

Let them eat cake !

Louis 14, one of those rulers on the edge of the era of divine right, had this feeling that he was the state. King Louis and many others believed that the King was an infallible source of the wisdom of government. Another absolute monarchist (and monarch), Frederic the Great, said that the peasants had no right to question those in authority because they don't understand.

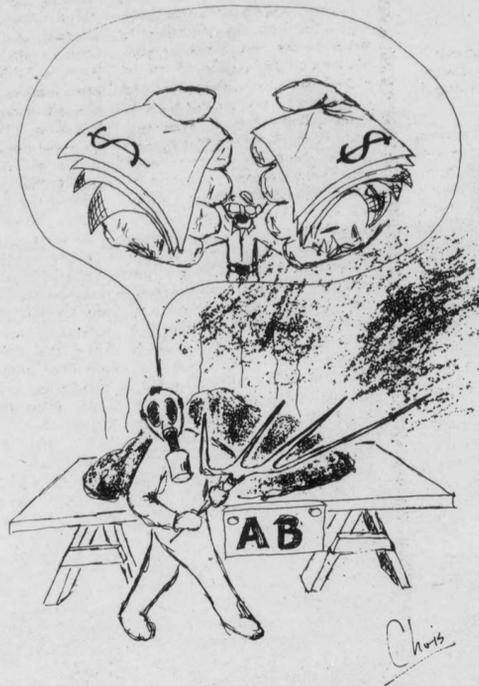
In school one learns that the system of infallibility of leaders and their right to conduct their affairs without accountability went out ages ago. Here at The Brunswickan though, evidence is presented to us on a routine basis which suggests that both the student government and the university government has more than a few people who have avoided learning the aforementioned principles. That is to say, the SRC and the administration still hold to divine right and avoid at all costs any attempt to explain how or why things happen.

Last week, The Brunswickan printed a couple of letters from student organizations suggesting that they had been unfairly treated by the AB. The Brunswickan concurred with this feeling, having experienced the ignominy of the budget process ourselves, and related some information concerning the AB's treatment of CHSR and The Bruns. We are gratified to note that the Nursing Society was able to appeal the budget granted them by the AB. The Student Representative Council saw fit to grant the Nursing Society an additional \$240. Comptroller Cronshaw abstained on the motion.

This week, The Brunswickan has a couple of letters from the AB advising us that everything we knew is WRONG. Not only is everything The Brunswickan knows is WRONG, but those two organizations which wrote in, were also WRONG. Two possibilities manifest themselves. It could well be that everything we know is indeed wrong. However, it could also be that the peasants have no right to criticize the holy action of the AB. Or could it be that us 'kids' have no right to criticize.

Late last week, and on Wednesday of this week, the Senate and the Board of Governors acted to appoint a new Presidential search committee. All except one of the original committee had resigned. Some of those resigned from the Senate or the Board as appropriate. This indicates fairly strong feelings.

The old committee consisted of Dr. Unger (a Chemistry professor), Dr. Hamilton (the Chairman of Surveying Engineering) and Dr. Beckett (a Chemistry professor and Registrar at U.N.B.S.I.) from



the Senate. Board of Governors representatives included Eldon Thompson (president of N.B. Telephone Company), and Chris Nagel (student representative and lawyer), and Richard Clark (Alumni representative and businessman). This committee consisted then of two younger professors (who both got their PhD's at UNB), successful businessmen, a senior student (on the Board for two years), and a Department Chairman. The new committee consists of Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Premdas (a Biology professor from UNBSJ), and Thorborn (a student representative) from the Senate. The new Board representatives are Hoyt (a retired lawyer), Tweedale (a retired civil servant and engineer) and Dr. Burrigge (the Dean of Engineering).

There are a number of changes in the composition of the committee. Instead of three faculty representatives there are now only two. The controversial Board of Deans now has one representative. The student representative has been changed from a senior law student (on the Governors for two years) to a third year business student on the Senate (for one year). Instead of two active businessmen, there are two retired professionals. The average age of the committee has increased considerably.

This may well be just fine, but it does indicate a change. There is no information forthcoming to explain why the Senate nominating committee under Dr. Kavanaugh and the nominating committee under D. Caughey (a retired high school principal) decided that this change was needed. On the surface of it, it would seem that this new committee is far less representative of the university as a whole.

Throughout this debate, The Brunswickan has adopted the position that a duly constituted committee should conduct its affairs in the manner it sees fit, and then it should make its report to the appropriate authority. Since the committee has been struck, the mechanism of its creation is now quite irrelevant. We look to the committee to search diligently and try and capture in a presidential nominee the needs and aspirations of this university.

Us peasants may not understand why you did what you did, but we sure as hell care. We watch with interest.

