

WARDELL STUNG BY PROTEST

Over thirty U.N.B. students staged an orderly demonstration in front of the *Daily Gleaner* Building Friday morning, in protest of the appointment of Michael Wardell as Chairman of the Atlantic Development Board. Their chief objections were that no economists or industrial interests were represented on the Board, the appointments seem to have been political gifts for party supporters and defeated candidates, rather than men better qualified to analyse the problems of the Atlantic area.

The demonstration was organized immediately following the announcement of the appointments by Prime Minister Diefenbaker on Thursday last. Leaders of the demonstration were disappointed in the choice of Michael Wardell, publisher of the *Fredericton Daily Gleaner* and the *Atlantic Advocate*, as chairman of the board. One Law student expressed the view that Mr. Wardell has neither the training nor the background to undertake this project. He further stated that the Board should have included trained economists, representatives of Maritime industries, and should have drawn from the experience of the men who have grappled with this problem through the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council. He said, "If the Brigadier needs to be rewarded he should have been appointed to the Senate where he could do little harm."

The demonstrators were well armed with placards bearing many slogans — "To hell with Wardell," "Less Politics more action," "Wardell's bad news," "To hell and back with Wardell," "Canal, Causeway, Corridor, what about industry," and a bull's eye with "Dief scores—all bull, no eye" inscribed.

The protesting students distributed the following "news release":

"The participants in this protest march do not represent any organizations nor do we have any political affiliations.

"The reason for this protest is that we feel most strongly that the Atlantic Development Board should have a better qualified and non-partisan chairman.

"We feel that the establishment of this Board is a step towards an intelligent and planned development of our Atlantic region. Now that the machinery is available to initiate the development of our region, we protest most strongly the use of the Board as a means of, as we see it, political patronage. The development of this region is far more important than any political rewards."

Largely instrumental in organizing the protest were students of the Faculty of Law and the Department of Economics. The action of the demonstrators drew the support of most of the 2400 students at U.N.B. and drew interest from the University Faculty and many citizens of Fredericton who witnessed the demonstration. In a statement to the press, Students' Representative Council President, Tom Calkin, said that he fully understood the sentiments behind the protest, and that only a lab prevented him from joining the march himself.

Saturday morning, Brigadier Wardell released the following reply for the demonstrators: "I am sorry my appointment as chairman of the Atlantic Development Board is bad news to some but glad it is good news to others."

"All activity about the Board promotes interest. What we want are positive ideas rather than anonymous slogans on posters.

"Anyone who has a positive idea is invited to send it to me. I will see that it is considered by the Board as soon as it gets to work."

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thumbs down...

The *Brunswickan*, with its entire editorial staff, is emphatically opposed to the plans for the erection of a Student Union Building at this time.

The editors have delayed publishing a stand on this matter for some weeks. We now believe that a useful purpose will be fulfilled in doing so, and that the alternative we suggest will provoke constructive action. Our attitude is bolstered by the survey printed on page 9 of this paper, and we are confident that the majority of the student body will agree with us on the following points.

—The students have not been directly consulted on this major project, and have been only scantily informed.

—The members of the Building Committee will receive large grants from the SRC, but they claim that it is not in the students' interest to publish their reasons for wanting to build a Student Union Building.

—It is evident that the need for "office space for campus leaders" is negligible, compared to the current and very real need for a campus auditorium, new library or swimming pool. No matter what other services a Student Union Building can offer, they are outranked in priority by the preceding three projects.

The editors of this publication reiterate that we think that the idea of a Student Building is both excellent and worthwhile. We are certain that the students will support a campaign to raise funds to donate a building to the university . . . if the building proposed is the choice of the students in whose name it is being given.

The spokesmen for the Building Committee, in private conversation, defend the plans for a Student Union Building in the following manner: "We cannot raise enough money to build any of these other buildings, and any effort on our part will conflict with the administration's fund-raising plans for them. We can have the students raise a little of the money downtown . . . the administration will raise the rest for us; that way we get the S.U.B. and the others will get built anyway."

We deplore this attitude and these plans.

It appears that we have ceased to have a Student Building Committee, and that the name of the student body is being exploited, without their knowledge or consent, to further the aims of this silent committee and/or the administration.

Our feeling is that the S.R.C. should call a plebiscite to determine which building the students would like to work toward. If it is not the Student Union Building . . . and we think it will not be . . . we should begin the fund-raising campaign immediately, and set a target objective for the end of this academic year. The money raised could then be given to the university in trust, to earn interest until the building can be constructed.

We thin that this plan would gain more student support and give us a good start towards constructing facilities which we desperately need . . . the effort being by and for the students of UNB.

STOP PRESS;

CLEAN GLASS

FOUND IN CAFETERIA!