

# EDITORIAL

## Ignorance is not bliss...

Students today are a far cry from the socially conscious students of the 60's. The "Beat" generation, the Yuppies of the American social scene have for the most part left us.

Blatant student ignorance and apathy on the other hand, appears to have replaced the social consciousness of the 60's lost generation. Last week's Viewpoint is indicative of the embarrassing and almost unbelievable "flippancy" of the 80's student. What is the excuse for answers about divestment in South Africa ranging from "Where is South Africa?" to "I don't know, I don't live there."

Perhaps we as University students delude ourselves into believing that we are afforded opportunities that the majority of Canadians lack. Perhaps we think that because we are given a "liberal" education, we are informed about social issues, political issues that we as - and I know you may think that this sounds like a cliché - leaders of tomorrow have an obligation to know. As one professor informed me Monday, "Typical Viewpoint answers make the majority of UNB men look like sex maniacs and the women look like airheads."

Sad but true.

Sometimes Viewpoint questions are deliberately funny. Just as often, however, we have questions, as in this case, which supplement a news story. We assume, perhaps wrongly, that students are aware of South African divestment when the front-page story, in the issue preceding, is entitled, "Is UNB obliged to divest?" How one could even conceive the South African question as "funny" is certainly beyond me.

Often the BRUNSWICKAN has been criticized for its lack of a social consciousness. In the last few years, however, we have made a concerted effort to make students aware of social issues on our campus which affect us directly. Often we make omissions and often we deserve your criticism. But we try.

Canadian University Press has a list of resolutions which I believe integral to any campus newspaper. Although we are not members; we try to adhere to some of their concerns and their statement of principles which reads:

"...the major role of the student press is to act as an agent of social change, assisting students in understanding and acting against oppression and injustice, and emphasizing the rights and responsibilities of the student..."

This is our obligation. What is yours?

Brenda Paul

## ...when there is a need for change

On October 23, the United Nations will declare 1986, International Year for Peace. Subsequently, October 23 to 30 will be designated International Disarmament Week.

In recent years, disarmament groups or for that matter peace groups of any nature have been hard-pressed for student support. Paranoia replaces concern. Today's student worries about active involvement as a hindrance in future employment or they believe the R.C.M.P. will open a file on them because of so-called 'subversive' activities.

If the U.N. has recognized the importance of international peace, then, so too, must we. There is no stigma attached to working for and believing in a peaceful cause which is right and just and good.

As Canadians we are lucky. We are lucky that we can offer opposition to some of our government's policies without fear of recrimination, whether it be divestment or 'Star Wars'.

University newspapers are a means of implementing social change and if we are not powerful enough to do this, it is, at the very least, our obligation to educate people.

WORD (World Disarmament) and other peace groups in Fredericton and around the world will be participating in International Disarmament Week. Become involved. At the very least, by the electoral process, show the government that you are opposed to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

It is time for Canada to assume a new role in International affairs and to regain their reputation as 'peace-keepers'.

*'We have heard the rationale offered by the superpowers. We know who speaks for the nations. But who speaks for the human species? Who speaks for earth... If we are not committed to our survival, who will be?'*-Carl Sagan

Brenda Paul



...Mugwump  
Journal...

by Calum Johnston



Those of you who read such mundane things as our masthead will probably notice that once again there are changes. Hopefully these ones will last longer than a week or two. I must say that I was impressed with the fact that despite many changes in editorial staff, we have yet to disrupt our publishing schedule. It's not that easy producing a weekly paper. A lot of work goes into the Brunswickan besides what you hold in your hands. Ask me about it sometime.

Before I throw anything else at you readers, I first must correct some statements made in last week's Mugwump Journal regarding the property at the corner of Regent and Montgomery. It has not been re-zoned for commercial use. It is presently zoned R-8 which entitles the owner, at the moment being Woolastock Industries, to build a seven-storey apartment building and there would be nothing anyone could do about it. In order to sell the land, the prospective buyer wishes it to be re-zoned R-8 variance which would allow the owner to build two three and a half-storey apartment buildings. When construction took place, there would be extensive replanting of trees that would result in 48.3% of greenland presently there to remain. I thank Peter Atkinson for taking the time to phone me and correct these inaccuracies. I stand corrected.

Once again there is no viewpoint. Well, at least last week there were answers. Sandy Rabasse is the Brunswickan's Photo Editor and being such is responsible for viewpoint as well as the photos that appear throughout the newspaper. He has to develop a number of rolls of film every week, go out and get pictures of places on and off campus, and take photos of sports and news personalities. This is a difficult job for two experienced people and Sandy tries to handle it alone without that much experience. If anyone is interested in photography, whether it be taking, developing, or printing photos, we definitely need some assistance in our photo department. We have some of our own cameras and a fully equipped darkroom, so if you're interested come to the Bruns general meeting at 12:30pm in Room 35 of the SUB.

On page ten, you'll notice a new comic strip making its debut appearance in the Bruns. It's called "The Eagle-Beaver Chronicles" and is done by a cartoonist at the University of British Columbia. He sent these strips with about another month's worth to me for publication. They will be running each week for all of the first term. After Christmas, the Brunswickan will be charged for printing them. I don't mind paying for a comic strip if it's wanted by the students. The Bruns will of course still be presenting comics by students at UNB, but the strip from UBC is good and gives you another view of issues regarding Canadian-American relations, university life, and Knowlton Nash. If you like it tell us. If you don't, again, tell us. I don't want to pay for something that isn't going to be read.

This week we received two letters to the editor. Doesn't anyone out there have a serious gripe about anything? The Brunswickan tries to print every letter it receives, and to the best of my knowledge has printed every one since I've been here. If you have a question about anything, if you have a question about the Bruns, if you have some praise or criticism for something, be it on the Bruns or not, we would still appreciate hearing from you. Many students gripe about the content of the Bruns. Well, how the fuck are we supposed to know what you want when you don't tell us squat?!

Excuse my brashness, but running a paper, especially this one, is a bitch of a job.