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Faculty unionism, collective bargaining discussed

By AGNES HENNESSEY

Members of the Faculty of UNB attended the symposium on Faculty Animism sponsored by the Association of University of New Brunswick Teachers Wednesday evening at Tilley Hall. Members of the panel were: Charles Bigelow - Chairman, Canadian Ass. of University Teachers Collective Bargaining Committee; Joseph Rose, Chairman of AUNBT

Collective Bargaining Committee; Ronald Penner - University of Manitoba Law School, Robert Watling and Robert Arseneau.

Discussed were the two main topics of collective bargaining and faculty unionism and whether or not the faculty should become unionized. Mr. Bigelow talked of the role of CAUT in Faculty field for the last 3 years, due to interest of its members. During these 3

years, collective bargaining has functioned and as a result become extensive coast to coast. An Educational organization was set up, problems studied and members familiarized themselves with reasonable propositions - freedoms of faculty. New developments of collective bargaining arose into a complicated business.

Pointed out was the need of legal or professional help. This would not necessarily mean giving up

freedoms to form a union; only to improve situations provided there is advanced planning. CAUT provides five full time staff and tangible legal assistance and advice. Staff members can advise these local decisions but more important other activities of university must be met and not just pensions, salaries and fringe benefits. CAUT has some funds set aside to assist other orders of organizations.

A question arose as to what would happen when large numbers of unions joined. Of course this would prove expensive and to the dislike of many who are not interested or against the union, was the answer. Bigelow summed up his talk by stating that if faculty decides to form a union to think and plan it carefully.

Defined were the terms of certification and collective bargaining by Rose. If a group of faculty members decided to form a union they would apply to the labour relations board for a certified agreement with faculty, Board of Governors and faculty associations.

Certain criteria must be met: groups of employees must be appropriate for collective bargaining; employment conditions must be in common; support is needed - by a number of signatures or certification of election majority, voting with favor of majority of 40 percent of members; must demonstrate proper union and finally to have one purpose to advance employment conditions.

Achieving collective bargaining was the second part of Rose's talk. Collective bargaining was defined as a decision making process in terms of employment, salaries and fringe benefits. When there is a breakdown of good faith and mutual trust, collective bargaining is a means of achieving something, does not sacrifice benefits.

Also discussed were effects on campus. The Association has to enforce rights where you have

legal status and collective bargaining. This began to change faculty attitudes. During the 70s enrolment pertained to university financing. This change quickly lead to administrative responses. The result in large increases of enrolment lead to more depersonalization.

Another development was the legal impediments were removed. Many industrialized developments arose. A dependency arose with provincial govt. Civil servants, teachers, nurses all benefit from this.

Following the panel discussion, the audience was invited to contribute any questions or responses to the talk. One question brought up was that of the disadvantages of a union. In panel's answer was introduced the loss of flexibility, that of demands about number of hours. The idea of making teachers attend more class hours.

There too is a danger of unions if we polarize campus between administration and faculty. If complete frustration is present a union certainly could not hinder the situation. There is a need for formality to insure due process of the union.

Other questions were debated over the idea of "conflict". To do something about frustration, must a strike take place? A unionized structure must rely on benefits of his neighbour. If we are accepting a union, are we anticipating a strike?

To contemplate these extreme changes it was suggested that they move into collective bargaining with "eyes open". A strike cannot be legal only when there is a majority in unit vote for it. Faculty should enter negotiations in good faith.

Finally, the question was asked in concern of the attitude of students toward their professors. It was stated that there is no reason why faculty cannot bargain collectively.

Leadership conference Sunday

The Alumni Student Leadership Conference is to be held this Sunday in the Faculty Club room of the Old Arts Building from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The conference requires no pre-registration and anyone who considers him or herself a student leader is invited to come, said Alumni Director Art Doyle.

These conferences were started four years ago by the Alumni Student Liaison Committee and there has been seven such conferences. They last all day and there is a lunch supplied by the Alumni. They take care of all expenses.

Doyle said that there are presently 14,000 Alumni of this

university. Of these eighty per cent are under thirty years of age, he continued. Therefore, they are very interested in getting closer to students and helping them solve their problems.

Before this conference was established, there was no forum to bring all student leaders together to talk about student problems, particularly with respect to student organizations, such as the Student Representative Council, The Brunswickan, College Hill Student Radio, etcetera.

The Alumni does not participate in the discussions, which are chaired by the SRC president. The structure of the conference is

informal and there is no formal agenda. Everybody is given the opportunity to bring up points to debate.

Things discussed at previous conferences are student parking, the role of The Brunswickan, SRC, CHSR, etc., student communications with respect to campus events, and so on. Doyle said the new SUB parking lot was a result of one of these conferences.

The Dean of Students, Barry Thompson, is expected to be there and to be asked questions concerning his role.

Doyle said the conferences would likely be continued if this one was a success.

Foresters vs. Brunswickan

By DERWIN GOWAN

The Students Representative Council has become involved in the disagreement between The Brunswickan and the Faculty of Forestry. The issue is over whether or not The Brunswickan should print pictures of the Forestry Queen Contest.

The problem started when Dave Curtis, fifth year Forestry asked The Brunswickan about coverage of the beauty pageant. He was informed that he would have to buy advertising space before pictures of the Queen candidates could be published.

Curtis left the Brunswickan disgruntled and passed the information to Forestry Representative on the SRC, Danny Sargeant. Sargeant brought the matter up at Monday's SRC meeting.

Although no resolution was passed, Council, particularly the executive, expressed sympathy with the Foresters. Comptroller Chris Gilliss said he would look into the matter and have a talk with The Brunswickan Editor-in-Chief, Susan Manzer. Furthermore, they have allowed the Foresters to buy an ad with the pictures of the candidates. The SRC is paying the bill. Several councillors expressed the view that the pictures should have been published in the news columns as, regardless of the

opinions of the Brunswickan's editors, the pageant was of importance to the Foresters. The view was also expressed that the Student Union is the publisher of The Brunswickan. Therefore, they continued, the SRC has the right to determine Brunswickan editorial policy. Manzer said this was not true. They spoke of coercing The Brunswickan.

Curtis has reiterated that he believes the pictures should have been published and that he was not impressed with the brush-off. This was the view reiterated by Sargeant in his maiden speech to Council.

Manzer said that she would rather see The Brunswickan have its funds cut than see an editorial decision imposed from the SRC.

The Brunswickan's editorial policy for several years is not to run pictures of any beauty pageants. Both she and News Editor Kathy Westman said that it is against Brunswickan tradition to print candidates' pictures unless ad space was bought. Managing Editor Tom Benjamin agreed and said if the SRC attempted to set down editorial policy The Brunswickan could lose the greater part of its staff. He said he will not work for the paper if someone else sets editorial policy that he does not agree with. Manzer said she would also resign if a policy from above was forced upon her. Also, she

quoted sections of The Brunswickan constitution stating that no officer of the publisher may "inspect, limit, censor, or restrict publication of The Brunswickan in any way shape or form unless he/she is forced to do so by extraordinary circumstances."

"Extraordinary circumstances is usually interpreted to mean cases of libel, and in such a situation, a decision of the executive to inspect must be reviewed and examined, and, if need be, reversed, at the next SRC meeting.

Meanwhile, Foresters in general are not impressed with The Brunswickan, and they had to settle for an ad. Students in general have differing opinions. There does seem to be a bias, however, in that most of the people sticking up for the Foresters and beauty pageants in general seem to be male.

Journalistic independence has been raised by one side, and journalistic objectivity and slanting the news has been raised by the other. Another angle has it that Forestry Week is a student activity, and, therefore should be given full coverage. Women's Libbers, Male Chauvanists, and everybody in between is having a field day.

Manzer said that she had a meeting with SRC executive, and the matter was satisfactorily cleared up.

Are you eligible to vote provincially?

43. (1) Except as hereinafter provided every person is qualified to vote and entitled to have his name placed on the list of electors for the polling division in which he ordinarily resides at the time of the preparation and revision of the list of electors therefor, if he

(a) is of the full age of eighteen years or will attain the full age of eighteen years on or before polling day at the pending election;

(b) is a Canadian Citizen or other British subject;

(c) has been ordinarily resident in the Province for six months immediately preceding the date of the issue of the writ for the pending election;

(d) subject to subsection (5) of section 45, was ordinarily resident in the electoral district at the date of the issue of the writ for the

pending election;

45. (5) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, for the purposes of a general election, a person who, at the time of preparation of the preliminary lists of electors, is duly registered and in attendance at a recognized educational institution, and for such purposes resides in a polling division other than that in which he ordinarily resides and if he is otherwise qualified as an elector, is entitled to have his name entered on the list of electors for the polling division in which he ordinarily resides and on the list of electors for the polling division in which he resides at the time of preparation of the preliminary lists of electors, and to vote in either one of such polling divisions as he may elect but he may vote only in one division.