

POPULATION

SUPPLEMENT

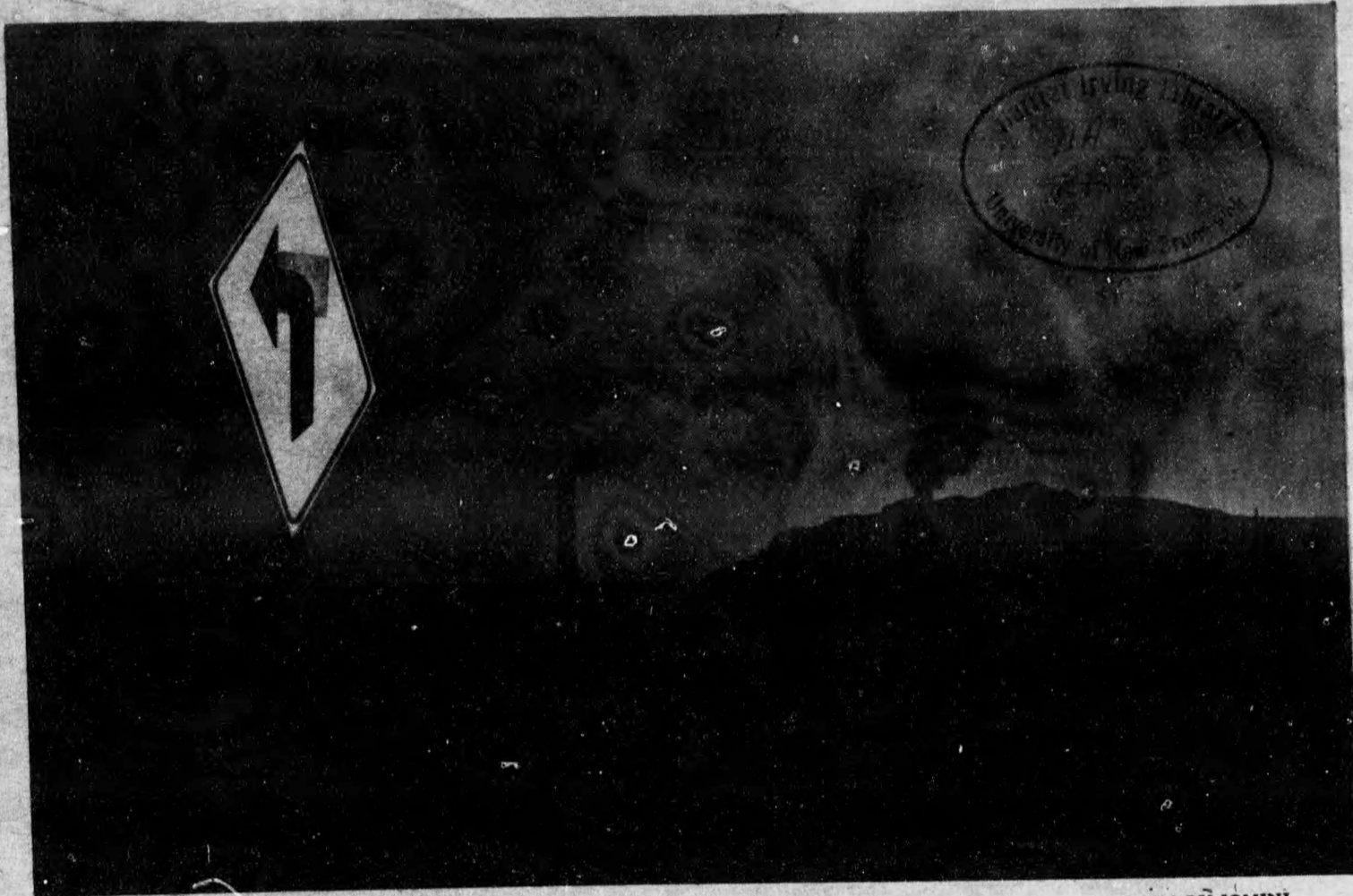


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which way do we turn?

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SIXTY PAGES

FREE

SRC President to Have Veto Power?

by Jim Simons

After wading through procedural difficulties about the constitution of the Constitution committee, Councillor H. Stevenson was able to affirm the membership of the committee. Council voted in favour of the chairman and one member to be representation of

council and any other 3 students. Then Mr. Stevenson proposed the names of five people to serve on the committee. These names were passed by council and remain as: Chairman, Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Peters, Mr. Fairbanks, Mr. Charters and Miss Armstrong.

Although the actual changes to the constitutional could not be voted on for another two weeks, Mr. Stevenson read to council the proposed changes.

The first was the fading out of the position of financial chairman and his duties being taken up by the President.

This would give the president great financial powers.

Then he introduced the president's power of veto. As stated, the only way the veto could be cancelled would be by a 2/3 majority.

The constitution committee also proposed a sabbatical presidency.

As it stands, the president would have a choice of accepting a salary of \$85 a week providing he takes no courses, however if he chose to take a full course load, he would not receive the salary, but would be eligible for an honoraria.

His term will continue to run from February to February, while his salary will run from September to September. The idea is for the outgoing president to remain on as an advisor to the president elect until the end of the winter term.

In interviews with the two presidential candidates after the meeting Bob Poore stated that "the sabbatical presidency should not be instigated under any condition, because no matter how small a course load, even one course, will help maintain a closeness with the students. One cannot understand student problems unless one is a part of these problems."

As for the veto power, he stated "Too much power, giving

him autocratic power in connection with the amendments, a two-thirds majority is needed to pass legislation, this would mean that the president and 4 other members of council could pass legislation that nine others were against."

He later stated, "I don't think the president should take over the financial chairman's powers, but a close relationship should exist between the two offices. If the president is the finance chairman it gives him almost total control of all SRC funds and destroys the democratic process, that most adequately represents the students interests."

Mr. Gaudet thought the idea of a veto for the president was "Extremely undemocratic."

"A sabbatical president would be a paid bureaucrat, but he is supposed to be a part of the Students Representative Council. All representatives must be students."

Mr. Gaudet also thought that, "If the president took even the responsibility of the financial Chairman it would mean placing greater responsibility on the President. I am opposed. The few powers the SRC has should not be concentrated in the hands of one person."

Strax Denied Position

by Liz Smith

Dr. Norman Strax has written a letter dated December 18 to President Dineen asking to be considered for a teaching position in either the physics or philosophy this spring.

Investigations into the origin and structure of the life on other planets (from a scientific viewpoint) were suggested by Dr. Strax as courses that he could possibly teach for the philosophy department this spring.

Prof. Demopoulos, whose field is the philosophy of science said concerning this that: "the courses suggested by Dr. Strax include topics which many people think about but which few people look into seriously. This would be a useful addition, not just to the department, but to the whole university."

Several members of the philosophy department expressed an interest in Dr. Strax

joining the faculty, but the chairman, Dr. Robinson, says that as no allowance had been made in the budget, it is impossible to hire additional staff this year. "It might be possible next year," he said.

Dr. Strax taught physics for two years at UNB until he was fired in the spring of 1968 for politically oriented disruptions on the campus. Since the academic qualifications and teaching ability of Dr. Strax has never been in question, there has been much speculation that he was treated unfairly.

President Dineen, in reply to Dr. Strax, said: "After investigating the requirements for staff this staff, I find we do not have any need for additional faculty."

There had been a possibility of a vacancy in the physics department this term because of the unexpected death of Prof.

Walter Baker, a theoretical physicist, on December 19.

Dr. Strax is a specialist in theoretical nuclear physics, but as one faculty member pointed out, with a PhD. from Harvard, he is amply qualified to teach a wide range of courses.

The four courses that Prof. Baker taught have been divided among Dr. Tupper of the Mathematics department, Dr. O'Havlon, a post-doctoral fellow in theoretical physics, and Drs. Young and Kaiser of the physics department.

Dr. Boone, head of the physics department, said that although Prof. Baker's teaching load has been adequately absorbed, he has applied to the administration for a permanent replacement. He says that he is not interested in rehiring Dr. Strax because: "we're thinking more in terms of getting someone who is in spectroscopy."