

YOU AND THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

By Tony Enriquez, NFCUS President
From the Ottawa University Fulcrum

It will no doubt come as a surprise to many of the readers to know that, through their Student Council and ultimately, through their representatives on their National Federation (NFCUS) they are expressing a strong voice in International Student activities and policies. The National Federation of Canadian University Students, representing 24 colleges and universities across Canada, with an approximate membership of 41,000 students, forms the policy and takes responsibilities and commitments in your name.

Through your Federation you have been taking an ever increasing role of leadership and vis a vis your student colleagues in almost all countries of the world. It is therefore of the utmost importance that you, personally, be aware of the way your elected representatives are carrying out their work and voicing your policy.

NFCUS Affects You

The main concern of your Federation is, quite naturally, the problems that affect you directly: the high cost of a college or university education; the possibilities of further increasing reductions in the cost of railway transportation, textbooks, unemployment insurance taxes and income taxes. These problems are added to those of organizing cultural and social movements such as National seminars; art, short story and photo

are tangible results of the confidence students in other parts of the world come to expect from Canadian students.

COSEC and IUS

The main activity in the International student field is carried out by two organizations. The International Students Conference, commonly known as COSEC, and the International Union of Students. The situation in the international student field reflects faithfully the world tension since the Second War, and, as is quite natural, the student community is at present divided into two main camps: East and West.

No present situation can be fully understood without a brief knowledge of the past, and to this purpose it might be worthwhile to devote a few lines to the history behind the two above-mentioned International organizations.

At the end of the Second World War, students of many countries, including China, India, Russia, England and the USA, expressing the common sentiment of the time, met in England to form an International Union of Students that would unite students of all the world, through their majority-representing National Unions, and whose purpose, aside from work-to solve student problems on an international scale, would be to form a student community that could promote the strong bonds of

struck Western ears a bit suspiciously, but still, in the over-all atmosphere of good will these warning signals went unnoticed. It was not until 1948, with the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia that the grand Communist scheme became clear and shocked Western students into a tardy sense of reality. The IUS, its headquarters still in Prague, degenerated further until it became simply an active propaganda source for the Communist ideas. This condition aggravated itself yearly, as did the world situation, until it reached the bottom at the 1950 IUS Congress in Berlin, where most Western delegates had abandoned hope, and hostile demonstrations were held around the few Western representatives present.

The incidents, such as the unconstitutional expulsion of the Yugoslav Union of Students, immediately following the break of Yugoslavia's Tito from the Soviet regime; the failure of the IUS to raise any protest over the most arbitrary expulsion of hundreds of teachers and students from Charles University in Prague; its blatant propaganda against 'capitalist warmongers'; germ warfare; interventions in North Korea, etc., clearly followed the Communist policy of the time.

Break Away

It was then clear to Western National Unions of Students that no possibility of cooperation and purely practical, non-partisan activities could be undertaken within the IUS, and thus, under the initiative and hospitality of the Scandinavian National Unions of Students, a conference was held in Stockholm, in 1950, to decide the means and ways in which Western NUS's and those of other interested countries could continue to work on students' behalf. Out of this meeting, attended by 23 NUS's, mostly Western European and North American, came the plan of cooperation and list of practical activities which has grown and expanded yearly through the International Students Conference.

The International Student Conference was not organized as a rival International student union, expressing the hopes and fears of Western Europeans, that this step would irrevocably divide the student world into two opposing factions: East and West, and that any change (if such a change should come) in the IUS policy and partisanship for the better which might permit a re-entry of dissident NUS's, would then be more difficult to meet by a rival and competitive organization.

This optimism led the participants at the 1950 Stockholm meeting to believe that their activities would be of a temporary character, one or two year effort at most. The passing of time has shown that Communism, as practised in the Soviet Union and People's Republics has not only not changed basically, but, if anything, has consolidated its position, though perhaps changing some superficial features which were too obviously disgusting to outsiders.

COSEC Formed

Thus the International Student Conference, starting as a temporary and loose-knit means of cooperation, has consolidated and expanded through its four years and four meetings until at the last meeting (Istanbul, January 1954) it counted 42 NUS's in its membership (more majority representing than the IUS) and a program of activities ranging from International Seminars, Experts' Conferences, Seminar, Travel to an International Delegation to Investigate student conditions in Africa, (schedules to leave in October, a Canadian being one of the five nation group) and aid to colonial countries.

At present the international Union of Students, completely discredited and ignored by Western National Unions of Students, with a membership composed of small communist groups from each country, but still active and very much to be watched, and, on the other hand, the International Student Conference (COSEC) which now has a semi-permanent nature with a four-person staffed Secretariat, an ever increasing list of member unions from all parts of the globe, and a list of activities that is constantly increasing and becoming more and more within the range of what used to be the original International Union of Students.

Now the question in the readers mind is probably: "This is all fine and well, but where do I come in?" Your participation is done through your National Federation (NFCUS). The NFCUS has never been a member of IUS, though it has followed a policy of sending an observer to all its Congress and Council meetings. Its policy towards the IUS (your policy, after all) has been a highly critical one, and its observers have constantly rebuked the IUS at its own meetings for the unconstitutional and wholly partisan activities into which this once high ideal has fallen.

NFCUS Investigates

Lately, however, at Warsaw in 1953, to be exact, the IUS, following the world policy of the Soviet countries to soft pedal abusive propaganda and attempt to make overtures for coexistence and peace, (further strengthened by their victory at the Geneva Conference) have reversed their former insulting attitudes and speeches and have reverted to the role of milk-and-honey toward the Western student representatives. This attitude went as far (relatively speaking) as to accept a suggested Western motion to the effect that the IUS should modify its Constitution, allowing a new clause of membership: Associate Membership. This change would, so it is published, make it possible for Western NUS's who find the IUS partisan statements unpalatable cooperate in practical fields while, at the same time disassociating themselves from any policy or statement they might not find to their liking.

The NFCUS policy has always been one of studying any new

"Provincial University is an Industry"—Mackay



DR. COLIN B. MACKAY

In recent speeches around the Province, Dr. Colin Mackay has been bringing people up to date on New Brunswick's provincial university. He likes to emphasize that phrase "provincial university" for in the final analysis, he says, the University of New Brunswick is the property of all the citizens of this Province.

Dr. Mackay has been telling high school gatherings, civic organizations and church groups things they should know about their university. His speeches are easy to listen to, clearly enunciated, realistic, and full of hard facts. A favorite line of his is that just as the one- and two-room schoolhouse has begun to disappear from the landscape, so has UNB ceased to be the one-building university that it was from 1787 to 1900.

Today, Canada's oldest university with the youngest president (Mackay is only 33), is a plant of 12 buildings and several converted army huts. Dr. Mackay, who won his doctorate from Mount Allison this summer, reports that the Memorial Student Centre is in the process of construction. The chemistry building, donated by the Provincial Government, is on the drawing board and Lord Beaverbrook's skating rink in which the University has a 50 per cent interest, will be in the construction stage soon.

In referring to Lord Beaverbrook, Dr. Mackay is fond of saying, "What could we ever have done without him?"

U.N.B. 'Big Business'

Dr. Mackay thinks it is fair to say that UNB has entered into the "big business" category of New Brunswick. He says that the changes carefully, though these might be obviously nonsensical, and thus it should not be surprising to the reader that his Federation adopted a motion at its October 1953 Annual Meeting mandating its National Executive to investigate the offer of Associate Membership made by the IUS. This should not be misconstrued as meaning that the NFCUS representatives (your own) have either fallen victims to communism or Soviet new sweetness, but should be seen in the light of the general policy followed over the years of studying one and all proposals.

The investigation carried out by the NFCUS Executive was extensive and thorough. Information on IUS was asked of some of the foremost Academic people in people, known for their interest and study of student affairs; information of all types was requested from the IUS Headquarters (this was deplorably meager and uninformative) and finally, a three person delegation, consisting of the NFCUS President, the Chief NFCUS Overseas Commissioner (ex NFCUS President, now Rhodes Scholar at Oxford) and the NFCUS IUS expert Overseas Commissioner attended the IUS Annual Council meeting held in Moscow, August 20-26, 1954.

Brunswick enterprises. Few people think of it as such, but UNB is one of the largest industries in the City of Fredericton and this year will spend close to \$1,000,000 in carrying on its affairs. This amount does not include capital expenditure which will amount to another \$300,000—\$400,000 during the academic year.

Last year, UNB had 757 students—this year 864 are enrolled. In 1952, Dr. Mackay says, it was calculated that UNB would settle down to an enrolment of around 800 and that in all probability it would remain at that figure for some time.

Just two years later that figure has been passed, and in view of the trend Dr. Mackay predicts that in another five to six years UNB will have more than trebled its enrolment over the pre-war figure. In other words, by 1961 there will be an enrolment of over 1,200 students.

These soaring figures are bound to create problems of accommodation and facilities and Dr. Mackay says one can only look forward to still higher costs in the field of university education.

This year lecture rooms and drafting rooms are packed. Additional permanent lecture room space and laboratory space must be found. The English faculty needs more space and additional residence accommodation will be a necessity.

Dollars, Cents Value
Dr. Mackay has some figures on what UNB meant to the cities of Fredericton and Saint John in terms of dollars and cents in the academic year 1953-54. In that year, the university paid out in salaries over \$540,000, almost all of which was spent in these two cities.

For supplies, equipment and services, UNB spent more than \$194,000 with firms or individuals situated in the province. It is estimated that the students spent a total of more than \$260,000 on rooms and board, clothing and other necessities.

Was this you Tuesday?



Is the above picture possibly one of you? If you were at the blood donor clinic at the Lady Beaverbrook Gym yesterday, and we hope you were, it might be. Although U.N.B. was not in competition for the Collegiate Corpuscule Cup a favorable turnout was received. This is a sign for when the real business of blood is undertaken in the spring.

contests; National debating etc. etc. with an aim to bringing together a far-flung and multi-racial community and promoting the greater understanding and knowledge of each other. These are the first and foremost interests of your National Federation and those to which your officers, funds and organization are devoting the almost totality of their efforts.

Yet this is not the only interest and activity of your Federation. In the past five years, in keeping with the ever increasing importance of Canada in the international field, and with its growing reputation of a vigorous, fair-minded and independent nation, there have come the new responsibilities and added burdens of international commitments. These commitments take not only the form of political activities, quite essential in themselves, but also the form of extensive economic and technical aid. All these things are no doubt well known facts to the reader, but they are mentioned here only to draw a parallel between the expanding activities of the nation as a whole and the same expansion witnessed in the student field.

friendship and understanding so necessary in a world that had but recently come through the horrors of a World War. Unfortunately even at that time, and without the slightest suspicion of good will, delegates, the representatives from the Communist countries were busy preparing the road for their future control of the organization. The Constitution and statements made at the inaugural meeting reflect clearly, in retrospect, the extent to which the Communist elements molded the wording of Constitution, declaration of principles, etc.

IUS In Prague

Headquarters of the newly-born was settled in Prague, Czechoslovakia with the blessing of all allied governments and the high hopes of the student community. The I.U.S. began its activities with great zeal and a good deal of cooperation from all student communities. Its first achievements were most encouraging, including the relief work done to help displaced students and helping them to start their education in other countries. Even at the time there were demagogic declarations that

MARITIME —

— ENGINEERING
— LIMITED

DIAL 8661

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

PAINTERS - BUILDERS

608 Queen St. :: Fredericton

FOR A QUICK LUNCH

VISIT OUR LUNCHEONETTE FOUNTAIN
KENNETH STAPLES DRUG COMPANY

Be Wise !!!

Advertise in The BRUNSWICKAN

Dial 3104

Business Manager

PROTECT

WHILE YOU

SAVE

For ample protection, at low net cost, see your local Mutual Life of Canada representative

MUTUAL LIFE

ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

For Low Cost Life Insurance

ML-35-54

A rave of new colours for your "Kitten" Collection

Prettiest way to go to school... in a full-fashioned Kitten sweater. In cashmere-soft Lambswool... 100% Super Orlon. Exquisitely hand-finished, shrink-proof and moth-proof... by Glenayr.

At good stores everywhere

s. s. pullover \$6.95
l. s. pullover \$7.95
cardigan \$8.95

G-54