

Kepros report approved in principle by SRC

By MILTON THOMAS

An outline of the Kepros Report, a new grading system introduced earlier in the year, was approved in principle by the UNB student representative council at their regular meeting Monday night.

Basically, the report recommends the adoption of a letter grade system for individual courses. Averages will be computed on a grade point scale relative to the letters. This means and A would be valued at four, B-three, C-two, D-one and F-zero for purposes of averaging.

In discussions on the report Comptroller Chris Fisher pointed out "That basically what is recommended is just a change from numbers to letters. Both systems entail the same problem."

But he added that the Kepros system is utilized by most other universities, and this factor warrants considerable attention.

Certain councillors pointed out they were unsure of the opinions of the students in their faculties.

Fisher urged them to use their own personal judgement.

The motion of approval, in principle, carried with nine for, six against and four abstentions.

Subsequent debate on the details of the report resulted in two recommendations. Councillor Glenn Edison put forth a motion that the Senate be advised to examine the weight assigned to non-regular session courses.

As well, it was suggested that if the Senate approves the report, a ranking system (such as percentile rating) be introduced with the new scheme.

Both motions were carried and will be forwarded to the Senate.

Council's second major area of concern was the recent proposal that Canada Manpower replace UNB's present placement services.

Dean of Students Frank Wilson spoke to Council on the matter. In conjunction with the Advisory Committee on Placement formed last fall, he has given the question

considerable attention.

Wilson said that although the present private services are excellent, expansion of the office will be necessary. Cost for this would run in the vicinity of \$36,000.

Manpower, on the other hand, would require only heat, light and space, he added. As well, they would provide four full-time staff members, a summer employment section, a counsellor for students drawing up resumés and would co-operate with faculty, alumni and university officials.

The proposal must be approved by the SRC, Senate and Board of Governors no later than Feb. 13 for the new services to be operable by September, 1973, stated Wilson. In addition the fact that Manpower will be formally "invited" on campus by the Board of Governors allows the arrangement to be terminated by either side at any time.

Wilson also pointed out the national scope of Manpower and added "Personally my recom-

mendation is to try them for two years."

Council then passed a motion requesting the Placement Committee to advise the Senate and Board of Governors to invite Manpower on campus.

During the lengthy meeting, SRC President Roy Neale read to council a letter of resignation from the Business Administrator of the SRC Wayne Charters. It will be effective April 30, 1973.

Charters offered, however, to continue on a flexible, part-time basis.

Neale pointed out that such a scheme would save council \$3700 per annum yet the continuity and experience of Charters would not be lost. For these reasons he urged council's eventual acceptance of Charters' proposition.

Council also examined a breakdown of the Winter Carnival budget which totals \$1856.74. Neale pointed out that this figure does

not include the Jason pub or the McConnell Hall pub on Saturday night. He hoped these events would break even.

Neale and Fisher then reported on the Association of Student Councils meeting they attended in Toronto last weekend.

They found UNB deficient in all aspects of student travel. Neale suggested the appropriation of \$500-\$1000 for the establishment of a travel office and responsible officer on campus.

The main purpose of doing this would be to co-ordinate information on student travel, said Neale.

Council was also informed that SRC funds would not be transferred to another bank as was suggested. Better service has been promised from the Bank of Montreal.

Moments before the meeting adjourned Councillor Fud Steeves announced the peaceful burial of the busing issue.

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FREE

Students cautioned on views of western Canada

By NANCY CARR

Prof. J.E. Rae, speaking on "New Perspectives on Western Canada," cautioned students at Tilley Hall Wednesday "not to

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look upon Western society as a bunch of complaining farmers."

In an informal lecture sponsored by the History Club, Rae stressed the diversity of western Canadian society. Too often, he said, the image of the west is the traditional one, with an accent on agrarianism.

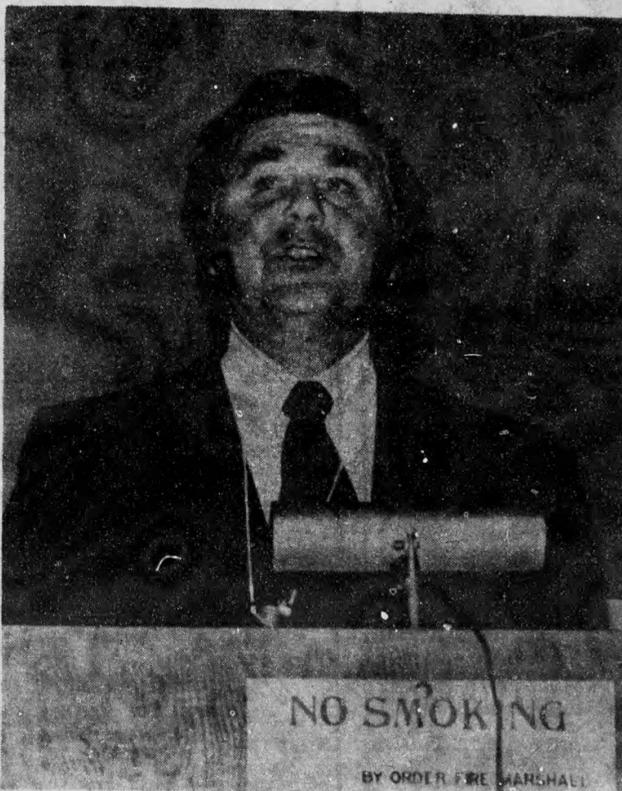
Referring to the writings of W.L. Morton, Rae said that a view which stresses the idealization of agriculture as a way of life has its place but is too exclusive.

"It is important that we should realize that two societies grew up in the west - one rural and one urban, and each with internal variations," he said.

In a view of the urban west, said Rae, cultural distinctions are much more visible because of their proximity. He feels that the force of British superiority is still much in evidence, and that to the immigrant the west has been "an environment socially rather than climatically hostile."

The desire of immigrants for acceptance in society, said Rae, has all but erased their culture. There is no longer any sense of community among immigrant groups, he said.

Rae feels that the cultural assimilation in western Canada lies behind the West's resentment



Prof. J.E. Rae told UNB students not to look upon Western society as a bunch of complaining farmers, during a lecture concerning "New Perspectives on Western Canada", held Wednesday night.

of French Canada. Westerners, he said, fail to see why French-Canadians insist on maintaining their own culture, rather than simply being 'Canadians'.

The west, he said, has a strong sense of exploitation by central Canada, and a fear of 'French Power' was behind the Conservative swing in the last election.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, Rae feels that the monarchy is an important force on western Canadians, including ethnic groups.

"To them, the Crown is a symbol of unity under which they can achieve equality," he said.

Rae feels that the best studies on western Canadian society are yet to come. New research, he said, is increasingly urban-oriented and emphasizes the western distinctiveness to be found in cities. The real issue of class and ethnic conflicts, he said, is properly replacing the stories of the romantic adventuresome west.

Rae is a native of Kingston, Ontario, but describes himself as a 'Western chauvinist'. Specializing in the field of western Canadian history, he has published a book on the Winnipeg general strike, and a number of articles on Upper and Western Canadian history.