

THE COLUMN

by
Ed
BELL

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Who says that Christmas is over-commercialized? Well, they should take a good close look at our Winter Carnival! So far the voices protesting against this year's Carnival have been silent, but now that criticism won't lose the Committee any money... it's time for us to face the facts and for the Winter Carnival Committee to face the music. Money, you see, is what's causing the problem... the problem of an over-commercialized, over-advertised, egotistic publicity orgy, which is what the "U.N.B. Winter Carnival" has become.

"Why the complaints", ask the members of the Committee, and "is this just another Fairbairn-type column?" The complaint is the doubt that is being raised in the minds of U.N.B. students as they try to buy their way into their Winter Carnival. Oh, everyone is a little in awe of the fact that they are going to hear the Brothers Four, who had a hit record... and that they're going to hear the Limelights, who have been on the Ed Sullivan Show... and that they're going to hear Stan Wilson, who was popular at our Carnival of two years ago...

But the "awe" soon becomes "Aw-w-gh!" when they buy their tickets, and their programs and their Winter Carnival Buttons and everything else that the Committee says you must buy to be patriotic to the old "Red 'n Black". Even the merchants downtown are hopping onto the financial Carnival-wagon with "special stock just brought in to help you enjoy the Carnival"... and help you on your way to bankruptcy. The final straw is when you are accosted by the members of the Committee in the hallways between classes... selling the local newspapers, so you can see what a "stupendous, tremendous" publicity job they are doing. I fully agree with one indignant female student, who said, "Go peddle your papers somewhere else!"

Let's look at some of the "publicity" which the Winter Carnival Committee didn't see fit to print. The only place you could have seen all the candidates for Queen in one place prior to the crowning was at an expensive banquet and fashion show in one of the local hotels... sponsored by two Fredericton merchants and a newspaper. Then there was the matter of the "Broadway Hit" with a "Successful" run on Broadway... the play, a musical comedy called "Happy Hunting", was a satire on the Kelly-Ranier marriage... and folded after four days. A million people across Canada must have received quite a chuckle when they read about this hit in a national magazine writeup on the Carnival.

But "Happy Hunting" wasn't presented after all the propaganda. In its place was to be a college revue with talent from campuses far and near. But then that folded, and a desperate Committee had to phone another little big-name entertainer to take its place. To ensure good publicity for this new move, it wasn't trusted to the Brunswickan, but given as a "scoop" to another newspaper. Could it be that the Carnival Committee was so busy making publicity and taking in money that it didn't have time to plan the Carnival?

In the note of instructions that was given to ticket sellers, this comment appeared... "If the Wednesday night tickets are selling too fast, quietly push the Friday night passes; and vice-versa." Our Carnival is now so big and so expensive that we can't all attend at one time... we have to be tricked into going one night or the other, to the gym or to Mem Hall. Why? Because the Carnival now has to have big-name entertainment (we don't have any talent here at U.N.B.), it has to be "colossal and stupendous" (it doesn't matter if you have a good time or not), and it has to make money so that next year's effort can be even bigger (and the entertainment for 1700 students can fill a 5300 seat Coliseum).

"I'll be getting letters from the Committee... Why don't you write one?... You who spent approximately \$40 so that you and your lady friend could be swallowed up in a crowd, which amounts to \$8 per hour for the name-type entertainment... you who thought that the Carnival was nice, but was it worth the \$10,000 it cost you and the merchants. If you don't write, maybe next year the tickets will be \$5 each and there will be two basketball games, a hockey game... and a half-hour show featuring Elvis Presley.

ODDS N' ENDS

Winter Carnival Chairman Dave Dubrule called this column "absolute trash" and said "nobody will read it."

From the Varsity:

Ban Card Playing For McGill Student

(From The Varsity)

MONTREAL (CUP) — Card-playing has been outlawed at the McGill University Student Union.

A complaint from an irate father stating that his son had lost money playing cards in the Union was the cause of the decision.

The Union president explained that there is a clause in the Union constitution forbidding gambling in the building. There is ample proof, including the admission of the card players, that the games are played for money.

The president added, "The situation is getting out of hand when parents complain of the time and money lost by their sons. We don't want the responsibility for students squandering their year to fall on the Union."

He revealed plans to sell the building's pool tables, and convert the Games Room into needed office space, making more room for "worthwhile activities."

(Continued on Columns 4-5)

Model Parliament

The Joint Model Parliament Committee will be meeting at 7:30, Tues. night in the Conference Room (Student Centre) to discuss plans for the coming election on Feb. 22. All four member parties are requested to have their two representatives present. Members of the Maritime Monarchists are officially invited to apply for membership in the Joint Committee, in accordance with the constitution, at this meeting.

Debating

Members of the UNB Debating Society will be participating in three intercollegiate debates on the weekend of Feb. 17. At home, the Debating Society will host Acadia and St. Thomas Universities. In Halifax, at Dalhousie University Club, President Jim Anderson and Vice-Pres. Ed Bell will debate the negative of the resolution — Resolved: that the Canadian government adopt a tighter policy on American investment in Canada. Tentative plans to debate in St. John's, at Memorial University are being considered for the same weekend.

Liberal Club

The UNB Liberal Club has announced that on Feb. 17 a rally and reception will be held in the Tartan Room featuring as guest speaker Premier Louis J. Robichaud. Invitations are being extended to Faculty, students and townspeople. The meeting will be non-political and informative in nature.

Ex.-L.B.R. Club

Notice has been given by several students of this university that an organizational meeting will be held to draw up a constitution for a club to be formed by former members of the Lady Beaverbrook Residence. Undergraduates are preferred. Meetings of the founders will be held on Feb. 29 in the Aitken House Lounge.

Last Chance

Intervals, the literary magazine published by the Arts Society, is still looking for some of your literary masterpieces, such as poems, essays, and short stories. Why don't you pass them in to any of the staff members or drop them into the ballot box in the basement of the Arts building, before Feb. 17. You might win a \$5.00 prize for some of your entries.

Co-eds Pick Up The Tab

Residence co-eds entertained at a buffet supper in the Maggie Jean dining room last Sunday evening, Jan. 29. This, the most

recently established of Maggie traditions, was comfortably attended by upwards of forty couples. Catered by the Industrial Foods Limited, the buffet table itself lacked finish and colour, but conversation and a friendly atmosphere labelled the evening enjoyable.

Just Rumours?

Is it just a rumour or is it true that the Gentlemen of Jones are planning to have a really big weekend on Feb. 10, 11 and 12? Next Friday's Brunswickan is supposed to have more information on this going concern.

Hunters Invite Divers

The Rod and Gun Club wishes to extend a special invitation to the Scuba and Skin Diving Club to attend a lecture given by the man who introduced the original skin diving gear. The Club's Honorary President, Mr. Bruce Wright, Director of the North-eastern Wildlife Service, will show slides and give a talk about his early experiments in skin diving, Thursday, Feb. 23, in room 106 of the Forestry building, at 7:30. Everyone interested is welcome.

Ban Card Playing

(Continued from Column 2)

Commenting on the action, one bridge player stated, "We may play too much, but it's our right as individuals". Another comment is a classic: "It doesn't matter. There's always a place to play bridge."

The Bridge situation at Toronto is much the same. Card playing is outlawed at Hart House, the Trinity Buttery, the JCR, and during lunch hour, the Vic Coffee Shop.

However, card-playing runs rampant during coffee breaks in the Duncan Room, the St. Michael's College lounge, and the Rumpus Room at the WAB.

Hi Mom... I couldn't wait to phone!



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