyle, the attitude becomes "if you're so oriented, you had it coming; if your pleasure is multiple partners, you run the risk". The moral of the story might be morality itself. Is the spread of AIDS a result of lowered moral standards? But, others also fall victim to this deadly disease. Those who share needles to blast themselves into the ethereal realms or even to inject steroids to boost masculine power, are at great risk. Is the spread of AIDS a result of carelessness or the accelerated life we have generated? These are questions to be reflected upon, no doubt. In speaking of the spread of AIDS, they are as apropos as discussions of "safe sex".

But, the human challenge is not to be limited to ways and means of halting the spread of AIDS. It also concerns our reactions to it. How do we treat those who have the virus antibodies? Unwarranted measures -- keeping children from school, ostracizing known carriers -- are hardly appropriate responses. Panic is more likely to become part of the problem rather than the solution. We ought to become informed, not invoke draconian measures.

And, how do we treat those stricken with AIDS? When the physical body has been devastated, concern for emotional and spiritual well-being ought to be increased. When death looms close at hand, human care and understanding is needed, nothing else.

The human challenge, therefore, lies in becoming informed, not insensitive. And, it lies in compassion, not rejection.

John Valk
Campus Ministries



Mugwump

By R. HUTCHINS Journal

Tuesday the 13th of October, election day. Luckily we will all be stuffed with turkey, waddling to polling stations like true democrats, bent on influencing the eventual outcome, knowing all along that the true candidate we want to run (John Bosnitch) is somewhere else, fighting the judicial system and planning an eventual military coup on Grand Manan Island.

Let's look at the candidates, shall we. King Richard - a distant relative of Boxcar Willies. This survivor of successive scandals has run a virtual Dick-tatership for sixteen years, his regime a virtual testament to Jimmy Baker's style of promise and performance. He may loose this time but if so a career in advertising looms imminent. Imagine Dick side by side with Max Headroom selling the virtues of Coke.

Frank McKenna - most likely to succeed, his boyish looks remind the electorate of a "Gucci" handbag, fashionable, expensive and very practical for farmers and fishermen. Frank is so squeaky clean that watching whales mate off St. Andrews would be considered pornographic. He's the man, our new leader, the Messiah!

Liberal - a seven letter word for turning right on a one way street. (A left turn would mean crossing the center line and merging with the public interest.)

George Little Chance - N.D.P. - a man who has turned left at the "right" time. He has little chance of winning but can supply effective commentary on election night. No doubt! His party will most likely emerge in opposition with two seats, one more than Dick's geriatric tread mill will garner.

Enough election hype, try not to destroy Ernie's new message boards, read the *Brunswickan*, digest knowledge and remember the road to the future is paved with promise, or to some asphalt!

ITS a
HOOT!