

## WUSC Cornucopia

At our Sunday evening meeting of Jan. 31st, we listened with great interest to Prof. Sid Pobihuschy (UNB Poli. Sci Dept.) address what he called the 'Third World in Canada' - the struggle of Canada's native peoples. Accustomed to seeing ourselves as a developed country we have ignored the reality of under development in our own back yards.

Pointing out that under development is the result of colonialism, both in the past and present, our speaker identified two essential characteristics of colonialism: exploitation, of natural resources and people, and oppression, i.e. the denial of a peoples right to govern themselves and the imposition of alien rule over them.

Although conquering nations have always been colonizers, the ability of some to exert power over others was greatly increased in the last century by the Industrial Revolution. The think of Britain for example - with her ability to produce and distribute material goods very rapidly, she ran short of raw materials to process. In order for her industrial capacity to be fully utilized they had to be obtained outside the country.

The British colonization of parts of North America, Indian, African and Asia included the imposition of the British political and legal system, governance of the people by themselves was no longer possible.

This understanding of colonialism was then brought to bear on the examination of two specific native peoples of the N.W.T. - The Dene and the Inuit, their current battle for self-determination and the foundation for native rights.

What then are aboriginal rights? They are those legally recognized property rights which inure to native peoples by virtue of their occupations upon certain lands cune time immemorial. We find such recognition in the British Royal Proclamation of 1763 which established the government acquired from France after the Treaty of Paris. It also for bad settlement upon Indian lands stating that such lands forbad settlement upon Indian lands stating that such lands could only be obtained by cession or purchase through the negotiation of an honorable treaty.

The Canadian government had never however been too concerned with treaty negotiation, two treaties negotiated in 1911 and 1921 with the Dene for certain lands in the N.W.T. were later declared to be forgeries. In fact the Canadian government cannot claim any part of the N.W.T. as legally theirs because they have never negotiated any treaties with the native peoples who lived there which could have extinguished their rights.

Because 50 per cent of Canada's resource wealth is in the N.W.T., the government is now forced to deal with the rights of the Dene and the Inuit who are a majority there. The Dene and Inuit who have never signed a treaty which would have extinguished their right to certain lands, never been conquered in a war and never entered Confederation have presented propositions to the federal government to establish their territories as provinces but with more power than the provinces have at present. They want the government to recognize their right to national self-determination (Canada gave assent to the UN Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 which includes this as an inalienable right) because they need to have within their government the capacity for their survival as a people.

This would include control over their education and the use of their land because they believe that as a people and a culture, they cannot survive without the land. It has been said that English culture can survive without the land although this is certainly arguable - the understanding of the fundamental connection between people and the earth they live on has not yet been grasped by our consumer society yet it has allowed the native people and their land to survive for thousands of years.

The significance of the new constitution to the struggle of the Dene and the Inuit to enter confederation so that these nations may be given states similar to the provinces is now clearer. Their expectations have been seriously undermined because it is now impossible to admit a province into confederation (or create new ones out of the territories) without the agreement of the federal government and at least seven other provinces. Previously it was a unilateral decision of the federal government. Thus the likelihood of their struggle succeeding is remote unless the Canadian people become aware of the issue and stand with them - that is a big unless.

Our meeting this Sunday will feature Professor Tom Good, STU Economics Dept. Topic of discussion: "The New Brunswick Economy - The Causes of Under-Development."

## Student Party supported

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE  
Brunswickan Staff

*Editor's Note: this is not an endorsement of the Student Party or their platform; merely a presentation of the facts, as presented by the party.*

The upcoming SRC and senate elections, mark the beginning of party politics in student government at UNB. The Student Party, led by Engineering rep. John Bosnitch, has a ten-point platform and is running candidates in most contests.

Working as totally autonomous the Student Party is affiliated with the CAUSE and the Solidarity Committees.

The platform of the Student Party is as follows: First, they want a new organization of the Student Union. This is to include a new constitution and regulations they feel that the present rules are not specific enough, and have too many loopholes.

Second, the party would like to see no increase in tuition fees in real dollars, and no cost of living adjustment.

Expansion of student services is the third plank. They want more entertainment, films, concerts, parties, non-alcoholic events and food services. With regard to the latter, they want a direct route for student grievances about

campus food made available. They also want improvements to the general and clothing stores. They want the Student Union to compete with the bookstore on certain items, for which they feel the campus bookstore is overcharging. They would also like to see the elimination of the bank monopoly on campus as they feel this would combat the lineup problem.

Another part of this third plank is priority employment for students. They feel if a student is equally qualified for a campus job of any sort, he should get that position over anyone else. They would also like improvement in parking and locker priorities on campus.

No deficit budgeting for the SRC as a whole, is the fourth plank. The party does not want the SRC to even predict a deficit.

Fifth, the Student Party would like proper use of the SUB and Student Union assets, in accordance with CAUSE proposals.

Elimination of some honoraria, and the limiting of others is the sixth point. They would like to see the President's honoraria set at a base of \$1,000 and the comptroller receiving that amount too. All other honoraria would then be on a scale less than that, and

would be indexed to the national cost of living. The party feels indexing would reduce future dissension concerning the amounts of students honoraria.

The Student Party would like to see some sort of direct representation of the views of the residences; they feel this should be in the form of a council of the residence presidents. They would also like to see some form of representation for the needs of off campus students.

The eighth plank is a proposal for the organization of a committee to investigate staff, faculty, curriculum and policies of the university. This would be able to accept student grievances.

The Student Party would like to form a committee for student action off campus. This committee would bring in films and speakers to inform students. The party would also like to see students going to the provincial and municipal governments with representatives.

The tenth item in the Student Party's platform is "To raise the prestige of the University of New Brunswick, and the Student Union; to give students responsible, active and honest government, and in doing so, to insure that from now on, the voice of the students is heard and that students are involved in every aspect of the university, with the ultimate goal of raising prestige."

The party is mounting a great push to have their candidates elected. They are distributing pins with their logo, a distinctive, "SP". They also hope to distribute leaflets, and red and black fly flags on election day. They also plan to have a megaphone broadcasting their cause.

The party, consisting of fifteen members, is funding its campaign by pooling the funds

(Continued on page 7)

## Education contested

(Continued from p. 5) where the money is going, and who handles it, etc. He said he also got to know the people.

He has been active in various activities. He has been the Secretary Treasurer of his graduating class, and social chairman for the Education Student Council. He was also in charge of the carnival education float, and is manager of the education hockey team. Varsity swimming is another of his exploits.

His aim is to gain a seat on council, and to represent the education faculty so they may have a vote on matters concerning council.

He has two major planks in his platform; he wants to see education students have an equal share of SRC funding. He also wants to see the constitution of the Education Students Council passed by the SRC.

His second plank is the bringing back of football. He will bring up a motion in council, he said, to have a referendum on the issue. He feels, the students would be willing to pay a portion of their fees into a "slush fund" for football. He said, football is the biggest student event, where most students get together.

He said the main issue is athletics, "if we lose athletics, we lose students." The other issues, such as the SUB and tuition fees, "...speak for themselves," he said.

"I think problems, like the non-publishing of the student directory, can be prevented if responsible members are on council and do not argue about trivial matters such as the Thorburne loan," said Riley.

He partly blames these problems on John Bosnitch, who he called, "...a very intelligent man who has much to say, but says stuff at the wrong time."

### Environmental Studies at Dalhousie

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Come in and find out about the Master of Environmental Studies (M.E.S.) program, and learn about research being done at the Institute. You will be most welcome.

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