

Support needed for Quebec workers

Students urged to boycott

It looks like we have another boycott. This one promises to be a long on time affair; much like the one on Kraft. A point of information for those on this

campus who do not know about Kraft. A boycott was started in the sixties, to protest Kraft flooding the market of their not-so-delectable cheeses and such, thus

pushing out competition and the smaller food companies.

However, the concern at this particular time is that of the dilemma of the workers at the Vilas Furniture Company in Cowansville, Quebec. It seems that they are getting the short end of the stick. (excuse the pun). Vilas Furniture is a company solely owned by Molsons Brewery Limited - and that is the company being boycotted as they are responsible. The whole affair stems from the fact that the workers are employed under some of the most horrendous conditions of which we have ever heard. Remember the history lessons you had on the factory conditions just after the Industrial Revolution? Well, that is a good start to understanding the problems in Cowansville. The conditions there are much the same:

When people have to slave within their workday so as to make a decent salary, like those at Vilas, it is a good indication that something is wrong. The workers get paid by a bonus system, have to work using dilapidated machinery and have no assurance of safety. Many there have lost a finger or two or a hand because of amputations by the lumber saws and such. In the past 10 years, three deaths have occurred due to industrial accidents. Most of the people work for \$100 a week or less. To make matters worse, the Quebec government is aware of these appalling conditions; but because Molsons is such a big and powerful organization, the government sees fit not to interfere.

The conditions that exist in Cowansville also exist in the two other Vilas outfits in Quebec. However, the workers there have not organized to strike. (Those at Cowansville have - but not much progress is being made.)

There is ample information on the boycott and how it started in the feature story of this publication of the paper - see the center spread.

The main concern of The Brunswickan, however, is the stand that the students, faculty and staff of UNB and STU and anyone else who reads this paper are going to take on this issue. We all realise that we do have a tradition to uphold - that of apathy (who cares) - but consider this a plea.

Maybe you do not want to give up Brador, Molson's Export or any other of their infamous brews. But what is wrong with Alpine or Schooner or any of our infamous brews? Nothing. Experts agree - Canadian beer is Canadian beer - not much difference between any of these. But because of the hardships now being experienced by the Vilas workers, we ask that YOU boycott Molsons and any of their related companies.

The workers at the Cowansville, and their families, probably do not know you. Who knows, they probably do not know or have never heard of UNB or STU. But that is not to say that they will not appreciate your support. Boycott Molsons - for that matter, do not even sit on Vilas furniture - and that way, Molsons gets hit where it hurts - on the money-making end of the deal. This boycott is going nation-wide. Public opinion will eventually go against them. Then maybe their workers will get a fair shake, as everyone in a democratic society deserves.

Who can tell? You may even feel good about it. So do it now! Boycott! Write a letter! Let us and Molsons know that you care. Tell your friends about it! It won't hurt you - it will only help those who need it.



THE BRUNSWICKAN

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Ken

EDITOR'S NOTE: This submitted to the Brunswickan February 18th by SRC student Gordon Kennedy:

Chief Ronald Goodyear, Chief of Police, City of Fredericton

Dear Chief Goodyear:

I am writing you on a very grave matter. In a recent student demonstration at the Student Union Building, one of the members of your force acted in a quite unbecoming manner. When requested to show his badge number (I might not be exposed - from my uniform - but revealing this means the police are out of uniform) he refused to reveal it to at least two other students on behalf of myself and

Them

Dear Editor:

I was very disappointed in your article on Steven Marglin given at UNB on Jan 18. Unfortunately, your report on the theme of Marglin's

Marglin is a pro-economics at Harvard and a Socialist. He believes in the current economic system of Western Capitalism, particularly the United States, and its roots in the economic and policies which

Mbiza

Dear Editor:

I am writing to thank you for the article on Jack and the disappearance to light. I have a detailed account - I have statistical reports about the disappearance, but quickly prepared. However - after reading your article, I am sympathetic, yet rational

Game

Dear Editor:

This letter is also in the news that the game be turned into a coffee

As Pete Stillwell stated in an earlier issue, this matter is totally useless and will do little entertainment for the student students. But this is to voice a serious opinion matter but to announce anyone interested in the other concerned student

