

# editorial

## The Brunswickan's stand on the SUB issue

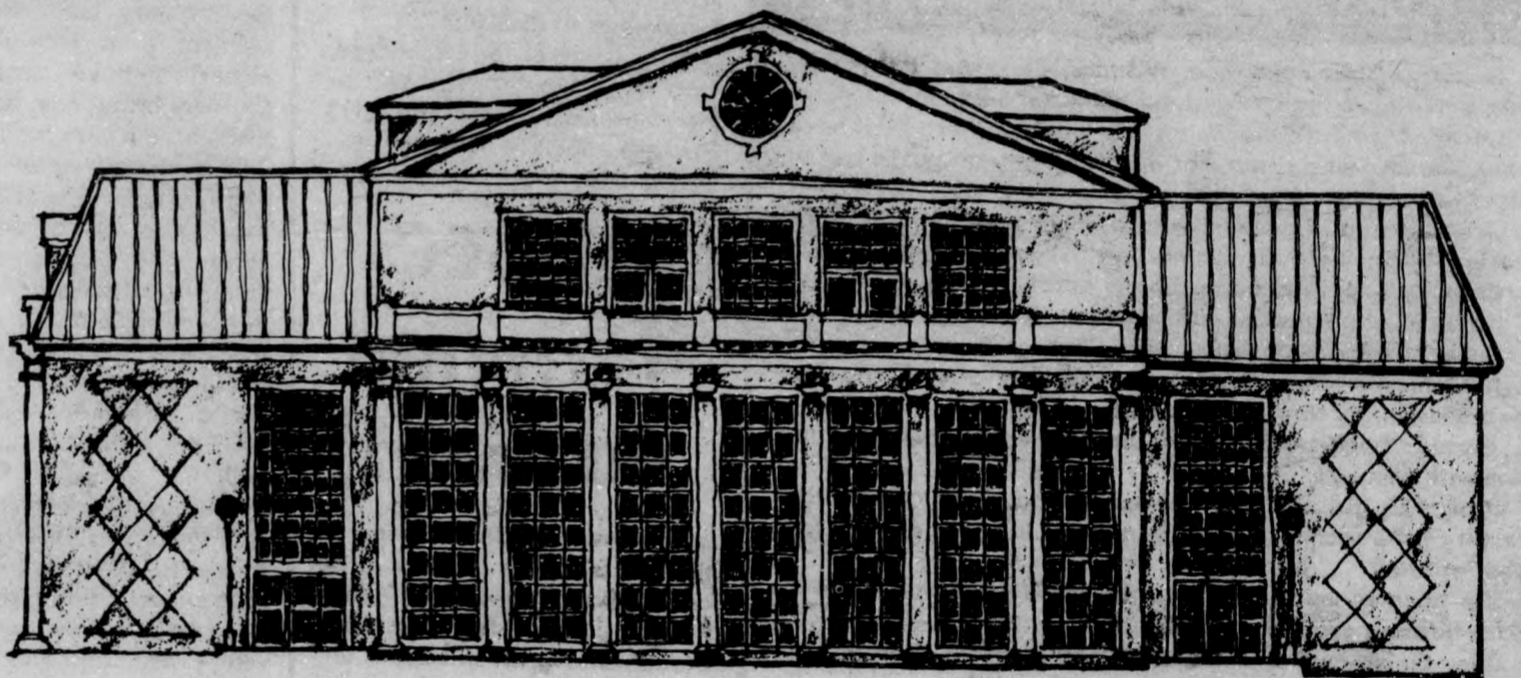
Here it is folks, the Bruns is finally taking a stand on a very important issue that concerns all of you students on campus-now, and in the future. The issue is the upcoming SUB referendum.

The most vociferous side of the argument has been the NO people. What is the argument you ask? Simply stated, it is whether to maintain or drop the \$15 fee on top of SRC dues, charged at the first of the year, which up until now has been used to pay the mortgage on the Student Union Building. The NO side maintains that this money will, in the future, be used for renovations that are unnecessary, in their minds.

The SUB Board has only said that it feels the building needs some changes and has proposed a few possible areas that could be changed. Nothing is definite, only suggested.

The Brunswickan's stand on the issue is to vote YES. If you do, it does not mean that the renovations will be a certainty. A vote for the YES side also guarantees that the SUB will have money to upgrade existing facilities. The university covers the basic maintenance cost of the building such as heat and lights. This does not include the purchase of new furniture for the blue lounge. It does not cover costs due to vandalism, and it does not cover costs due to general wear and tear (example-carpets). The Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission has on its list of priorities, listed as number ten, the bottom, student services. This means that our chances of getting money to maintain this building from other sources is little to none.

If, because of lack of funds, the building is allow-



ed to fall into disrepair the university will probably step in and take it over as part of their administration offices. This is not an illogical assumption due to the fact that in the basement of the Old Arts Building office and storage space is very cramped, as well, offices for professors are becoming scarce.

So far this is a student building, run by the students, for the students and in the opinion of the Bruns it would be a shame to see that change. In addition to the above stated facts how many of you are aware of the fact that to use one of the rooms in the SUB all one has to do is ask. There is no charge to any student organization that wishes to use one of the rooms including the ballroom as long as it is not for a profit. If the \$15 were to disappear, how long do you think that would last as it now costs about \$300 to use the ballroom for a pub or

money-making scheme of any kind.

As far as the proposed renovations are concerned, some of them merit consideration as they will improve utilization of existing space. The NO campaign has harped on the issue of unnecessary spending in a time of high interest rates which is a valid argument, but they have neglected to tell us when we are supposed to find the money to keep what we have in these times of the high cost of everything.

In our opinion the NO campaigners have completely missed the question at hand. The question is to keep or eliminate the \$15 fee, not what is going to be done with the money one way or the other. In the future, depending on the outcome of the referendum, they have some valid points but as for now they are being more detrimental to the students than they are helpful. Please don't forget the question of

where the money to run and maintain the style and class of this Student Union Building will come from. Don't assume that the university will take over the operating costs. After all, what was that march all about a few weeks ago - cut-backs. Even if they do, it will not be run the same as it is now and the only ones who will suffer are you, the students.

The NO side has only presented enough facts so that the students will vote NO. Don't allow yourself to be manipulated by this type of argument. In the next two weeks before the referendum try to formulate an opinion by reading both sides. Remember, this paper, a student paper, consisting of students from almost all faculties and years has said that it will vote YES because we do not want to lose this building, and we would like to see it improved, and still be run by the students.