

Maintenance Workers Need Student Help



editorial

dave macrae

Well, it's finally come to a head. The maintenance workers have gone on strike for higher wages. So with the flexibility students have come to expect from the Cadre, the intended editorial was scrapped and this one submitted in its stead.

Maintenance workers at this university have too long been making an abysmally small wage...barely \$4700 per year for 30 of the 44 members of the union. At today's prices that would not cover even the necessities. The university has offered \$6100. This is definitely an improvement and -

in percentage terms - one which would indicate that they are bargaining with at least some good faith. However it is still not a wage which would allow them to live at a decent standard.

It has been argued by the university that to give them what they are asking - about \$7200 - would mean adding a further deficit to a budget that already is too far into the red. This may be true but it does not absolve the university from its obligations to give its employees a decent wage. It may be that the only solution to the problem would be to in-

crease tuition next year by perhaps \$5 per course. If this is true then we should accept the medicine with the proverbial teaspoon of sugar known that both as responsible employers and as prospective employees we must pay them the money.

The next question is what should we do to aid the workers to their struggle. There are at least five possible alternatives ranging in severity from joining the workers on the line all the way through boycotting classes, having study sessions,

The next question is what can be done to aid the workers to their struggle. We have at least five alternatives a) occupying a building or office, b) holding a demonstration, c) holding study sessions, d) joining the line or e) boycotting classes. Any or all of these alternatives could be used together. One thing that is clear though, is that a simple class boycott would have next to no effect. An abnormally high absentee high at classes does not indicate anything more than that - an abnormally high rate of absenteeism.

Non-attendance of classes can be an extremely effective weapon but only when used in combination with o-

thers. We must make our non-attendance felt. It is my personal opinion that of all the alternatives listed above, the only one which should not be used is occupying a building; the time is neither ripe nor is it useful to use a strategy whose only outcome may be for the government to enact back-to-work legislation. If so nothing at all would be accomplished. However if all other alternatives are exhausted and the strike has dragged along for a month or two possibly...

However all of the alternatives with the exception of this one show promise. To have a study session (invite Baker or Clough to speak!!)

Any method which shows that we are determined in our opposition and not merely taking a good opportunity to have a free vacation from classes is worthy of consideration. I urge to Student Council (this editorial was written before Sunday's meeting) to fight on all fronts and to cooperate with the workers and the few interested faculty to push for a just settlement. If we do not do so now then we will have missed one of our first opportunities to show that we are responsible and conscientious members of the community in which we live.



Kip - Get It On

Dear Editor,

I would like to address this letter to Kip Puia regarding his article Voting, Voodoo, Variety, and the Varn in the Oct. 14 issue of the Cadre:

Kip, do you think that U.P.E.I. students will allow their mentality to slip to the level of the foul writing that you present? Do you enjoy writing this garbage? I strongly advocate that analytical perception is needed to uproot the disturbing forces on this campus. but the selfish temperment and crude mentality which you

are exhibiting in your article is unnecessary and in very poor taste.

If you don't like the presentation academic courses at this university, then at least use your own initiative in developing the skill of how to think properly. By thought is progress determined.

You obviously have no valid basis for expecting lasting success in the pursuit of your selfish aims. You're fooling no one but yourself so snap out of your mesmerized state and establish some alert thinking in the direction of right motives!

Laurie Quiggin

Getting 'IT' -At Last

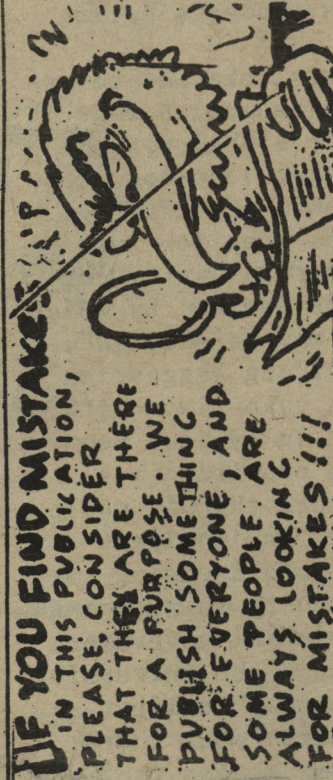
To the Editor:

In refence to your article concerning the boys at Memorial Hall (we are not getting it!). Well, thanks to the Co-Ed Dance that was held last Wednesday, some of us are getting "IT". Hence there is a shortage of peni-

Continued page 4



CADRE



The Cadre is a member of the Canadian University Press (C.U.P.). The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of either the Cadre or the Student Union. Please address all mail or submissions to The Cadre, U.P.E.I. Charlottetown, P.E.I. or drop it in our box in the basement of Memorial. Phone 2-4121 Ext 376. The deadline for the newspaper is Friday at 12:00 noon. All submissions must be received by that time to be accepted for publication. Although pen names will be printed we must know the author of all works.

Editor: Dave MacRae
Managing Editor: Tony Reddin
Sports Editor: Mickey Place
News Editor: Kenny Higgins
C.U.P. Editor: John Jenkins
Staff: Chuck Gosnell, Colin MacAdam, Ray MacDonald.
Contributors: Art Laffin, Charles Mills, Joyce Burnett, Kip Puia, Jack MacKay, Stan Dalton