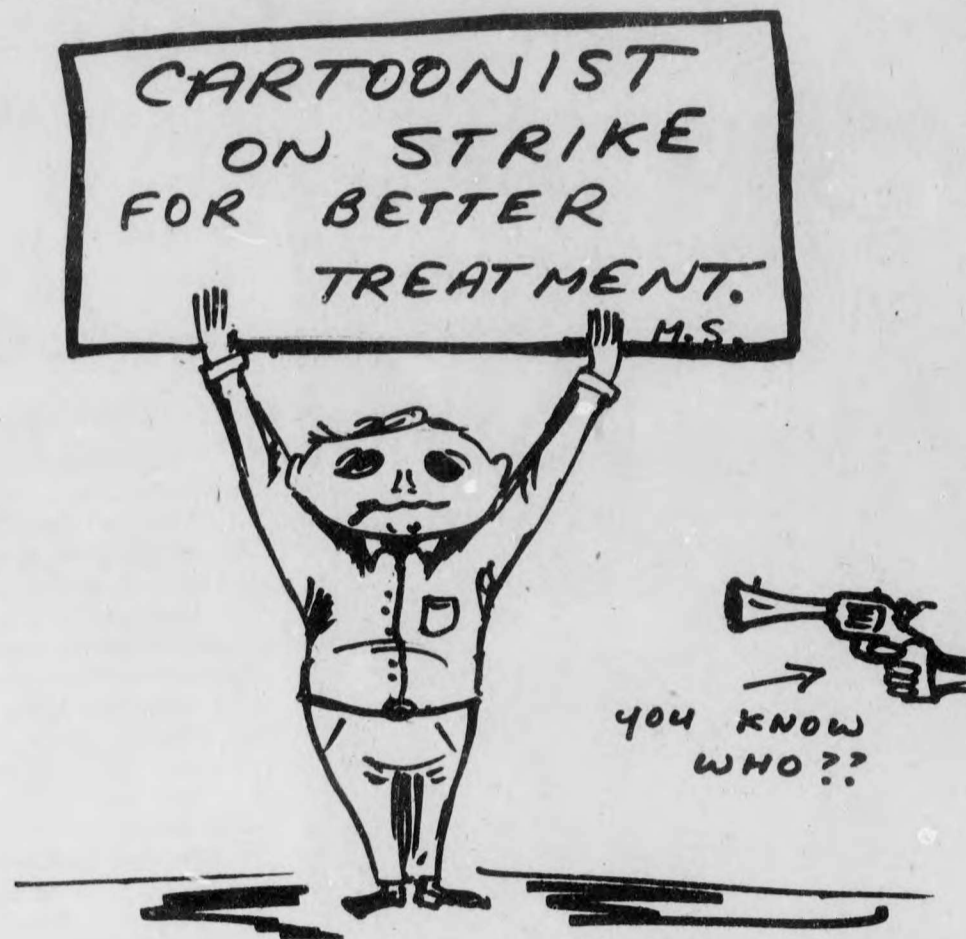


Brunswickan

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Contributors: Bob Vincent, Tammy Ross
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Typists: Christine Zachary, Kathy Steiner

Established in 1867, the *Brunswickan* is Canada's oldest student publication. It is published weekly for the students of the University of New Brunswick at Fredericton, N.B. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Student Representative Council. Subscriptions \$4 a year. Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa. The *Brunswickan* office is located at the Memorial Students Centre, UNB, Fredericton, N.B., telephone 475-5191. This paper was printed at Capital Free Press, Brunswick Street, Fredericton.



Editorial

The Party System for the SRC

As North American students emerge from the apathy of the non-involved era of the fifties, one of the more dynamic ideas considered in Student Government is the implementation of the party system on campus.

Regardless of how representative a student council is, it is still only a council and as such cannot be as representative as the more democratic system of government and opposition.

Aside from the obvious advantage of the colour and excitement of a political campaign, the dependence upon grassroots support provides the two most concrete advantages. Individuals running for a council might run a campaign entirely on a popularity basis; but a party as a whole would virtually break their backs to give students what they really wanted. Imagination on the part of candidates would become mandatory.

Once a party system comes into being, student government would almost immediately become continually activist. In an effort to hold the mandate from the students - to hold the opposition at bay, the government would be compelled to remain forever on the alert, imaginative and progressive.

The party system cannot simply be instituted through legislation on the part of Council. Candidates would have to run as members of a party, and if a majority of Council were of one party, it would simply come into being naturally. As the system crystallized, Cabinet posts would be offered, along with their opposition counterparts, shadow posts, ensuring that at any time the students could receive information from their student government on virtually any issue, not only from one viewpoint, but from two well-informed students with opposite viewpoints.

Already, well over a dozen students are planning to run as members of political parties, some of them completely unaware of their opposition party. In the coming months, the *Brunswickan* expects to see several evidences of follow-up activities as campus politicians brace themselves for the coming election in January.

Letters to the Editor

SRC MACHINERY INADEQUATE

Sir:

As Public Relations Officer I have seen the present machinery of the SRC. Although I have seen sincere workers - I feel the whole system is hopelessly inadequate for a campus that should be progressive and involved.

I have talked to a few friends and gained support, in proposing a party system to replace the existing stagnation.

I would wager that most students have talked provincial politics, but I feel only a few know what an SRC is and how it operates. A two-party system would add dynamic color to the campus. Parties clashing over the platforms - designed in the students' interest (by and for them) - makes for a more alert and keen council. A party that is formed from the grassroots up, is much better equipped to fight for open rooms, lower tuitions, better residences, etc.

Increasing the number of council members would proportionately provide more workers. Slackness is not tolerated in party caucus.

Political competition for votes gives the student a better chance of a good platform. A recent issue of *MacLeans* listed us as No. 17 of Canada's top 20 universities. They said councils are conservative - students, apathetic. Unfortunately, this is true - but we can improve on this. I believe the wide scope of a party system demands involvement and progress.

Other universities such as St. FX have adopted such a system - why not us?

A party system allows those who are non-councillors a chance to voice their views in a much more representative form than now exists.

Down with apathy. Down with stagnation. Down with conservatism. Down with our outdated political system. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party.

James Belding

CO-EDS, UNHARNESSED!

Sir:

In respect to the Student versus Administration dispute concerning many of the rules and regulations of this University and especially those concerning resident students, it seems to me that there are more basic rules to be discussed than that of open rooms. For example, there is the rule demanding that students dress up for all meals - perhaps the Administration does not realize that a girl may have to change five times during the day to avoid wearing pant-suits or slacks to dinner. Also there is the case of alcohol in the girls' residences. Why not have the students declare what liquor they are bringing into their rooms, rather than have all the sneaking which is obviously going on now and will continue in the future? As for the curfews, many universities have adopted the system whereby a girl chooses her own curfew and has to sign in by that time - it is called the honour system.

As Nelson Adams mentioned in his letter two weeks ago, UNB resident students are being treated as high school children. How can we be expected to become responsible adults until we are given responsibility - the responsibility of ourselves and our education? I feel that the girls, even more than the boys, should try to throw off their harnesses.

One over-mothered co-ed

UNB STUDENTS DRUNK AS FOOLS

Sir:

I read the September 28 issue of the *Brunswickan* for enjoyment. What enjoyment I got! Patrick Watson (Carleton) urging for a Freshman revolt. Against What?

We must admit most college students are good people. However these are the radicals. Look at the damage they do to the city as well as UNB.

I have one particular instance in mind. At one football game last year I counted 37 students male and female, drunk as fools. Is this student education?

This year the SRC as quoted by your paper appears unable to make any system work. What are we getting now - hippies? This is not only affecting UNB but the city at large. The only real benefactor is the Province's Liquor Stores.

I must say that the copy of the *Brunswickan* is a poor looking paper to the one I used to get when I was in college.

William Wilson, B.A.

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