

Faculty: Intellectuals or Clerks?

By Dr. George Haggard
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 irrelevant as a social issue, but significant 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 management 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-discovery, human commitment and social emancipation, the students have put their seniors on the defensive and the latter have reacted in typical ruling-class 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They have either withdrawn into their shells hoping that this "generation gap" is a temporary phenomenon; or, having noticed the mounting tide of the onslaught, they

have tried to harness it so as to reinforce the existing order and demonstrate their liberality. Thus, the new "public relations" in the universities, the commissions, the joint committees and the new "fellowship". But all this utilitarian activity and this "humanism" seems to have whetted the appetites of the consumers who are no longer satisfied with "joint partnership" and are seeking the substance of power, not its shadow.

Here, I think, is the crux of the matter. The students have learned here and elsewhere that in fact, the supporters of the status quo have to abdicate or surrender. Moreover, the faculties have become the Girondists in "this best of all possible worlds". And since they do not want any basic change — they merely want to be "in" on the secrets of empire and to achieve this "historic mission" — some of them would like to have a united front for the students. Though most professors are contemptuous of "student power" they think that the "radicals" are a small but a useful minority whose immense energies could best be channeled to advance professional interests.

Put bluntly, professors have no regards for student radicalism, and have not examined 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 opportunism is being slowly detected by the students, but as accredited clerks and members of the new priesthood, the professors will go on demanding a role commensurate with their functions in the eternal

design of the contemporary university, thinking that they can call in the troops if the occasion requires them. Meanwhile they will rely on "reason" to persuade the administration that the "machine" can be operated more productively and more efficiently if they sit in on more non-accountable and non-functioning committees.

To illustrate this principle, let us cite our campus — the best of all possible campuses. Here we merely have an ecological community — a personalized environment of monads linked together by a physical plant and a "benign" administration whose members prepare and distribute the monthly "diet". The faculties protest and they grumble in their "palatial" faculty lounge, and they even talk about "power", but the moment someone has access to power, his information becomes privileged and it cannot be divulged, etc., etc., etc.

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 half-victims, 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 interpreter of "tradition" must become the author of the tradition, and if he does not, or refuses to, he, like his predecessors, must be consigned to the dustbin of history.

spades down

by Tom Murphy

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.

CASH & CARRY CUSTOM CLEANERS

Wish to announce

**they will give 10% discount
to all students on dry-cleaning**

**Trucks pick up laundry on campus
Monday and Wednesday from
6:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in front
of McConnell Hall.**

**DELIVERY: Tuesday and Thursday
in front of McConnell Hall.**

DIAMOND TAXI

ST. JOHN ST.

**24 HOUR SERVICE
PHONE 475-3335**

*Special Airport rates for UNB and
Teachers College Students.*

**The best-dressed
men you meet
get their clothes**

**at
Tom Boyd's
Store.**



*Catering to UNB students
for over 30 years*

*Exclusive dealer for Botany 500
by Tip Top Tailor and W. R. Johnston
& Co.*

MADE TO MEASURE—READY TO WEAR
Fredericton's only exclusive men's clothing store

10% student discount

Tom Boyd's Store

65 Carleton street Fredericton N.B.