

New Brunswick Education Laws Could Mean Trouble

The New Brunswick Government is undertaking to pass some revolutionary legislation, and it has drawn the attention of observers across the country.

One of the major items on the list is intended to solve the problems of education in New Brunswick. The Government would like to have the same level of high school education in all parts of the province. This is an important decision, and we are happy to see that there is so much interest in education in the legislature.

But we have one fear, and that is, will the richer centres have restrictions on the quality of the education they can offer?

One would imagine that this is the case, because the proposed legislation includes provisions that there will be a provincial scale of salaries for teachers, which cannot be supplemented by local governments.

This is intended to improve educational facilities in poorer parts of the province, which it will. But unless the province is willing to bear the huge burden of salaries required by raising salaries of rural teachers to the level of, say, Saint John, it will mean only one thing: teachers in the 'richer' parts of the province will have to endure either cuts in pay, or will have their annual increment reduced.

Except for the patriotic few, who think it is worth this loss of money to stay in New Brunswick, it will be impossible for teachers to remain here. When they can be paid more in Ontario or Quebec or the United States, there will be little reason for teachers to undertake to sacrifice themselves in New Brunswick. Competition will take its toll, and it will be many more years before we have well-educated students here.

TAXES WILL RISE

This situation, of course, is intolerable, and the government must have realized this. So the government must have made provisions to raise the salary level of all the province's teachers to that of the highest in the province, or at least near it.

And to bear the weight of this increase, taxes will rise. We hope it will not be the sales tax, because that hurts only the poorer people. It will have to be the property taxes, and other taxes which more-or-less reflect the financial level of the taxpayer.

If sales taxes rise, many New Brunswickers will find themselves unable to cope with the problems of maintaining a home, and they will leave for Ontario, which doesn't want them. If other taxes rise as well, a number of professional people, many of whom are not very enthusiastic about living conditions in the province as they are, will leave for greener pastures.

And so will University students tend to leave. New Brunswick's greatest export will continue to be brains.

The Provincial Government has a lot to think about in this session.

We must take an interest in the legislation, we must be sure it is right for us, unless we plan to observe New Brunswick from future homes across the country.

Brunswickan

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Older Twist, 1867

-from the Coryphaeus

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

Having frequented the Brunswickan many times this semester I was appalled by the state in which your newspaper staff keeps its office. It is nothing more than a swill. I cannot understand how a newspaper manages to make its way out of the Student's Centre and eventually back to Campus. Another thing that bothers me about your paper is the news staff. I believe that I am correct in assuming that you are now working on your third news editor. I am a transfer from a Western Canadian university and had a chance to see how their newspaper was run. I do not mean to imply that the news editors of that paper were superior to any of the three that you had or have supposed to have had but these people when they left the position at least gave notice of such intentions or when they were given a position they did not accept the job and then turn around and drift away from the job completely. This seems to be a general trend on this campus — it is only those at the top that do any work. The only person on your news staff that has stuck with it is Nelson Adams, who incidentally has done an excellent job. Campus organizations need more of his type and less of the type that is typified in person who's name appeared besides Nelson's in last week's Brunswickan.

Laval Turgeon.

WE'RE LOVED

Editor:

I would like to thank you, on behalf of the Red 'n' Black Publicity Committee, for your

help in making the show a success. I am sure your help did much to attract the number of students who came to the show, and for this we are grateful.

Stan Rust
Red 'n' Black Publicity

ATCH ME NO QUESTIONS
Editor:

Congratulations to that unknown author who commented on apathy being started at the top. I too feel that it is a shame that student leaders make the mistake of thinking that students are interested in what is going on on campus. Only a few are. And these few are the people who benefit from the SRC fees, and who will learn that the majority of the population of this country don't really give a damn. Such a tragedy is a product of our affluence, and may eventually lead to the destruction of our nation.

An Alumnus

A FAMILY THAT READS TOGETHER . . .

Editor:

I have just read with interest (because you are my brother) your recent papers, and I want you to know that I and my friends here think your paper is better than the one here at McGill, which is one-sided and will hardly listen to reason or accept suggestions or print articles that do not follow their political line. Keep up the good work, and I'll see you at Christmas.

Jan

RECORD BREAKERS

Editor:

Why is it that you come out with three good papers in a row and then ruin your record with a wreck?

Interested.

REPENT, REPENT

Editor:

The statement made by Mr. McLeod in the Nov. 25 Brunswickan has aroused our indignation as members of the freshman class, a feat not easily accomplished.

It is our opinion that Mr. McLeod in his statement was overly presumptuous in charging that the freshman class was largely responsible for the existence of 'rowdy behavior' and 'drunkedness'. When a freshman arrives on campus he tends to fall into an already established pattern, a pattern formed by previous students. In other words, he tends to maintain the status-quo.

We agree one hundred per cent with the Brunswickan on their interpretation of Mr. McLeod's article, a very prejudiced and narrow minded approach to the problem, if a problem does in fact exist.

If a survey were taken among Mr. McLeod's drunken freshmen, how many would actually be upper classmen?

It is not that we wish to knock the upper classmen, nor do we wish to transfer the brunt of the problem to their shoulders. However, why should we be made to bear the consequences? Granted, certain freshmen do carry on in such a manner, but do the majority? What small percentage of the freshmen class does Mr. McLeod's article really pertain to? We urge Mr. McLeod to consider his stand. Furthermore, we thank the Brunswickan for its just interpretation.

Wesley Jamieson
Brian Newmann

P.S.: It's a wonder that Mr. McLeod's foresters would allow him to make such a statement.