

## Editor's Note:

Since President Baker took office there have been many complaints about his handling of the amalgamation process and the direction of the University since amalgamation. We will not debate the merits of these criticisms at this time. It has come to our attention, however, that there was one stage in the negotiations for amalgamation where the President showed up very well indeed. We believe he should get credit for his stand against the Board of Governors of St. Dunstan's University. The adoption of the S.D.U. proposals shown below would definitely be contrary to the intent of the Act and the Government's position stated in the White Paper of April 2, 1968. Although this document is classified as confidential we feel it is important people realize what was going on during the amalgamation negotiations in the summer of 1969. We also feel that the President and the U.P.E.I. Board of Governors should be commended for their unanimous stand against such insane proposals.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Minutes of the Closed Session of the Board of Governors

July 28, 1969

The President reported to the Board that he had been asked by the St. Dunstan's University Negotiating Committee to obtain the opinion of the Board of Governors of U.P.E.I. on two sections of the S.D.U. proposal:

(k) The University of Prince Edward Island shall establish and maintain a programme in the Faculty of Arts of the University (preferably to be known as the St. Dunstan's College programme) which shall offer to students of the University such courses in the Arts and Humanities as may be determined by the Faculty Board appointed to administer such programme with the approval of the Senate of the University and in accordance with the provisions of the memorandum hereto attached. At such time as the enrollment in this programme and the financial resources of the University warrant, the University will provide adequate facilities on campus to accommodate the teaching and administrative staff and students in this programme.

(l) Upon the giving of not less than one year's notice to the "University of Prince Edward Island", St. Dunstan's University shall have the right to establish and undertake departments and courses in any or all subjects of the University curriculum in which it had departments and courses prior to the coming into force of the "Act to Establish the University of Prince Edward Island". In the event that St. Dunstan's University establishes and undertakes such departments and courses, it shall be entitled to appoint and maintain its own administrative and instructional staff subject to the rules and regulations of the Senate of the University of Prince Edward Island with respect to academic qualifications and standards, but it shall be entitled to receive a prorated share of the tuition fees and operating grants, for the students who are enrolled in such courses. It shall also be entitled to the use of library, athletic and social facilities of the University of Prince Edward Island and to a reasonable accommodation in the matter of lecture halls and other academic facilities on such terms as may be mutually agreed.

The President had taken the stand at negotiation meetings that these two items fell quite clearly within the prerogative of the University Senate and that it would be both improper and illegal for the Government of the Province or for the Board of Governors of S.D.U. or U.P.E.I. to negotiate them. He made it clear to the Negotiating Committee that his position was the same towards the two Boards and the Government. As a courtesy, however, he was prepared to obtain an opinion from the Board of Governors of U.P.E.I., without in any way accepting the fact that he was not right in his own position as Chairman of the U.P.E.I. Senate.

The President said that he had been forced to ask that the meeting of the Board of Governors be closed for this item, because he had not obtained permission from the S.D.U. Negotiating Committee to make public these proposals. He would try to obtain permission as soon as possible and notify Board members if the item was no longer confidential. (At the following meeting of the Negotiating Committee the S.D.U. negotiators asked that the proposals be kept confidential and that they not be discussed in open meetings.)

The President expressed his views strongly. He said that these two clauses opened the way to the use of University money for a program outside University control - in effect a federated system in which the University carried all the major expenses and gave pro-rated grants, while a smaller unit operated within it. In his view this would be totally uneconomic; moreover it was against the spirit of the Act, and certainly against the spirit in which he had been brought to the job. At no point in his meetings with members of either university or in his meetings with government had there been a suggestion of the likelihood of such a system.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to support the President's stand that the negotiations between Government and S.D.U. should be confined to the acquisition of physical assets. The President thanked the Board for their support. He said that he would notify the Negotiating Committee of the Board's opinion.