

Campus laborers on their knees for better conditions

By PAUL CORBIN

"They, the people to be administered, are objects whom the bureaucrats consider neither with love nor with hate, but completely impersonally; the manager-bureaucrat must not feel, as far as his professional activity is concerned; he must manipulate people as though they were figures, or things." This passage is from Erich Fromm, from *Alienation Under Capitalism* an article in *Man Alone* by Eric and Mary Josephson.

In case you missed the *Brun* last week, the laborers on this campus are on their knees for better working conditions and higher wages. The Province of New Brunswick and the Administration of UNB see fit to pay a casual laborer \$2.05 per hour at present and the rest of the scale is equally low for other classifications. UNB also dismissed a large number of cleaning personnel last spring because of "high turnover". This is a symptom of poor management and not grounds for dismissal!!

We have a School of Business Administration on the campus, and granted it's no Harvard but, Hell, any of the professors of management could have at least been consulted before such drastic measures were taken! We are being taught how to honestly and properly manage human resources, new theories pertaining to management of people, etc., and our own administration cannot manage their own labor resources. (I shudder to think of the condition the rest of the University is in!)

Morale at the university, as far as laborers are concerned, was very good up until about a year ago or more. The men finally caught on to the fact that they were being abused. They are still without a contract and the Administration is

constantly losing good workers as a result of the breakdown in negotiations. Money cannot buy good laborers. One can pay a man \$10 per hour and he will only work as hard as he wants. The President approved of the spring dismissal and I feel it has been a mistake on his part. The girls at the Dunn and Tibbits will back up my argument here because there is a great dissatisfaction of cleaning services at their residences.

Being newly appointed into the situation perhaps Dr. Anderson felt it was the most efficient way to handle the problem. But what about the Plumbers, Electricians Painters, Grounds Keepers, Truck Drivers, Equipment Operators etc? There is still time to maintain what little morale is left and perhaps even boost morale. Why would the Administration seemingly ignore such a problem as their own Human Resources?! The Administration is actually trying to remove certain classifications from the Union and are not voluntarily recognizing CUPE Local 1326 on those grounds.

One must realize the tremendous costs involved in raises and fringe benefits etc., and perhaps because I am in a Management Program I usually would not concern myself with most other union demands. But these people are a part of our university community and are being paid far below the wages of workers in other organizations doing similar work. The secretaries on the campus are probably the most poorly paid on campus unless they are a Dean's secretary or hold similar responsibilities. The secretaries are afraid to organize for fear of losing their jobs!!! Imagine having a fear like this in 1973!!! We are almost the oldest university in Canada. All I am asking is why are we so far behind the others?!

Prof offers commentary

Dear Sir:

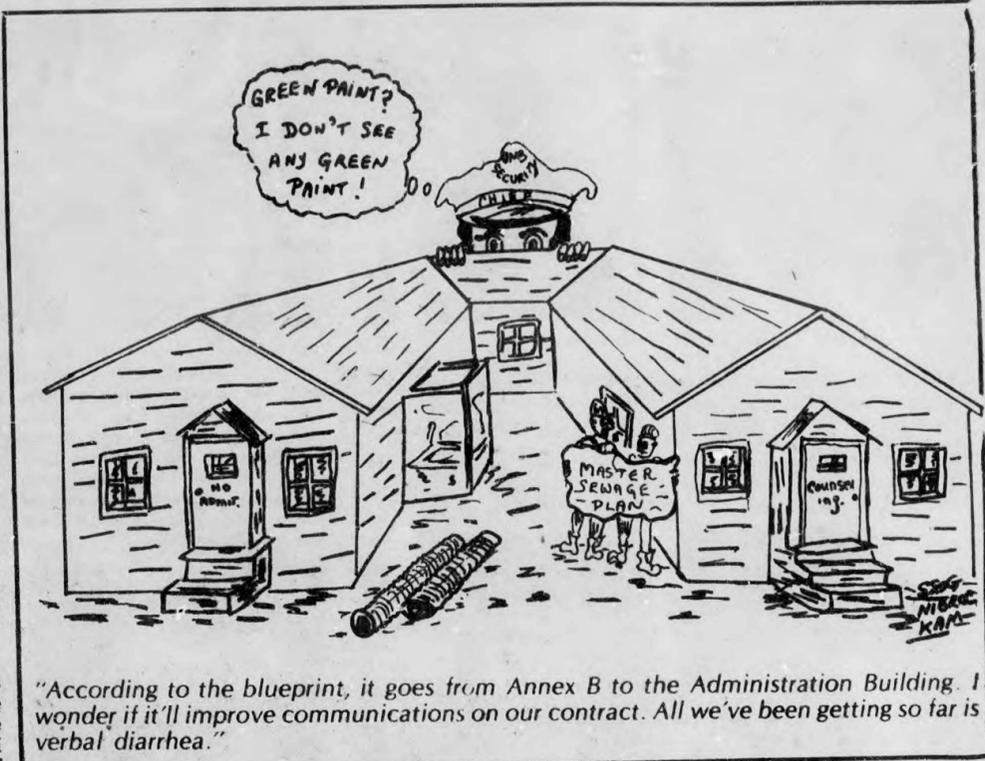
This letter is not meant to be a rebuttal of the November 16 *Brunswickan* article about the psychology department lounge. Perhaps such a rebuttal will be necessary, but I'm hopeful that responsible, complete investigation and reporting by *The Brunswickan* will correct the inaccuracies and misleading statements in that article. This letter is meant instead as a personal commentary.

When funds became available for a department lounge, it was Professor Gray who volunteered her time and efforts to make the lounge a reality. It was she that located and arranged for the purchase of suitable furniture for the lounge; it was she who went through the laborious task of deciding upon what the lounge should be, and then of obtaining estimates for necessary modifications to the room, which could be made only after the end of classes; she then submitted descriptions of the work to be done so that the changes could be made. It was Professor Gray who concerned herself with the functions that the lounge ought to serve, ordering *Current Contents*, a review journal of recent publications of interest to the department; it was she who obtained files for the journal, and for descriptions of graduate school

programs and career opportunities in psychology that would be made available in the lounge; and it was she who had to deal first with the delays and uncertainties of bureaucracy. This investment of her energies clearly indicates her estimate of the importance of the lounge, and her interest in seeing it in operation. The department owes Professor Gray a debt of gratitude for her efforts.

It is also true that students in psychology have been energetically organizing activities to increase the cohesiveness of the students, and to increase student-faculty interactions within the department. Because of this they have also recognized the importance of the department lounge and have directed their efforts towards making it available as soon as possible. This student concern and involvement in departmental activities is a good and necessary development if the department is to function as it should. It is unhappy that misunderstandings can arise in spite of shared goals and aspirations, but they do, and not uncommonly. It's my hope that the common ends will be more important than temporary differences.

Allen Feider
Department of Psychology



"According to the blueprint, it goes from Annex B to the Administration Building. I wonder if it'll improve communications on our contract. All we've been getting so far is verbal diarrhea."

Our staff gets more criticism

Dear Sir:

I rarely read letters to the editor, let alone attempt to counter ones I disagree with. However, I changed my style this time because of what I believe to be a grave injustice. In the last issue two letters appeared criticizing *The Brunswickan* movie reviews by Danielle Thibeault. I disagree and intend to poke a few holes in the two letters which attempted to poke holes in Miss Thibeault's reviews.

1. Concerning the comment on Pepush that "it is quite apparent from her review that she did not even stay to see the whole performance." I had the impression from the review (an impression which I found later to be correct) that by "short performance" Miss Thibeault meant she had wished it had been longer. This was the case because she enjoyed the performance so much.

2. True, a mistake was made concerning the portrayals of Eichmann at his writing desk, on the battlefield and in his garden. This was because Miss Thibeault was unable to obtain a program, as apparently was the case for most of the audience.

3. This next one I think is kind of funny because in this case I think the letter writer exposed something which may be desired not to be known. I am referring to this person's desire to see the word fuck in print. There you are, I won't mention your name for your sake, look at it and enjoy it. College is just as liberal and cool as you were always told it would be in high school.

4. The next point is related to the last one. Why "A Flying F... at a Rollin' Doughnut?" It was part of the dialogue.

5. About Miss Thibeault's so called inability to differentiate between the actor and the character, all I can say is I disagree.

Ron Ward

Dear Sir:

(Re: Miss Thibeault's reply.)

Unless her opinions charge like the wind anyone who can read knows what scorn Miss Thibeault has for those who rely on their mothers to help them through life.

"The only reason he ever got through school at all was that he had a very influential and attractive mother who would have done anything to spare him the trials of a normal life. Whenever he was in trouble, all he had to do was write a 'Dear Mother...' letter and all that was wrong magically became right."

(Review of Young Winston)

By the way the other half of the "decapitating duo" (?) is having as much response to his letter as I am to mine the odds are much greater than two to one.

Karen Crandall

Editor,

So Miss Thibeault has proved she can count -- at least up to three. Perhaps, with the help of her wee feathered friend, Jonathan Seagull she shall abbergast us all, and reach the dizzy heights of four.

Dale Estey

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Estey:

We appreciate your comments about our lack of intestinal fortitude and our lack of guts. ("I thought the time had passed when someone would actually be afraid to write 'fuck' in a college newspaper...")

Well, faithful readers, we aren't afraid to use "The Word." So please fuck off.

Library sets us straight

Dear Sir:

The November 23rd story about the Library and the ordering of books confuses the functions of the Library and the Bookstore. The latter orders books for students and others to buy; the former orders books for the Library to own and lend. The Library is pleased to receive suggestions from students in the form of purchase requests. If a title suggested falls within the collections policy of the Library, it will be purchased. The student will, in either case, be advised. If the student wants to own a book, the Bookstore is pleased to place a special order.

Thank you for helping to make this clear to Brunswickan readers.

Yours sincerely,

Gertrude E. Gunn
Librarian
and
Mrs. M. A. Logue
Manager, Bookstore

More letters are to be found on page 10. If you have submitted either a letter or a comment and it did not get in this week we'll try for next week. Don't worry, we haven't thrown it out. Please type all submissions to the editor. Next week will be our last issue before Xmas, so if you've got a beef let us know now.