

# EDITORIAL

By now everyone is aware that the UNB Student Union is operating at a deficit of approximately 174 000 dollars. And that deficit could end up as high as 207 000 dollars. While these are astronomical figures, to say the least, there is a more important issue at hand.

The problem lies not in the astronomical debt but in the accounting procedures (or lack thereof) that led to it. In his auditor's report, John Weather head states:

...my examination indicated serious deficiencies in the accounting records and in the system of internal control. As a consequence, I was unable to satisfy myself that all revenues and expenditures of the Student Union had been recorded nor was I able to satisfy myself that the recorded transactions were proper.

As well, Peter Forbes, the Student Union lawyer has furnished a letter to the Student Union in which he states:

that this office strongly recommends a full examination and investigation of the following individuals as pointed to by the auditors, namely, Oliver Koncz, Helena Rojas, Hugh Brown, Michael Bennet, John Bosnitch and Tony English.

Aside from recommendations from auditors and lawyers and the like there are several other things that shed some light on the whole issue of the Student Union problems to date. It must be considered that the executive headed by John Bosnitch was not the only one that was in power in the fiscal year that ended August 31, 1986. Indeed, to date there have been four separate executives named.

The Interim Executive that was in place this summer wisely hired Brian Walsh in the capacity of Administrative Director. Walsh is a professional accountant and he is dealing directly with the problems that the Auditor's reports revealed.

One good thing about bringing in someone totally alien to the environment is that (hopefully) they can deal with the problems with relative unbiased.

Aside from the financial deficit the audit clearly indicates gross mismanagement and it is necessary to look at those who were in power at the time that the mismanagement took place.

UNB President Dr. James Downey has said that this audit clearly indicates that the UNB Councillors were justified in usurping the incumbent Student Union Incorporated Executive (John Bennet, Michael Bennet, Tony English and Hugh Brown) and replacing them with the Interim Executive of Stephen Smith (President), Eric Semple (Comptroller) and Mark Lutes (Vice President).

While an election has taken place and a new Student Union President (Larry Hansen) has been seated the problems are still continuing. Why? Because of little lawsuits that the former Student Union Incorporated Executive has launched against everybody and their dog. It would seem that once public officials have been publicly tainted, they would have the grace to resign. Too bad, but this is not the case and the saga continues. I just hope that people will review the facts and place their faith in the newly elected government--the only one, it would seem that hasn't (yet) been tainted.

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Staff member Mark Stevens has also contributed to the Editorial section this week.

Many years ago, when I first started playing the guitar, I remember learning a beautiful Australian ballad called "And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda". Written about the Galipolli Landings in 1916, the song raises some fundamental question about the futility of war. But is also objects to the institutionalization of 'remembrance'

"Those lonely old men, all tired, stiff and sore.

The forgotten heroes of a forgotten war.

And the young people ask, What are they marching for?

And I ask myself the same question."

Remembrance Day is supposed to commemorate the ending of the war to END all war. Yet here we are, after sixty-eight years and another world war, seeking to justify the existence of the arms race by paying homage to those unfortunate, but heroic, individuals 'who were led to the slaughter'.

It seems that Remembrance Day completely misses the point. Instead of driving home the horror and futility of war, November 11th is seized upon by politicians as (another) opportunity to start ranting about freedom, liberty and increased defense budgets. The sacrifices made by those who died in the trenches are used, by a process of contorted logic, to bolster policies that are bringing us closer to a war that really will end all wars.



Mugwump

By VALERIE WHITE  
Managing Editor

Journal

I'm sitting here staring out my window watching the snowflakes fall gently on the spruce boughs, blanketing the campus with white. And laughing at all the sneaker-clad people who are sliding down the sidewalks on their a--ses! And then there are the snowball fights outside the men's residences. By now you realize that I wrote this column on Thursday, not Wednesday. You see, Wednesday night I was busy Ooze Cruising. It turned out to be a great time except that a certain bus driver from a certain company left us shipwrecked in the middle of our voyage! We were forced to resort to lifeboats (taxis) for the remainder of the trip.



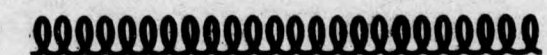
You'd better read this while you can because you never know; there may not be a Bruns next week. Now don't cheer, you know that you would miss it. The problem is that we get our funding from the Student Union - that same student union which just happens to be several thousand dollars in debt. But who can we blame that on — Larry Fox? John Bosnitch? Steven Smith? It seems a little late to point fingers now. The fact remains that the money is gone and the Student Union is in financial trouble. But alas, I'm sure the Bruns will prevail.



And just when I thought disinterest had reached its height — once again I am mistaken. For the first time in 40 years there will not be a Red 'n' Black Revue. This is inexcusable. The Red 'n' Black was always a highlight of the fall term, but not this year. I can't believe that there wasn't enough interest shown to get a show together. By this time, things are usually in full swing. Oh well, maybe next year. But then again, I won't be here next year.



Lately I have been plagued with complaints about the Bruns and its contents, or lack thereof. I don't mind taking criticism or hearing genuine complaints, BUT when people start harassing me on my time (ie at the Social Club or other social functions) or threatening me, I would ask them to keep something in mind. I am not solely responsible for the Brunswickan. I will gladly help those people who have problems with this paper. Provided, of course, that they approach me in a calm, sensible manner. I have no time and no patience for people who scream at me instead of talk to me.



I would like to extend an apology to the African Students' Society. A few weeks ago, The Brunswickan ran a news story which wrongfully named the group the *South African Students Society*. I realize many people were offended and that is regrettable. I hope I have rectified the situation somewhat.



I suppose that everyone has noticed that Tilley Hall is under construction. The plan is for an extension to be built on to accommodate the Faculty of Business Administration. Not a bad idea at all.



There is a gentleman down here who is crying for some culture. We are attempting to start a literary page in the Brunswickan, but we can't do that until we get some material. We'll take anything — poems, short stories, book reviews, concerning a wide range of themes — humour, satire, drama, etc. We'll basically take anything that isn't dreadfully boring. We wouldn't want the literary page to become the newest cure for insomnia.