

DECEMBER 7, 1973

# Comptroller predicts large surplus in SRC funds

By LORNA PITCHER

"I'm going to look good, as the budget is going very well, but the 2 comptrollers after me will have a really tough job," stated SRC Comptroller Fud (Ian) Steeves.

He said that senior staff members of CHSR and the Brunswickan know how to keep costs down, and other groups' budgets are also running smoothly. The media allotments are the two largest items in the SRC budget. Steeves foresees a large surplus of



SRC Comptroller Fud Steeves

To help future comptrollers Steeves is making sure that at least 3/4 of the people attending conferences are lower classmen, so they can use knowledge gained at conferences to help their group. Also he will recommend that the comptroller be elected in Spring and the Assistant Comptroller in fall so they can carry over knowledge and give the office some continuity. At present they come into and go out of office together.

One factor Steeves feels is in his favour is his personal involvement in activities, for example Red and Black. "It helps me see when it is wise to make loans and what allotments are really needed," he said. "This is a strong argument against having a full time professional comptroller. Isolation from student affairs could be disastrous."

Steeves discussed the highlights of his job as Comptroller so far this year. He said, "It's slow till budget time, but budget is a nightmare. For two weeks I spend fully twelve hours a day in this office."

The first hassle he "inherited" was CHSR's battle to collect a dollar per person from the residences. Steeves said, "There was no way they could collect it. However their advertising has raised sufficiently to cover the amount they lost. Besides, students have to supply their own radio to pick up 700. It's not like a speaker service, which is material, and can be legitimately charged for."

Next came the impending death of the Yearbook. Steeves instituted the \$8.00 price for this year's book because "ads don't sell in yearbooks anymore. Also people just weren't buying enough books to make it economically viable." Since the first of the year, though,

over 1000 yearbooks have been sold. Steeves attributes its successful revival to a strong, unified staff. "They struck a really good contract with the yearbook's publishing company (National School Services). Also, the staff is really keen and hardworking. I'm really pleased."

Steeves has made a lot of loans to clubs, under the condition that if the loans are not paid back the budget of the club in question will be frozen. "This practice has met with a lot of apprehension in the past, but it's worked really well for me," he said. "It put Red and Black on its feet and has helped other groups to carry on when they meet with setbacks. For example, if they sponsor a dance that bombs, they can get a loan to tide them over."

The Graduate Student's Association made a demand last year for financial autonomy. They asked for a lump sum in their own account and complete control over its expenditure. Steeves said, "No damn way were they getting that. The Engineers could claim they were a "special case", too, or the Law School, or any faculty." Steeves did see the Graduate

Students as being a separate entity, so he struck a compromise. They were given a budgeted allotment of \$2,500, which remains in the SRC account. Graduate student officers sign the cheques, but Steeves can veto any expenditure not in line with SRC policy.

Steeves has started an "Investment Portfolio" this year. This entails a complex schedule of due expenditures and funds available at any given time. The surplus funds over the due expenditures are invested in 30, 60 and 90 day notes at Central Trust, which earn a much higher interest than if the funds were left in an ordinary savings account.

Steeves said "I've been holding A.B. meetings regularly on Wednesday nights so people know where to come to get immediate feedback or help on their budgets."

He feels one of his greatest accomplishments this year has been cutting down on summer salaries to SRC executives. "There's been a lot of rip-off with these salaries, particularly 2 summers ago," said Steeves, "but this past summer only \$40 a week for 8 weeks was paid out. This is a lot less rip-off than in the past!"

On other issues, he stated "Big bands are a way to piss away money," and "big drunks on campus are being phased out. There's more to life than drinking."

In conclusion he stated, "It speaks poorly of student leadership that there isn't competition for the funds in the SRC's budget. If anyone would come to me and propose a worthwhile project, backing it up with some cost figures and concrete plans, I'd be glad to fund it. We need new activities at UNB."

## Local craftsmen will hold sale

By LORNA PITCHER

If you haven't finished your Christmas shopping yet, a good place to pick up some unusual items might be at Memorial Hall.

This Sunday afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m. local craftsmen will be selling some of their work.

UNB's gallery curator, Ms. Marjorie Donaldson, said that these items will include pottery,

pewterwork, handmade dolls, paintings, sketches, and various handicrafts.

Donaldson added, "the place is always packed so it would be wise to come early." All craftsmen participating are from the Fredericton area. Many are non-professionals, according to Donaldson, but some Bruno Bobak works, as well as other noted and local artists' creations, are featured.

A Bobak ink sketch worth \$15 will be raffled off Sunday during the handicraft sale, so some lucky person will have an extra-special gift to give at Christmas.

## Cramming is unhealthy

DENVER (CUP-CNS-ZNS) -- Warning to students: Cramming for exams may be hazardous to your health, according to a study by medical students at Volgograd in the Soviet Union.

The medics measured the pulse rates and electrocardiograms of students who were ill-prepared for their tests and found the pulse rates of students who had crammed were raised to levels of up to 180 beats a minute, and that

intense nervous strain persisted throughout the exam and for a long time after.

The study concluded that too much cramming for exams might actually shorten a person's life.

## Myths will prevail in automation technology

As the so-called technological "revolution" progresses, says Roger Boltz, the individual will find it harder to discern accuracy amid a flood of information.

Boltz -- president of the Cleveland, Ohio, consultant firm Automation For Industry -- addressed approximately 20 members of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Monday night at the University of New Brunswick's Head Hall.

Speaking on the theme "Are the Mythmakers Shaping Your Future?", he stated as technology progresses and the mass media expands their output, misinformation gains greater credibility and more myths prevail. This is true especially in automation technology, he added.

The consultant -- described as "an authority on automation" and a former member of the U.S. labor department's automation and manpower advisory committee -- gave modern examples of what he termed misinformation. There are myths pertaining to the energy crisis, he said.

Arab nations supply less than 10 percent of U.S. oil and America could be self-sufficient had it not been for "administrative screw-ups" such as enforced student

busing which wasted 80 million gallons of U.S. gasoline annually...

The space race of the 1960's was another myth stated Boltz, who has contributed to a number of Voice of America broadcasts. The Russians never had the advanced technology necessary to compete "and now the Russians know that."

Boltz denied there was any such thing as a technological "revolution", especially in automation which had developed over 20 years. Automation, unlike early predictions, has increased employment; sparked new industries; and accommodated existing lack of skills

and high wages, mass market demand and mass precision -- when developed and utilized by experts.

Finally, he called for improvements in research and development of automation technology. Researchers currently are concerned with large-scale improvements yet there are still many minor technical improvements required. He used the example of high-speed U.S. steel production plants where there is still no way of accurately measuring wire as it is being manufactured at 60 miles per hour.

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Dance to the THOMISTS at STU cafeteria

Semi-formal dress  
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for tickets Linda McLaren or Dian McKay  
454-3052 at SRC office