

Bad weather- our fault or commie plot?

By PETER ARCHIBALD

The most recent threat to the security of North America from the always blackening Soviet Communist Ruskies, at least some believe it anyway, is Moscow monitored weather, but it may be closer to home.

Very large radio impulses are reportedly traversing the cold skies of the USSR. Russian authorities have told us that these are simply experiments to transfer energy without powerlines.

Although the Russians deny it and call the accusations absurd, the bad weather we've experienced in the Atlantic, as well as the rest of Canada is still of late being 'tagged on the Soviets. They admit that they are doing weather experiments on a small scale, but this type of activity is hardly new, and certainly not restricted to the USSR.

Man's influence on the atmosphere is significant on many counts but rarely to his desire or advantage.

The bad weather this year could probably be accredited in part to the climatic disturbances of man, but all the same is going to be the result of the natural processes to a greater magnitude.

We have put many particles into the atmosphere through pollution, that act as condensation nuclei. This causes without lengthy explanation, changes in the patterns of normal precipitation.

The wastes of industry have been collecting in our air significantly in the past century.

Increased amounts of carbon dioxide has the effect of maintaining greater amounts of energy in the atmosphere. This results in higher mean temperatures in many areas.

Although man's ability to control the climate to his needs is insignificant in comparison to the natural forces of the elements, we are affecting our environment in

other ways.

Cloud seeding seems to be the most apparent of man's directed efforts. The procedure of inhibiting rain by dropping certain chemical elements into non-precipitating clouds from aircraft of rockets, is one that has merited little credit in its effectiveness. However we still persist, and there are always schemes on the boards to chance the climate on a large scale.

Many of these have the Arctic centred in their plans. Much of the Arctic ocean is covered by layer of ice which effectively insulates the atmosphere (in Jan. about -30 degrees C), from the relatively warm ocean beneath, (about -4 degrees C).

Thus the atmosphere is only a short distance from a large source of heat. The ice pack also reflects around 65 percent of the solar rays that strike it, whereas exposed water would absorb about 80 percent. Subsequently the arctic is deprived of much of the energy available to it.

In fact, the summer sunshine would be enough to melt the ice pack if it were absorbed and not reflected.

It's possible to do this by applying a thin layer of dark material, such as carbon black, to the ice surface to reduce its reflectivity. Once free of ice, it is possible that the Arctic Ocean might remain uncovered even in winter. The decrease in the equator to pole temperature difference that this scheme would produce, if it were successful, could affect the entire global circulation and, as a consequence, worldwide climates.

One jump ahead are the scientists in the USSR who have experimented with spreading coal dust and cinders to accelerate the melting of ice in Arctic ports and bays. They report that the spring breakup of ice can be advanced by as much as a month.

It's also conceivable that if the great Eurasian continent could be broken up somewhat more with bodies of water, perhaps the climates of the more northerly latitudes could be tempered.

Large areas of lowland could be flooded, thus sharply reducing the enormous annual temperature range of northern Siberia (over 100 degrees F), and opening up a vast area for cultivation.

This sort of climate study on the Soviets part would be of interest to Canada with our great expanses of cold, rather than their efforts being knocked down as a commie plot.

CCES conference coming up

By ANDREW STEEVES

Guess who's coming to dinner? Well not dinner really but rather the Dineen Auditorium. Give up? The SRC.

You can start to cheer now, if you wish. If not you can at least plan on dropping in on the SRC Council Meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 28 in HC-13. The SRC has decided to meet the students by holding sessions throughout the campus. The idea is to make the SRC more accessible to the students and by doing so encouraging the students to use their council. Last week's meeting at MacLeod Hall was well attended by councillors and students and it is hoped that the Engineers will make a good showing as well.

The EUS has announced its representatives for the upcoming Canadian Council of Engineering Students (CCES) conference. The conference will be held in Sherbrooke, P.Q. from January 4th - 8th, 1978. These conferences are annual affairs which feature a

host of excellent speakers and a lot of good times. They are good places to pick up on the latest developments in the Engineering profession as well as the best in social functions. Those chosen to go to the conference are: Ken Vaughan, Steve Rickard, Bruce Morrison, Mitch Smith, Steve Marr, Bob Lennon, Peter Blight, Dave Cogswell, Robert Blue and Tom Crawford. Congratulations to those who were chosen and good luck on their trip.

It's good to see how well the Surveyors and the Eng. 3 team are doing in Basketball. As of last week they were tied for first place in their division. The Surveyors also seem to be doing well in Soccer where they are in third place. Other Engineering teams in the Soccer loop include the Chemical Engineers and an Engineering 5 team.

Some sports scores from the last week: Civil 3 lost their hockey game to Business 8 by a 3-2 score. Mike MacQuoid reports that neither team played up to their playoff form of last year but its likely that both teams will improve as the season progresses. Other hockey scores were unavailable at

press time. In ball hockey the Civil stars lost a tough one 7-6 to Forestry 2. The stars were playing their first game together and it was obvious in their disorganized play. However Steeves, Smith, Pollett and the rest of the team are confident that the team will be a contender. There are two other Engineering teams in the league, Eng 2-3 and Forest Engineering 5. Forest Engineering lost their game on Monday while the results of their Wednesday match, as well as the results of Eng 23 Monday game, were not available at press time. Ron Estabrooks thinks that the Forest Engineers should be in the race for the playoffs once the team settles into shape.

Engineers! If you want to have your views on national issues counted take the time to fill out the SRC questionnaire in this issue of the Bruns or better still prepare a brief. All comments will be passed on to the headquarters of all four national political parties.

Please keep those sports scores coming in. Just drop a note into me in Room 306 in Head Hall. The same for notices for IEEE, CSME, CSCE etc. See you next week.

Extension enrolment going up

Extension enrolment is up for degree and non-credit courses at the Fredericton campus of the University of New Brunswick says extension services director John F. Morris.

While final figures will not be available until after January registration, there is now a 2-3 percent increase in degree credit courses. Non-degree courses are up 3-4 percent over last year's figures.

According to Dr. Morris, the winter extension program figures tend to remain constant from year to year, while there is a current decline in summer school enrolment. The majority of part-time students now choose the inter-session courses held in the spring.

The increase of enrolment by part-time students in non-degree at UNB is part of a national trend, says Dr. Morris.

This trend seems due to the "increased accessibility of the universities to part-time students and the increased awareness of the need to continue education coupled with less perceived stigma to go back to school".

As the individual job situation becomes less challenging, and increase in post secondary education can afford a career or occupational change of outlook. Many corporations and businesses now have special programs to allow time-off for this purpose, he said.

And from the consumers point of view, the extension program affords one of the most reasonable leisure time buys on the market. Course costs can be as little as \$5.00; most range from \$10 to \$40.

For the senior citizen, of course, it's the best bargain of all. Tuition fees are waived for those over 65. Approximately 40 senior citizens are taking advantage of the degree course option this fall.

If you missed first session offerings, there will be another 25 non-degree courses beginning in January. Some courses will be

new; others will be repeated for a second term.

In addition, the extension department is responsible for the English language program, which provides language emersion for business, professional groups and full-time foreign students, and the continuing education program in forestry.

CHSC - new manager



By RICK FOWLER

News from the College Hill Social Club. A new manager has been hired to replace Mr. John

Giles who, as you know, advocated for the Roll 'n Keg some time ago.

The new manager is Mrs. Jean Baker. Baker is originally from Edmonton where she managed the R.C.M.P. club. She arrived in New Brunswick for the first time last April.

Speaking for the Board, Mr. Giles stated "We (the Board) were very impressed with her qualifications and the decision to hire her was unanimous. I would also like to ask all members to hold off with problems or questions for a couple of weeks to allow Mrs. Baker to get acquainted with the situation."

THE NEWMAN CONNECTION

A committee of students and chaplains from the three Halifax universities is busy preparing for the Atlantic Regional Newman Conference to be held on the week end of January 20-22, 1978. The guest speaker will be Dr. Byrl Oriss, a Toronto psychiatrist, who will be speaking and leading discussions on Motivation as it pertains to the university setting.

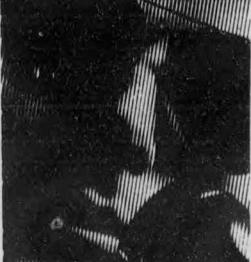
The Conference will be held at the Renewal Centre in the Mount Saint Vincent Complex and registration fees are \$25.00. For further information interested persons may contact either Father Joe Hattie, O.M.I. at 424-2287 or Brian Duggan at 455-0700 in Halifax, or your local chaplain.

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