

OCTOBER 9, 1981

Objections to MENSA unnecessary

Sir:

Tony Rhinelander ("Mensa Requirements 'Meaningless'" Oct. 2) feels all Mensans are arrogant and inadequate and that therefore membership in Mensa is neither valid nor relevant. His objections are unnecessary and possibly bigoted. If Mr. Rhinelander doesn't want to join Mensa he is perfectly welcome to stay away, especially as he would obviously be uncomfortable. I'm sure he participates in at least one or two activities or societies I would not enjoy, but that makes his choice of recreation no better or worse than mine. It simply means our tastes differ. Do we not each have a perfectly reasonable right to indulge these tastes?

As for our "... ludicrous and meaningless membership requirements (IQ level) ..."

they are no more so than those of other organizations. University groups discriminate on various grounds, i.e.: sex (women's sports teams don't permit male participation, and vice versa); religion (I.V. and

Canterbury Community are for Christians only); and race (ethnic groups like OCSA restrict membership to certain

groups). None of these organizations is doing anything wrong. All groups need some sort of common focus to keep them together.

What makes having a similar IQ intrinsically a less valid excuse for a club than a common sex or race or religious affiliation?

Mr. Rhinelander characterizes Mensa as "... an

organization of persons who claim intelligence but have to

join a group in order to find out what to do with it. . . ." He obviously doesn't know me or he'd know I take orders from

no one, whether about my "intelligence" or anything else. There are plenty of people around UNB-STU who can vouch for that.

Incidentally, I apologize for an inadvertent error in my article of Sept. 25. One Mensan is a full-time student at UNB; I didn't know til last week that he'd moved here.

Sincerely,

Faith J. Cormier
Maritime Representative
Mensa Society Canada

WUSC news

The local WUSC committee or the World University Service of Canada consists of a group of students from both STU and UNB campuses who are interested in learning about world affairs in all its many forms. In this fall semester we will concentrate on Latin America; to define its specific development and underdevelopment problems with the help of slide-tape presentations, a film series, knowledgeable speakers, and informal round table discussions.

WUSC is not attempting to find solutions for these problems which are complex, highly controversial, and somewhat removed from our daily routine at university. We do, however, have visible accomplishments. In 1980, with the help of the STU faculty and administration, our local committee sponsored a political refugee from Ethiopia. In the near future, we would like to see the UNB administration help sponsor another refugee student.

Other activities on this year's WUSC agenda will include the annual mid-November Caravan Sale which features crafts from countries around the world. In the spring term, we will shift our emphasis to topics relating to Africa, as well as involving ourselves in such activities as International Day and a rich man-poor man dinner.

Sound interesting? For more information come to our next general meeting on Sunday, October 18, 8 p.m. Room 103 of the SUB.

Bridge club formed

Fellow Students;

A bridge club has been formed as a result of a meeting held Wednesday last. The objective of the club is to play recreational/competitive bridge at all levels.

Meetings/play sessions will be held Wednesdays in Rm 26 of the SUB at 7 pm.

There is a possibility that the club will develop from a rubber bridge club into a duplicate

bridge club. In the initial weeks, time will be devoted to developing the skills of the members. Experienced players will be on hand to give guidance and to conduct play sessions.

We the members would like to invite all who are interested in playing to come along and join the club.

Rory Fraser

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