



mugwump journal

By CHRISTIE WALKER

I've been spending a lot of time in the Harriet Irving Library Archives, glancing through old issues of the *Brunswickan*, and I'm relieved to see that I'm not the only editor who has had to suffer through mud-slinging "the *Brunswickan* sucks" etc campaigns. I suppose it goes with the territory, but I'm wondering whether all those people who can find time during the day to criticize our efforts know what else goes with the territory. I wonder if anyone knows how much time we put into this paper so it can sit on your lap in Friday morning classes. You think our stories are poorly written and edited, our pictures are of poor quality yet it seems quite amusing to me that you have time to make all these remarks, but no time to help out. If I let all the criticisms I hear, or other *Brunswickans* hear, about our paper go to heart, I'd be ready to quit. Fortunately, I don't take the opinions of lazy, destructive (rather than constructive) people to heart. If you feel that you have an important contribution to make to our paper, even if it is a little constructive criticism, we'd be glad to hear it... but in person please - anything else is elementary school stuff, don't you think?

Speaking of criticism, I've received a lot of it myself lately. Actually, I find it quite amusing and besides I've got big, broad shoulders, but just so the whole world doesn't think I'm an irresponsible, unconscientious person I'd like to clarify a few things.

First of all, to the girl whose letter to the editor appears on this page, I'd like to say I feel that you may be a bit paranoid. Maybe you had an experience similar to the one related to the one included in our Oct 22, editorial, but that event actually happened to a girl named Vickie Belliveau who lives in Tibbits and who voted in Lady Dunn on election day. She was told, because the poll workers had no Arts rep ballots, that the seat was probably acclaimed. Later in the day, she learned in Tilley that the seat was, in fact, not acclaimed, therefore she returned, at almost 5 pm, to the Dunn to inform the poll workers of this and she was at that time given a ballot to vote. I did not receive this information from Ken Cuthbertson, or anyone connected with his office but from someone else, and I then verified the facts with Ms. Belliveau. Therefore, Ms. Mackay, I believe you owe me an apology for not only questioning my integrity without first checking on the 'real' facts and secondly for misleading the students with allegations that you could only assume were true.

Anyone who was at the Oct 25 SRC meeting, or heard it over CHSR, will probably remember Ken Cuthbertson's report as Chief Returning Officer. His insinuations, at best are untrue and at worst laughable. The whole report, seemed to me, an effort to shift the blame from one person to another, and a lot of it fell on the *Brunswickans*. Again, in my mind, if the facts were straight, obviously Mr. Cuthbertson found it necessary to misconstrue any of the one sentence conversations we may have had in the past, or anything he may have heard from someone in his office. Well, enough about that distasteful topic.

On behalf of everyone associated with the *Brunswickan* I'd like to take this opportunity to thank both Timothy Lethbridge and Rick Wightman, both of whom have left our editorial board, Timothy to pursue a life in politics (congratulations from all of us on your victory, Tim) and Rick to pursue a life in academia. Both Timothy and Rick have been invaluable to us and we all hope to continue to see you around the office.

Also, at this time I'd like to welcome Chris Chapman and David Mogilevsky to our editorial board. They will be sharing the position of News Editor and we wish them the best of luck (haha).

The CSI, *Brunswickan* movie 'An American Werewolf in London' which was held in Tilley 102 Sunday Oct 17 was very successful. The next four movies, starting with Halloween II, and continuing with Monty Python and the Holy Grail on Nov 7, Yanks on Nov 14, and Arthur on Nov 21, will be all held in Tilley 102 at 7 and 9 for only \$2.00. Look around campus for posters.

Anyone interested in offset work or photography, we'd love to hear from you here at the *Brunswickan*, as we really need help in this area.

Also, any club, or organization interested in reserving a space in our feature pages, please contact Debra Geneau here at the *Brunswickan* 453-4983.

soundoff

OCTOBER 29, 1982 THE BRUNSWICKAN-9

Editorial is misleading

Dear Ms. Walker:

I am writing concerning a paragraph of the editorial on the SRC elections that appeared in the 22 October 1982 issue of the *Brunswickan*. The reported information that an Arts student discovered there were no Arts Rep ballots at the Lady Dunn Hall polling station I believe is loosely based on a conversation one of your eager reporters overheard between Chief Returning Officer, Ken Cuthbertson, and myself.

The facts of the situation are considerably different than the version the *Brunswickan* portrays. When I went to vote in MacLaggan Hall, not Lady Dunn as you suggested, I was given five (5) ballots. After indicating the candidates of my choice, I noticed there was no ballot for the Arts Rep.

Unlike the insinuation your editorial makes that the polling worker was incompetent and told me, "Oh I think that seat was acclaimed." The fact of the matter is it was I who asked the poll worker if the

seat had been acclaimed. The poll worker checked my ballots and his stack of ballots and then realized he had no Arts Rep ballots.

As I explained to Mr. Cuthbertson, the poll worker followed a perfectly acceptable course of action. He took my ballots and destroyed them and since my Student ID card had already been punched, he gave me a note addressed to the Chief Returning Officer explaining the situation so I could cast my vote at the Returning Office.

As it worked out there was no need to go to the Returning Office. When I finished my 10:30 class, the situation had been corrected at the MacLaggan Hall polling station. I returned the note to the poll worker, so I couldn't vote twice, he gave me new ballots and I voted accordingly.

As you can see, the actual version of what happened and what you reported are vastly different. This is a result of one of two things: a) your reporter didn't hear the entire story and

wasn't conscientious enough to ask me for the facts when he had plenty of opportunity to do so, or; b) either you or your reporter deliberately twisted the fact to suit your own purposes. Whatever case it may be, it boils down to shoddy journalism and cheap sensationalism. May I suggest in the future, Ms. Walker, that if you are going to use the power of the press, you also accept the responsibilities of presenting facts to the public and not half-truths based on third-hand sources?

I think both you and your reporter owe an apology to not only the poll worker in question, for insinuating he didn't know who was running in the election, and also to the student body for misleading them with false information. After all, if there is a reason to question one of your allegations, perhaps there is a reason to question them all.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy Lynne MacKay

The basis of life

Dear editor:

I have been interested as I am sure others have in Mr. Betts' article of Oct. 8 and the response by Mr. Parkinson's of Oct. 15. Both individuals have stated on what their foundation of life is based. I happen to agree with Mr. Betts that reason is an important part of life, but I would stress only a part of life. In Mr. Parkinson's letter, he commented life could not be explained totally by reason and in fact, reason can limit our view on life; for example, it is difficult to explain what causes love to exist, yet we do not reject the concept of love because it cannot be mentally explained. In disagreement with Mr. Parkinson I do think a man or woman can be his or her "own saviour." History shows us examples like Hitler's extermination of the Jews and the development of nuclear arms that man's only way to insure his truth is to forcefully establish it. Under man's form of truth, the poor, the weak and the innocent are the toys of the powerful. Is this the type of salvation which is beneficial to you and me?

What can offer mankind the truth of the purpose of life for which we all search? The answer I have arrived at is Christianity. Jesus Christ taught of love for one another

and justice for all people regardless of their social position, financial wealth, race or colour. Mr. Parkinson said Christian beliefs are one form of internal truth which one can adopt. The problem is that Christianity is more than just an internal philosophy it is a complete lifestyle. Jesus Christ claimed to be God in flesh and only through him did complete life come. He did not say he was one internal philosophy which you can believe in, but he is the only one.

Christ gives you and me a choice to accept his claim or not. To make the best decision on any alternative is to examine the best material available. The best source on what Christianity stands for is from the Bible. Some will say the Bible is a book of fairy tales or others it is not relevant for the enlightened twentieth century person, but I question how many "enlightened" individuals have seriously studied the Bible? Many of us are familiar with a few verses or passages, but not many have read the whole thing or large parts of the whole thing. There are other materials available like *Who Moved the Stone* by Frank Morrison and *The New Testament Documents: Are They Reliable* by F.F. Bruce which examine the historical basis of the Bible. The Bible is in effect a

history book of God's character and His revelation through the ages, yet some reject the Bible before reading the first word or turning the first page. Both Mr. Betts and Mr. Parkinson hold Christianity in low regards because an all knowing God is in control. The thought that an all knowing God is in control gives me a sense of hope and not despair. With the tensions like the Middle East and Poland in the world it is comforting to know that Ronald Reagan and other world leaders are not the only ones looking after these situations.

There is more to Christian faith than maybe you have considered. I would encourage you and challenge you to search into what Christianity can mean in your life; and base your search as you would a history essay or a math problem first look at the facts before you came up with your solution.

Bruce Dickson

UNB Christian Fellowship President

P.S. We have booktables around the campus. Feel free to stop by and ask any questions you may have.