

Consumers have agencies working for them

By JEFF DAVIES

Much has been said in the last while about consumers - their habits, faults, etc., and now some attention at least is being focused on the agencies provided by both the federal and provincial governments to protect the consumer.

Visits to the Federal Bureau of Consumer Affairs and its Provincial equivalent, the Consumer Bureau, leave one with a variety of impressions. The two bureaus in Fredericton, at least, differ widely in their approaches to defining just what their work involves and in attempting to convey their message to the public.

When confronted with the question of what the purpose of his bureau was,

Arnold Ferguson, the Provincial Director of Consumer Affairs, chose to say nothing at all. Rather, he supplied me with a few notices and pamphlets. The former were entitled "A Notice of Importance to all Citizens of New Brunswick" and gave a very brief resume of the goals of the Consumer Bureau Act and of the Consumer Bureau itself.

The Act, it says, "was proclaimed to help everyone who buys food, clothing care, lodging, etc. in order that they be made aware of their rights concerning fair business practices, credit, etc." The Bureau, it is stated "will supply information and literature regarding consumer protection," and "will investigate complaints concerning breaches of conduct of consumer pro-

tection."

The two pamphlets concerned "dishonest or high pressure selling" and "credit legislation and information respectively. Ferguson did not elaborate on or explain the purposes as expressed on the notice. When asked where these notices were posted, he replied that they weren't "posted" at all except for some which were put on school bulletin boards.

I was told that they weren't "posters" at all but "complaint forms." Sure enough, a look at the reverse side revealed a place where one could fill in his name, address and particular

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Universities gather for Entertainment Union

By MAURICE GAUTHIER

Representatives from Atlantic Provinces and Maine Universities will gather in Fredericton on October 22, 23 to investigate the possibilities of forming what will be referred to as the Maritime Entertainment Union. The short term goals of such a pool would be to bring "big-name" entertainment to the Atlantic Provinces and to the state of Maine during Carnival and Orientation Week when held at the respective campuses. By proper concert scheduling, it would be possible for one group to give concerts at all universities in the Union and to have their fee split up amongst the various entertainment committees. This scheme is quite conceivable as most of the universities involved are within driving distance of each other. In this way, large scale "rip-offs" as were seen last year with the

"Chambers Brothers" would be a thing of the past. The UNB Entertainment Committees would be paying the same, or hopefully less, than they did last winter for better entertainment.

The forming of a Maritime Entertainment Union would serve another, more long-range purpose than the one just mentioned. Up until now, the Student Councils of Maritime Universities have not dealt with each other as much as they could and should have. This was mostly due to the fact that when SRC's did get together, it was solely on an entertainment committee level and the cooperation provided only as long as did the Entertainment Committees i.e. usually no longer than six or eight weeks. To prevent this from reoccurring, next weekend's conference will be on a presidential level and, hopefully, if a union of any kind is formed, it will remain

in effect after the present SRC executives terms are over.

By instituting such a level of mutual cooperation, exchange programs could be set up between the universities, joint-symposiums could be held and guest speakers of the caliber of Nader and Ehrlich could be invited to tour the East coast.

The meeting next weekend, which was initiated on UNB's

part, could possibly be the start of something which would be of great mutual benefit. There will be, however, certain minor hassles which must be resolved. None of the SRC presidents have met, excluding phone conversations, and this could prove to be a major stumbling block. Should Universities with smaller enrollments be expected to contribute as large a sum towards hiring

entertainment as would a much bigger institution? Who exactly would select the group in question? What should each SRC expect from its counterparts on other campuses?

These are just some of the problems that confront the delegates from other universities and, hopefully, these will be resolved so that we can finally look forward to hearing good music during Carnival.

Isolation is problem says scientist Suzuki

Well-known scientist and television personality, Dr. David T. Suzuki, said Friday the isolation of groups of specialists is the source of most of the major problems facing society today.

As specialization increases, the specialists, be they scientists specializing in research or policemen specializing in maintenance of law and order, tend to be removed from control of the community and put their own functions beyond the good of the community, he said.

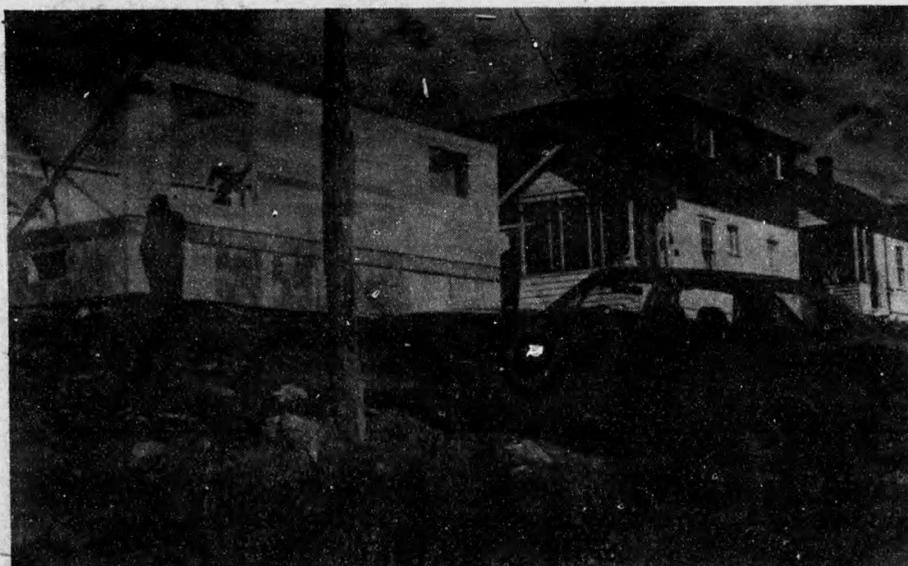
Approximately 500 people crowded into the 350 seat UNB Head Hall Auditorium to hear the colorful Dr. Suzuki speak.

Scientists can no longer carry out research without regard to the consequences, but must make a concerted effort to inform the public of the im-

plications of their research, he said. Suzuki illustrated his point with examples of possibilities opened up by research in his own field of genetics. Cloning, the production of large numbers of identical individuals from one fertilized egg as described in the book Brave New World may be accomplished within twenty years. This technique might be used to regenerate severed limbs or it might be used to mass produce made to order people.

Scientists who attempt to speak to the general public are no longer regarded as serious scientists by their colleagues, said Suzuki.

Dr. Suzuki's visit to UNB was sponsored by the UNB science faculty and the Humanities Association of Canada.



Canada's Indians have always been a topic of controversy. They claim, and perhaps rightfully so, that they've been discriminated against here. For their story, see our centre page. PHOTO BY SHEDD

Parking is problem now

By JEFF DAVIES

There appears to be some hope for those students who have been having difficulty recently finding an on-campus parking space without being clapped with a \$2.00 fine.

At the present time, a study is being conducted into the parking facilities as they exist now and the possibilities of "redistributing" them so they will be more conveniently

positioned. Rather than a lack of parking spaces, poor distributing seems to be the problem.

According to Chief of Security Williamson, 445 student parking permits were issued last year. There were, at the same time, 666 parking spaces in the parking lots designated for use by students.

In addition, the library road and the Loring Bailey Hall road could accommodate 40

vehicles each while 12 more could be parked above the law school. However, these parking lots are not always in the optimum location.

Prof. Neilson of the Department of Civil Engineering informed us that a survey taken last year revealed that there were 1200 parking spaces (faculty and staff included) on the campus, and on that par-

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