

Universal Accessibility

The last Students' Representative Council meeting in its drawn out debate on universal accessibility drew comments from many members, who had previously been conspicuously silent. It may have drawn comments from a few who will later wish they had not spoken.

Though the resolution was passed 12 to 6 to the great pleasure of President Lawson Hunter who had recently indicated that he might consider resignation if the outcome was not favorable, there were several intelligent pros and cons put on the floor.

The resolution was to eliminate social and financial barriers to higher education so that a student could continue his education to the extent of his ability. This means that education is a right, rather than a privilege. The fact that the SRC voted to take steps to encourage qualified persons who could not attend university due to financial obligation shows that at last, they have seen the area of their responsibility.

Education Committee Chairman Wier said that it is true that universal accessibility is impossible here now. Tuition fees could not immediately be abolished. This was no reason, why the Council should not pass the resolution because it is the action of the SRC which will encourage the change.

Tuition fees were described as a concrete base to work from. They could be attacked. Bursary and loan schemes with ability and means tests were nebulous and without uniform standards.

Hunter's argument for universal accessibility, which was stated in haste and desperation at one point, was, that since the provincial government at present controlled 60% of the University's finances, why not let them pay the tuition fees students should cease paying and control 80% of the finances. Hunter and his successors may repent in leisure.

This resolution brings the SRC one step closer to co-operation with the government in higher education. Whether this step will be negative or positive in its effect, remains to be seen.

Faddists Like Rats

What is the matter with our Students Representative Council? After last Sunday's marathon meeting, observers left the meeting with mixed feelings. One impression we had after the discussion of the SRC Presidents resolutions on education was that some Council members were infatuated with the idea that UNB should pull out of CUS.

One of these people is John Wigmore, Law Representative. Mr. Wigmore, like so many councillors, knows little about CUS. Yet he, like the others, says we should withdraw from this organization.

We select Mr. Wigmore as an example because he gave notice of a resolution suggesting just such a childish action, based only on the mistaken assumption that our council rejects CUS principles.

He claims that the SRC does not agree with CUS on education, a priority item. He is very wrong. By a substantial majority the Council passed three resolutions on educational responsibilities of students which contain basically the same inference as resolutions passed at the recent CUS Congress.

He feels, mistakenly, that because our wording is different from the CUS wording, our University should sever its ties with the national union.

Mr. Wigmore has chosen to split hairs. He wants to get out of CUS. He and others have this idea on the brain. They have joined in a mad rush. They are caught in a stream of rats fleeing the ship which will remain afloat without them.

We will call them faddists, because people like this follow almost any national trend if it is publicised enough.

We hope most of the Council will listen to reason. CUS is a union. Without us it won't represent us. If we are the last university to remain in CUS it will express what we want. We must remain. Others will thank us, if we have the guts to stay.

Brunswickan

Established in 1867, the **Brunswickan** is Canada's oldest student publication. It is published weekly for the students of the University of New Brunswick at Fredericton, N.B. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Students Representative Council. Subscriptions \$4 a year. Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa. The **Brunswickan** office is located at the Memorial Students Centre, UNB, Fredericton, N.B., telephone 475-5191. This paper was printed at Capital Free Press, Brunswick Street, Fredericton.



Universal acceptance sounds good Lawson, but.

Letters To The Editor

LAST GASP?

Editor:
In the last few weeks controversy has been stirred over the Treasure Van and the Canadian National Committee of World University Service (WUSC). In the last issue Editorial recommendation was made that WUSC be dropped from the Council and the proceeds of the "Slave Auction" be given to UNICEF or CARE.

May I have some space in your paper to point out some facts on WUSC?

WUSC is the only international organization of students, faculty, and other university personnel which has as its main concern the well-being of the international university community. It does this through a program of international self-help, known as the International Program of Action (IPA). To this program all students at UNB contribute 40¢ and faculty members contribute an average of approximately \$1.00. All of this money leaves Canada and goes to the International Office in Geneva where it is distributed in a manner decided by the biennial International WUS Assembly. In 1965-66 Canada's contribution was \$56,000; Canada hopes to contribute \$60,000 in 1966-67.

Although the main reason for the existence of WUS is help to the international university community, there must be a national program to back up the international. In Canada, WUS has found it desirable to sponsor three types of programs.

a) Projects designed to arouse the interest of students and faculty members in the problems and aspirations of their colleagues in other countries.

b) Projects which provide a service to members of Canadian universities, particularly

in the sphere of international exchanges.

c) Projects which raise funds and gifts-in-kind for the International Program of Action.

These projects include organizing local regional and international seminars; talks by students and professors on other countries; providing scholarships to bring students to Canada or to send them to another country in their region, or to send Canadians abroad; supplying information on international university topics; distributing reports on problems currently facing students and professors in various parts of the world; collecting textbooks and medical supplies to send abroad; holding display-sales of handicrafts from other parts of the world (Treasure Van) and raising funds by unorthodox collections and by unorthodox stunts.

At present at UNB is Miss Leilani Roslin who was brought here on the local committee's WUS scholarship, a scholarship program that the SRC has decided should be discontinued!

The International Seminar program of Canadian WUS has seen some 600 Canadian students benefit from overseas experience. In 1967 WUSC has decided to repay some of the hospitality enjoyed by Canadians on International Seminars and is inviting to Canada one student and one faculty member from each participating country—a total of 32 overseas participants. Canadian students will be chosen in the regular manner. At present among the faculty at UNB who have participated in the International Seminars are Dr. Jean Hubener, Dr. David Galoway and Dr. Murray Young; UNB students who have participated have now graduated.

Welfare of overseas students

in Canada has always been a concern of WUSC which was a founding member of Canadian Service for Overseas Students and Trainees (CSOST). At the local level the WUSC committee has organized an orientation program for overseas students in 1965 and 1966.

The Canadian Travel and Education Seminar (CTES) was another venture started by WUSC to enable overseas and Canadian students to tour and study parts of Canada unfamiliar to them.

The financial support for the national program comes partly from the overall Treasure Van profit and partly from a 10¢ levy on each student on most campuses where a local WUSC committee is active.

To support the many and varied activities of WUS in Canada, money is needed and a large proportion comes from people who believe in the aims of WUS and who also receive value in the goods they buy at Treasure Van. In this way students receive much more value than the money they actually contribute.

Yours sincerely,
Patricia R. Roberts
Department of Biology

EXPATRIOT REPLIES

Editor:

Some time ago it was brought to my attention that Mr. Gary Davis has proposed to the Council that it disband itself. This in itself brought no surprise for, if my memory is correct, he supported an identical motion last year when it was proposed by Mr. Clyde McElman, then CUS chairman. I was a little disturbed to read in the **Brunswickan** that a few Council members didn't seem

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