

## Important SRC encounter this Sunday

By DANIELLE THIBAUT  
UNB - What some consider to be the most important meeting of the Student's Representative Council of recent date is coming up this Sunday and the president, Bob Poore, will have to "get by (at least until the October elections) WITHOUT a little help from his friend" his v.p. Don Olmstead, who is not returning, this year, having been refused entry to law school.

Right now, he needs all the help he can get and he intends to get at least 50 of them to work on coming programs. He hopes to recruit a good deal of that number from the Orientation Committee because he believes they have the necessary prerequisites for the jobs he has to offer.

The revision of the S.R.C.'s Constitution is now fully completed and the results will be shown at their next meeting. Elections are coming up in October to fill his v.p.'s seat and those left empty by graduating Chairmen.

Another post in student go-

### Approves committee

By ANDY WATSON

UNB - The senate this week accepted a proposal for an advisory committee on research. The committee will provide expertise in evaluating proposals for major research projects such as research institutes and may originate such proposals.

The proposal was prepared by the executive committee of the school of graduate studies spoke of the need for such a committee. "Most members of this university agree that the rational growth of research and scholarly activities at the university requires not only tangible encouragement but also a valid assessment of priorities when allocating university resources to such activities. In the past, decisions concerning the initiation of major research activities may have occasionally been made in a rather arbitrary way.

The proposal was debated with some enthusiasm by the senators and a notion to amend the proposal by making the advisory committee a senate committee rather than a committee of the graduate school was lost. During the debate student senator Peter MacDonald asked if there were to be any students on the committee. Dr. Kavanaugh replied cautiously, "I don't think it would do any harm."

### Drinking age

alcohol is quite another matter. Both ministers feel that the age limit should be lowered to 19. The provincial voting age now stands at 18. Up to and including that age are found almost all high school students in the province. Youth Minister Robertson feels that to allow senior

vernment that is available is that of Entertainment Chairmen.

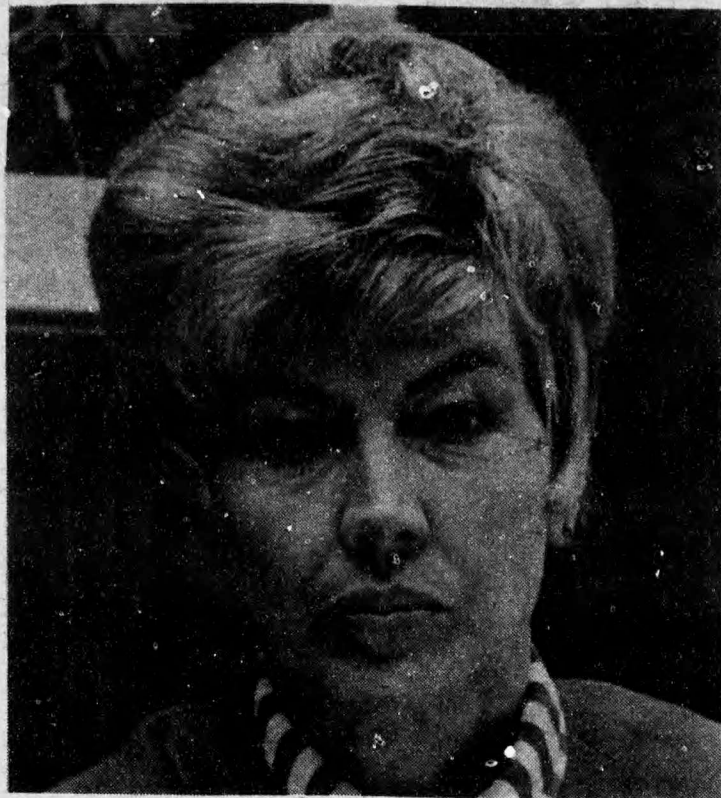
Considering there were only 2 profitable dances last year, and an impressive number of legal and technical mishaps, the S.R.C. is presently studying applicants for the post of "Entertainment Chairman". Winter Carnival and Orientation '72 are to use him to get entertainers but the chairman is at the disposal of anybody and everybody for consultation and organization.

There are now businessmen's conferences going on every week to get people interested

in supporting and/or helping money wise in the reopening of the Housing Project.

There are also talks about getting "The Lighthouse" here in October if the S.R.C. can get them to accept a week date; a must if they're going to find adequate space for the II piece band - adequate enough profit-wise at least.

Poore also believes that student buildings and facilities are not used to their full extent and intends to suggest that the S.R.C. book the SUB ballroom on Saturday nights for the use of the students for parties and dances.



Youth Minister Brenda Robertson.

## Large percentage of U.S. books here

Mrs. Logue, manager of the campus bookstore estimates that 95 per cent of the textbooks for the applied sciences (forestry, biology, chemistry, physics, etc.) are US written. The social sciences are not much better off, with approximately 80 per cent being US written. The one course on campus that rates the highest is Canadian Literature which, thank God, is 100 per cent Canadian written.

At the same time, the greatest number of these books are published in Canada under the authority of the US parent companies. Mrs. Logue cited McGraw-Hill as an example.

Mrs. Logue commented that

what appears on the bookshelves is not a responsibility of the bookstore but of the professors. The fault however does not lie entirely with professors. The number of books written by Canadian authors is insignificant when compared to the demand. In a conversation with one professor he commented that, "I would gladly buy Canadian texts, if they were available, but there are very few Canadians who produce texts that are suitable for undergraduate study." The problem then does not lie with the bookstore or the professors but with Canadians themselves who are not producing what is required by the Academic community.

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high school students the right to drink would strongly encourage many younger people to do the same. The age of 19 therefore stands as the popular choice of the ministers.

The major opposition to any legislation in this sector can be expected to come from

the various religious pressure groups found in New Brunswick. Just how much power they can exert will not be seen until the cabinet makes a decision. With any luck Smith feels that those people of 19 and 20 will see the desired changes by the spring.



Former Vice-President Don Olmstead.

## Youth Minister comments on drugs in N.B.

By ROY NEALE

Last Friday afternoon found our roving reporter in discussion with the Minister of Youth and Welfare. The topic was drug use in the province. The opinions expressed are not those of the government or the cabinet but rather the personal hopes, wishes and actions of Mrs. Robertson.

"I'm not sure that the use of any drugs is desirable", said Brenda. The drugs spoken of include tobacco, alcohol, hash, grass and the chemical uppers, downers and mind-tanglers currently in use. She went on to wonder why people take drugs at all. "People seem so bored", she said. "There must be vacuums in our society that make people so turned off." These vacuums exist at all levels and not merely with youth. "It's time we all did a bit of soul searching and see what we can do to correct the situation". She said that we can't expect Utopia and must try to eradicate the hypocrisy which separates the various age groups and promote misunderstanding.

The bulk of the illegal drug trade and use is carried on by youth. "I'm tired of hearing people refer to youth as the citizens of tomorrow", Robertson said. "We must accept the fact that they are citizens of today." To that end the Department of Youth has an "open door" policy so that interested people have an opportunity to meet with government. Insight in Fredericton, Warehouse in Saint John and Encounter in Moncton are products of action taken by youth and sectors of the professional community.

These three were established with the aim of aiding drug users by making available counsellors, legal aid and medical help when necessary. The Dept. of Youth acts as an advisor both to municipalities and the federal Government. "The Feds control the funds", said Robertson, but they consult with the province before administering them.

In regard to the laws regulating drug use the Provincial Government has little say. The two major pieces of legislation are on the federal level. The Food and Drug Act and the Narcotic Control Act are both Canadian Statutes. Any influence the province has would be applied through federal members from N.B. and through such functions as the upcoming National Youth Conference.

Most influential will be the the LeDain Commission's final report expected soon which will give government a solid base on which to work from. The Committee on Youth's report which was released in Ottawa a few weeks ago recommends the legalization of marijuana. Unfortunately Mrs. Robertson has not read the report (really?) so that no comment could be obtained.

The minister does have an opinion on the law and how it functions now. The penalty for trafficking, she feels, should be increased. The penalty for possession should be reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor. Even with these changes she doesn't have much faith in the criminal code to control drug use. The answer, she thinks, lies in education.

One way better education could be applied is through the school. Classes (currently carried on in some areas of the United States) would explain various dangers in drug use and would be conducted by younger people who have "been through the mill". The final answer to the question is a long way off yet. For now, Robertson feels that there should be more federal funds allocated for use in New Brunswick. As it is she believes "far too much goes to Quebec".