

Committed together we stand, insincerely together we fall

EDITOR'S NOTE: J. Berube is taking a master's degree in clinical psychology at UNB and offers the following comments on the actions of the demonstrators in the Centennial Building demanding student aid reforms.

Perhaps the soldier who has been to war, or the sailor who has frequently been out to sea, or the

nation that has just finished a long civil struggle, knows a bit about comradeship. It is unfortunately all too often during a long struggle that people and peoples learn the meaning of a basic common togetherness. For too long mankind has been given too many lofty virtues such as: the knowing species, the good species, the understanding species, the generous species, the insightful species. Perhaps these strengths could

have been and still can be partially adapted to the human species, but in essence these are still simply descriptive words. But a strength or a virtue which has dominated the ascent of man as a growing species has been togetherness. In his primitive evolution amidst the cruel rigors of nature, it is the togetherness of the tribes, or whatever, which safeguarded the existence of the tribe. This togetherness cannot be given the noble title of comradeship because one million years ago (give or take) insightful awareness of the needs of others did not exist. Nature gave primitive man the dynamisms of sticking together for the common good, just about like it gave other species of animals the sticking together dynamisms for their continuation and evolution. Togetherness is older than mankind's history, older than the Earth. It is a natural unifying dynamism which physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, philosophy, theology, education, would have much to talk about -- and more.

Comradeship is a step beyond togetherness. But it can never leave the dynamisms of togetherness. Comradeship is to togetherness as vegetation is to sunlight. Nevertheless, comradeship is a remarkable growth beyond togetherness. It is individual man looking upon the other man as his growing partner, and feeling bound to the needs of this other man. Comradeship is as new as history and as new as every generation which dedicates itself to the needs

and potentialities of its members. Comradeship is forever a possibility and never an inherent strength like togetherness. It can exist and it can simply not exist. But there is a brutal danger with man pertaining to comradeship. If there is no comradeship, it is within present man's capacities to destroy even nature's togetherness. Where nature simply kept life harmoniously together, man has become capable of undoing this natural togetherness. Instead of helping the growth of the human species as well as the evolution of other species, man has frequently found himself destroying both himself and nature. Pascal, the French philosopher, summed it up pretty well: "He who wants to act like an angel, acts like a brute."

Mankind, again, has given itself too many lofty virtues.

What seems to be a truth about mankind is that it can no longer live on a simple level of togetherness. Comradeship has become an imperative. If man returns to togetherness alone, he is no longer human in strength and in action. And if man gives himself lofty and inactive virtues of comradeship, he again returns to a destructive level of existence. "To be or not to be". What could be a few of the lofty and inactive virtues which mankind has given itself? One of these is that: all men are born equal. This is one of the most ridiculous ideas ever imagined. It is possible that on all levels or on all dimensions of human existence, that this idea is completely unrealistic. Who would dare say that all men are born with the same economic power? the same economic fortune? the same chance for social growth? the same family and environmental stability? the same emotional and intellectual opportunity? Nature has rarely been strong on luck. Nature has almost always been strong on reality. Nature has almost always been reluctant on lofty ideas. Some will say that all men are born equal under the law. This is again ridiculous. Law as defined politically and as adapted politically, is the fabric of economic reality. It is unquestionable that economic distribution is simply not equal. Some will escape and say that all men are born equal under God's law. This is perhaps essentially true, but under organized religious law it can be completely false. . . . or at the least

very unrealistically adapted.

What could be another lofty and inactive virtue attributed to mankind? Another would be that: comradeship exists in a universal reality? This again is ridiculous. It is pure delusion. Nuclear arsenals ready for fast delivery on a neighboring country's population is a radical fact. Comradeship at its best? No. Cannibalism and evil at its best.

You see, in reality comradeship either exists in lofty and inactive virtues, doesn't exist sufficiently enough, exists in potential only.

Now how does this apply to the fact that a good number of French students are presently protesting in the Centennial Building in Fredericton while only a few English students are joining in?

The French students are fellow students. They are joined together in comradeship to protest for a need that is very basic to them. It is a need which is obviously more urgent for them than for the English student, although a good number of English students are in the same boat. The French students are doing the work while the English students at the University of New Brunswick and at St. Thomas University are supplying food, washing facilities, and a few other goodies, -- and of course moral support also. This almost sounds like the very generous donations given by the American government to undeveloped countries.

The Americans give a few million dollars to a particular country (and publicize it of course), but only after having taken a hundred times or more of that country's natural resources. That could be called living off somebody else's back.

That could be called greed. It is obviously not even togetherness. You see, some people are more or less fortunately born with a "bow tie" under their necks. And that bow tie has to be kept clean. Bow tie people produce bow tie people. Bow tie people do not really know what it means to be born in an unequal economic environment.

And what is even better, bow tie students dabble in the rich symbols of comradeship presented in literature and education, and they say "aude sapere" yet they do not "dare act and share". This could be called "comradeship ---" . . . perhaps it would smell

Comrades (together - ensemble) we can act

The SUB

would like to remind everyone that it will be closing its doors at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and reopen that night for Extravaganza. The SUB will open at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and Saga will have a brunch available.

Also: Howie Goldberg is pleased to announce a contest, to name the new coffee-house! Please submit ideas and logo ideas to the SUB Office.

SUB CAFETERIA

Bar-B-Q-Ribs

Beef Eater Fries

Salad with choice of dressing

Small beverage

For Only \$1.95

Thursday, February 12, 1976

11:30 am — 1:30 pm

NUS and CAUT left out

WINNIPEG (CUP) -- AUCC President Michael Oliver said student organizations were not invited to a proposed "tri-party consultation to develop a university policy for Canada" because the AUCC considers itself a representative of the university "as an institution." Oliver stated the AUCC was not a "partial organization" like NUS or CAUT and urged these groups to meet separately with the government.

Responding to questions at a press conference held at the University of Winnipeg Oliver said fees should not be raised "without very, very careful consideration" of other factors like student aid.

Increasing student fees "can't be seen in isolation of student costs", said Oliver.

The press conference was called after the presidents of Manitoba's three universities and Oliver had met with Manitoba Premier Schreyer and presented him with the AUCC proposal on university financing.

He said there could be a positive benefit to the problem if applicants do have to rewrite, as they will have had the benefit of a previous writing without it going on record.

No mention has been made concerning additional payment of fees for a rewrite, as all parties await resolution to the problem.

Strikes

TORONTO (CUP) -- "assistants should hold off major planned expenditure term", warns Graduate Students' Association (GAA) leader Andy Stanley "because do not get paid while the strike."

Stanley cautioned that

Says

REGINA (CUP) -- A University Social Worker and former president of the Canadian Union of Students is dismayed with "failure of successive governments to do anything about poverty in Canada."

Speaking to a University Regina sociology class, Lowney said that "social councils", like the

Councils

Dear Editor:

This past Monday attended a fairly long SR that just should not have long as it did. One of the stumbling blocks was to over whether or not to allocate one thousand (\$1,000) to the continuing demonstration down at the Centennial Building, fondly referred to as the SUB.

As an outsider I just couldn't see why the debate did come. The decision was made in a referendum. After all, it was whether or not the body would support disbursement, the only council could do was to what student input there.

Strangely enough, for people on council did bring point. If it had been sooner the debate would have been settled. After students on this camp vote in favor of the decision.

Engineering

Dear Editor:

The Engineering Society approached this year Newcombe and the Wival Committee to create a platform for the opening of an Ice Palace for ceremony. We decided advantageous to build structures in one and front of the SUB.

The actual construction place over a day and involved at least a dozen some times; finishing p.m. this past Saturday platform about five feet long and 15 feet wide with six foot high walls, sides, and a throne in.

We were quite proud result, especially considering amount of work involved people had cut classes, ski trips and other activity to participate. We know that our effort be appreciated by a group who, sometime between decided to completely demolish the palace. I say a group because it would take people to knock down it.