brunswickan, december 3, 1968 9

# Faculty: Intellectuals or Clerks?

er, not its shadow.

think that the "radicals" are

a small but a useful minority

whose immense energies could

best be channeled to advance

Put bluntly, professors

have no regards for student rad-

icalism, and have not examin-

ed its contents. But they

want to use it as an instrument

to club the administrators

with rather than use it as a

means of opening new fields

of student-faculty relations or

broadening the existing

sources of co-operation and

communications. This op-

portunism is being slowly de-

tected by the students, but as

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professional interests.

# By Dr. George Haggar From THE CORD WEEKLY Canadian University Press

The fundamental issue facing university faculties in Canada is whether our "intellectuals" will continue to act as sales clerks or begin to act as intellectuals. Doubtless, most of them as "liberal-minded people" consider the question before us irrevelant as a social issue, but significant as an academic exercise in this world of liberal harmony and "fellowship".

The exponents of harmony in this country have of late discovered that students in fact have passions and those untutored minds are people.

What is amazing, however, is that those consumers are raising questions about the quality of the sold products and sometimes the manufacturing skill of the producers. And most irritating of all, is the fact that the students are asking the higher clerks - the administrators - about the conditions of work for the producers, the environment in which they are shopping and above all, the managem ent of the factory system.

As catalysts of the coming revolution, the students are the harbingers and the heralds of a new civilization - a civilization that asserts that man is not a speck in the cosmic dust, nor a chattel to be bargained about, nor a child to be assuaged by a pacifier. In their quest for self-dis-

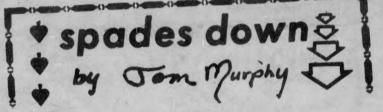
covery, human committment and social emancipation, the students have put their seniors on the defensive and the latter have reacted in typical rulingclass manner.

They have either withdrawn into their shells hoping that this "generation gap" is a temporary phenomenon; or, having noticed the mounting tide of the onslaught, they

design of the contemporary have tried to harness it so as university, thinking that they to reinforce the existing order can call in the troops if the ocand demonstrate their liberalcasion requires them. Meanity. Thus, the new "public rewhile they will rely on "realations" in the universities, the son" to persuade the adminiscommissions, the joint comtration that the "machine" mittees and the new "fellowcan be operated more productship". But all this utilitarian ively and more efficiently if activity and this "humanism" they sit in on more non-acseems to have whetted the apcountable and non-functionpetites of the consumers who ing committees. are no longer satisfied with "joint partnership" and are

To illustrate this principle, seeking the substance of powlet us cite our campus - the best of all possible campuses. Here, I think, is the crux of Here we merely have an ecolthe matter. The students have ogical community - a personlearned here and elsewhere alized environment of monads that in fact, the supporters of linked together by a physical the status quo have to abdiplant and a "benign" adminiscate or surrender. Moreover, tration whose members prethe faculties have become the pare and distribute the month-Girondists in "this best of all ly "diet". The faculties propossible worlds". And since test and they grumble in their they do not want any basic "palatial" faculty lounge, and change - they merely want to they even talk about "power", be "in" on the secrets of embut the moment someone has pire and to achieve this "hisaccess to power, his informatoric mission" - some of them tion becomes privileged and it would like to have a united cannot be divulged, etc., etc., front for the students. Though most professors are contemptetc. uous of "student power" they

The difficulties of the professors are compounded by their lack of collective consciousness as a group and thus their relationships with the students cannot be any more than transactional. For these reasons, the faculties are halfvictims, half-accomplices and therefore, half-human beings. And this leads me to say: unless the intellectual replaces the clerk, both the administrator and the teacher will become superfluous clerks in this great private enterprise of ours. Therefore, it follows that the intellectual as the intellectual as the interpreter of "tradition" must become the author of the tradition, and if accredited clerks and members he does not, or refuses to, he, of the new priesthood, the professors will go on demandlike his predecessors, must be consigned to the dustbin of ing a role commensurate with history. their functions in the eternal



A short while ago, I testified in the Supreme Court of New Brunswick on the Strax case. That court was a mockery of justice. I, along with any of the other defence witnesses, might well have testified to the bottle-throwing mob that on several occasions gathered outside the window of Liberation 130. The treatment would be about the same. Bill Walker's geology pick was Judge Barry's gavel in court. The intent was the same.

Take for instance the attitudes of Judge Barry. I am in no position to accuse a man of being biased; his manners have been self-convicting. Defence counsel was constantly asked to delete or at least rephrase their questions. This request was inevitably accompanied by a recitation of the rules of court, long enough to be inhibiting. The crown, of course, was not

subjected to this same sort of treatment. But this is minor compared to the manner in which Vince Kelly, one of Dr. Strax's lawyers was dismissed.

Just before we had entered the courtroom, Kelly was talking to us (several defence witnesses) about the testimony that we had to offer. The judge's secretary walked by. Kelly, after receiving her approval, asked her if she would contact Miss Gertrude Gunn, chief librarian, asking her if she could come down and testify. No mention, whatsoever, was made of a court order from the judge. There are four witnesses to this fact.

When Miss Gunn, obviously upset, took her place on the witness stand (just after I had finished), she explained her presence to the judge by saying that she had received a court order issued by him through his secretary. Judge Barry called an immediate recess to clarify the situation. How one can clarify the situation without talking to all parties involved is beyond me - but at any rate, the judge refused to talk to Mr. Kelly.

When court reconvened, Barry immediately told Harper that Kelly was dismissed from the case. Kelly attempted to inject an element of truth into the courtroom, but Barry cut him off before he had a chance to be heard. I am sorry to say this, but either Judge Barry, his secretary, or Miss Gertrude Gunn was mistaken. These are the cold facts. There are no other options.

### The courts in New Brunswick are simply the instruments of the corporate elite. Their duty is not so much to make just decisions as to make right decisions (i.e. decisions which will further perpetuate the elite which controls and rewards them.) Court appointments are political appointments. Only the naive would reject the notion that an individual becomes a justice or judge after he proves his worth to the establishment.



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