

In Praise Of A Fall Convocation



Jo's

kampus concern

Speaking of rumors, rumor has it that there is talk of having a fall convocation this year. It appears that every year more and more students end up completing their degree requirements during the summer months but sorrowfully have no convocation ceremonies. It certainly would be a courteous gesture on the part of the university to have such a function. It would probably take pressure off students who feel compelled to have to produce by the end of April in order to legally take part in the regular

convocation ceremonies in May. How do you feel about this idea?

Since convocation is gradually coming around again, it sure would be nice to find out what is going on. All that's been heard so far is that Gordon Pincent is going to be the convocation speaker and that the ceremonies are going to be held on May 11th. (Happy Mother's Day) The Convocation Committee has been meeting regularly this semester, making all the arrangements for our graduation. I feel sorry to say though that we have



only two student representatives on the committee -- the president of the Senior class and the president of the Junior class. But, after all, this is a function especially for the graduating students put on by the university. Again, I'm afraid we are thus stricken with token student representation. Token meaning 2 student representatives, not the people who are functioning in that capacity. (No offense, M.J. and Doug!)

Thus ends another patronizing chapter in the book THE UNIVERSITY OF PEI AND

THE STUDENT. Maybe it's time for humming "We Shall Overcome".

"Rumor Has It" that a collection is now being taken for Chaplain Ian Glass. The proceeds will go into buying "The Reverend" a new watch. It seems that his watch has been running about thirty minutes late (approximately Ottawa time) and has caused him much concern.

Mail's Our Bag Continued

most other higher educational institutions were abolished. For an extended discussion of this topic, readers are referred to my article in IMPROVING COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING XXII (Autumn 1974), 215-7, as well as other cogent articles in the same issue of this journal.

Yours truly,
Don M. Cregier,
History Department.

I was glad to see Jo's article entitled Education is a Life-Long Process.... It dealt with the important role that the University of Guelph is playing in the community through extending non-credit courses. I couldn't help reflect on an article which I wrote in the Cadre exactly a year ago on the very same topic under the heading Quo Vadis. It didn't draw any comments from the university community, although the larger P.E.I. community is at times clamouring for more guidance from the University. I believe people are looking for creativeness and dynamic approaches from the university; governments, stultified by political processes, cannot provide these. At any rate, Jo may get more response since she describes something working in Ontario. If something new is to be

tried in this university, the first question raised is usually: what are other Universities doing? - Must we always be followers? What's needed in P.E.I., is the important question; not what works in other places?

In the Cadre we are often fed generalities such as "Down with Capitalism". That is fine, but in a community like P.E.I., the university should also apply itself to short-term here-and-now problems such as farm incomes, poverty, too much government, and no doubt others.

An example of community action was the establishment of the Direct Charge Consumer's Cooperative, in Charlottetown, a couple of years ago. It was founded because the leadership in the established co-op was unwilling to listen to its active members who wanted the co-op as a tool for reducing food prices to consumers. The established co-op's only concern was that the "Certain Failure" of the D.C. Co-op has now a membership of 350 and a waiting list of potential members awaiting the opening of larger premises. In fact, it is the C.C. Co-op who should worry about the good co-op name since the established co-op has been experiencing difficulties, as aired recently on the CBC's Market Place program: the established co-op has now set up a consumer committee following, in good old corporate tradition, a management

consultant's report. I can not go on with details of this episode - but it shows where a people-oriented university could have played an important part in helping people with their problems, so that we would have had only one people responsive co-op in the community with maximum effectiveness in the market place.

Some faculty members have said that we do not have the resources for community oriented extension work. A look at the Calendar shows that we do have resources. Perhaps enthusiasm is lacking. Or there might be too much Ivory Tower pre-occupation, for which P.E.I. is hardly the place. It is a well known fact that social change, inventions and innovations are rarely correlated with the growth of formal inputs devoted to these activities. They owe much more to the efforts of lone wolves.

Walter Fobes
Economics Department

Dear Editor,

I'm pretty well fed-up with CIMN. For the past 2½ weeks they have been playing the same old tape. If I remember correctly the station was suppose to be fixed up after Xmas. Well I was up there about 2 weeks ago and it's still a mess. I'd just like to remind the station that part of my 40 dollars paid to S.U. does go towards CIMN. Get some music on and

stop playing the same damn tape over and over again. I'm sick of it and alot of other people are too.

A Resident Student

Dear Mr. Baker,

Last week you "replied to my article which suggested an amalgamation of the Board of Governors and Senate. I apologize for my ignorance in not knowing that fifteen years you had supported this proposal (and apparently six years ago too) I had simply assumed that since a variety of people, some of whom have been at this university for five years, had not heard of any such proposal from anyone in administration that you supported the status quo. Silence on any suggestion of change generally indicates either support for the status quo or a perception of personal inability to do anything as a result of oppression. Since I could not conceive of you as a victim of oppression, I assumed that the former was the case. Again I apologize.

Coming to the other points you made, I feel that all of them are somewhat shallow. As to your advocating students on the combined council, I note that you never argue figures. There is a major difference between our present representation and the type I suggested.

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