

# Alcohol in the university community

BUSINESS SOCIETY will sponsor a Wine and Cheese Party for business men and queen candidates - from Where It's At, a social events column, Brunswickan, October 29, 1968.

On the night of October 29, at about the same time the Business Society Wine and Cheese Party was ending, a crowd of about fifty UNB students, most of them Business Administration students, were screaming "Kill Strax", "Strangle Strax", "Queers", and other slogans, outside a window of Loring Bailey Hall, the Physics and Biology Building at UNB. When a girl appeared in the window, several of them shouted "Get out of there you slut".

Many of the students wore their red UNB jackets proudly displaying their Business Administration crests. Some of them chanted a Business Administration cheer, similar to the better-known Foresters' yell ("Foresters once, Foresters twice, Holy Jumpin' Jesus Christ, Zim, Zam, God-damn, who in the hell are we - Foresters.")

As the group increased its volume, it became collectively braver and a few of them threw beer bottles at the building. At least one bottle smashed against the red brick wall. Then one hit the window of Room 130, and the pane broke. The others hit the window, and more glass smashed.

Two or more students from one of the residences arrived with a ladder, and two students tried to climb the ladder. The first to climb, a fourth year Business Administration stu-

dent who lives in MacKenzie House, persisted in maintaining a monologue of abuse directed at the inhabitants of Room 130. One factor may have contributed to his action: he looked like he was drunk.

An interesting but untold aspect of this story is that many of the students at this display were in first, second, and third year. Many of them must have been younger than 21 years of age. And yet the University made no attempt to discipline them, although their drunkenness was a blatant violation of the law of the Province of New Brunswick.

Blame should not be placed solely on the Business students, of course. Drunkenness in the Forestry Lounge (in the Forestry and Geology Building) where Forestry students of all ages are permitted—even encouraged—to drink illegally, was the cause of another incident, resulting in the hospitalization of a student.

*A St. Thomas student received third-degree burns last Tuesday night in a STU-Forestry fracas.*

*The Tommies attempted to take the Paul Bunyan effigy from the front of the Forestry building. The Paul Bunyan effigy is on display as part of the Forestry week celebrations.*

*"We charged into the building through the front door and met the foresters on the first floor," said one STU student.*

*"We made an agreement*

*with them that there would be no kicking, punching or hot water, and that it was all going to be fun. Then one of our boys ran up the steps and someone threw a pail of hot water on him, burning his face and back."*

*"There was just one guy who threw the water and it probably wouldn't have happened if they hadn't been drinking," said the burned student.*

-from the Brunswickan, October 29, 1968.

During Forestry Week a group of Foresters made an attempt similar to the Business raid on Bailey Hall.

On Halloween night there was another raid by students, most of them from the resi-

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dences, and many of them drunk. A number of campus guards discouraged this group but one girl was injured. Students who frequent the Student Centre noticed the large number of drunken and noisy students wandering around on Halloween. Two people saw a girl being teased, held down on the ground, by a group of six or eight male students, and she was calling for help. One student was nearly hit by a firecracker (also illegal in New Brunswick) as he walked close to Neville House on Halloween.

If there was a more reasonably approach to alcohol in New Brunswick, perhaps students would consume it in a more civilized manner. But it is not correct to permit some

of the Province's people to break the law blatantly and to pass it off as student "fun".

It is not justice to allow a mob of drunken students to smash windows and disrupt the affairs of the University, even if their action appears to be in support of University policy, as it is in the case of Room 130. It is expensive and it encourages disrespect for the law, in a manner much more dangerous than a sit-in by a half-dozen young people in a room for which the University has almost no use anyway.

It is the drunken mob that was the beginning of Nazi Germany. At UNB it is the drunken mobs of students of several faculties which are bringing dishonour to the University. (The SDS people have never provoked physical violence. They have been very outspoken, but they have always tried to fight with words.)

Guilt for such actions extends through all levels of University government. In its fall budget, the Students Representative Council approved expenditures by the Engineering Undergraduate Society for beer and wine. Other budgets contained thinly veiled requests for money, some for alcoholic beverages, in contradiction with the laws of the land. Strangely, it is the people who profess "law and order" at UNB who are violating this law. It is the same people who oppose such things as the sale of marijuana who by their silence approve the illegal use of alcohol.

This writer does not oppose the consumption of alcohol, but he does regret that the people who could be arguing for more just laws, and who

profess interest in doing so, are among the most disrespectful lawbreakers.

This includes the members of the Board of Governors and it includes most graduates of the University. They are the people who gave us the nickname "U.N. Booze" and who made the name appropriate.

It would be interesting to juxtapose the clause in the N.B. Liquor Control Act referring to discipline for under-age drinkers, with the clause in the University of New Brunswick Act referring to discipline. It would also be interesting to examine the UNB Residence Regulations, especially the statement that "drunkenness will not be tolerated". None of these is enforced at UNB. At this point in time it appears that drunkenness is condoned, perhaps as a vent to student emotions.

*"I hate living in dormitory type residences. They have a really bad atmosphere . . . When you throw 100 people of the same sex together in a residence for four years there are bound to be a few of them who come out queer. And the barrack style living brings out the worst in people. They want to destroy to ease tension and the residence suffers. The only reason students are kept in institutionalized - militaristic type lodgings is that those in charge are afraid that the students are too young and too immature to live in a civilized manner. But the residences breed immaturity."*

from Equinox, (student newspaper of UNB in Saint John) from an interview with an anonymous former student, October 25, 1968.

Until the appropriate University officials awaken to the fact that they are breeding a diseased culture on the campus, the University will continue to lose financial and moral supporters, and no one will be better for it.

## Davis Sub chairman

Gary Davis was elected full-time chairman of the new student union building at the board of directors meeting last Wednesday night.

The new tir-campus building is scheduled to open for general use Jan. 1. Davis was hired because of the large amount of work still to be done.

Other officers appointed were Vicechairman Donald Sedgewick of the U.N.B. administration; treasurer, Alfred LeGresley, S.T.U.; and programme committee chairman, Elaine Hatt TC.

The manager, whose job it will be to receive applications from groups wishing to use the various rooms for such activities as dances, meetings and movies has not yet been appointed.

Facilities available in the new centre will be superior to those in the old centre. There will be a separate short order area for those who only want a coffee, a cafeteria with two serving lines for larger meals, and two smaller dining rooms for formal or informal occasions. The centre will include TV rooms, music rooms, and possibly a billiards room.

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