

SOME NEWSPAPERS BREED GNASHING OF TEETH

by: George Barry, Jr.

OF CABBAGES AND KINGS

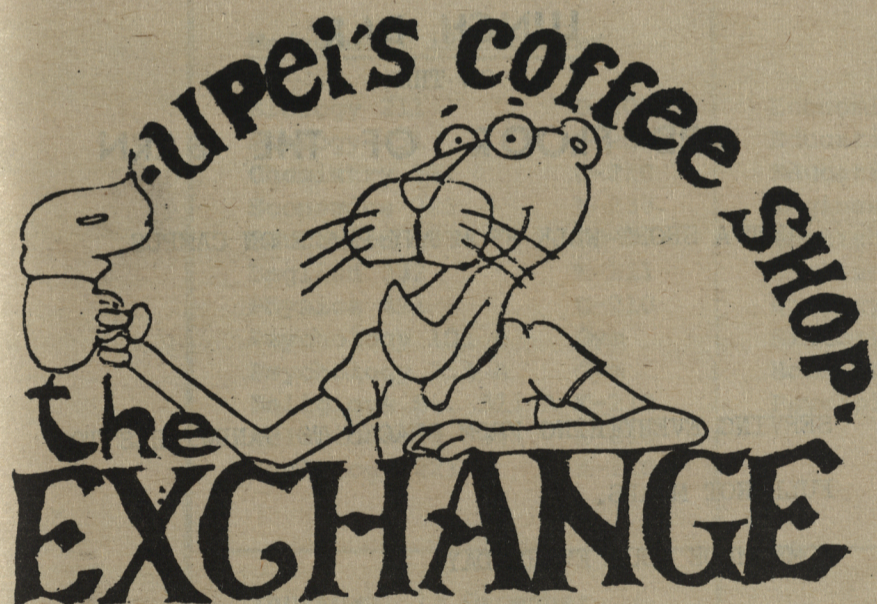
Well, now, as you all well know, I'm not the vindictive sort but occasionally things come up which give me cause for the rending of hair and the gnashing of teeth. I've never been overly impressed with the quality of reporting seen in our Island newspapers but recently my already bad conceptions about them have been reinforced. It is, of course, valid for you, dear reader, to point at me and say "Just exactly what the hell do you know about good journalism, you self-righteous bugger! You're just some joker who writes a jerked-off column of B.S. for some second-rate student newspaper". Well, excepting the fact that I don't think any of the people concerned with this paper deserve to be classed as second-rate, I could understand your point. And, while I may be no expert in journalism, I do have some idea about what's right and what's wrong, what's fair and what's isn't. The things written in several of the newspapers (and I use the term very loosely) in this town were most definitely not fair to the little get together that was held at the Barn a few days back. I speak, of course, of Symposium '79.

Quite a crew of people worked very hard to get Symposium '79 off of the ground and it just about makes my skin crawl to see their work belittled in such a callous, unthinking fashion. You see, Symposium '79 was set up as a forum for the discussion of the issues and problems surrounding the university community. Certainly the discussion may have gotten a little heated now and then, but that's alright. To get tension out in the open is one of the important functions of a meeting like symposium. One of the items of contention was the problem of drinking on campus. This problem was most certainly not the most important one discussed

nor was it given preeminence over the other issues. Symposium was not established as some kind of temperance league. If anything, it was designed to counterbalance the tarnished image of the university student who, it seems, is thought of in some circles to be little more than some sort of permanently drunken sot who has no time for anything else but the bottle. I think that Symposium '79 proved U.P.E.I. students to be willing and able to engage in intellectual give and take as a social activity, provided they are given the means to do so.

But the negative is more saleable than the positive, or so one would have to conclude from the output of the various sectors of the media. So we must live with it, eh? We must sit here and accept the distortion of fact? I don't think so. What we must do is to fight back. I don't mean we have to engage in a senseless exchange of insults with those who attack us; what we must do is to simply continue with the kind of discussion started in Symposium. Reference was made to the fact that, when the Exchange was located in the building now occupied by the Chaplaincy Centre, this kind of meeting to listen to music or readings and discuss problems of importance was carried out with great success on campus. This is what is needed; a place to meet and talk, separate and apart from booze and rock, although I don't think either of these things need to be banned or anything. And I don't recommend kicking the people out of the Chaplaincy Centre, after all, it is their home now and they have a right to it. But there must be some other place where such an atmosphere as that found in the Exchange could be created. Such a thing is extremely important for making the university a viable community, intellectually. Thinking must not cease with the end of an essay or a lecture.

But I guess the bottom line of all this is that the members of the university community must not take such asinine comment too seriously. There will always be those who will have inane ideas about universities. You and I both know that we are all not drunken fools nor is the demon rum running rampant in our campus. It is a problem, certainly, and it must be dealt with but to single it out for special emphasis is to aggravate the problem. But, if such incorrect notions are maintained by those outside of the university community, it will simply mean that the university will become more and more isolated and inward-looking. I think that, in this event, everyone will lose, so we must strive to insure that it never happens,



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CFCY VISITS CIMN

By Patrick Kelly

CIMN arranged to have a representative from CFCY to visit us at our studios on the 4th Floor of Main. That visit was on Friday, Nov. 2nd and the CFCY representative was Malcolm Reid.

Malcolm spoke on many of the aspects of AM Radio and answered the questions of numbers of our staff and interested visitors. The main purpose of the visit, however, was to improve the quality of our commercials. Malcolm brought samples of his station's advertisements with him. After we listened to these samples an advertisement for the UPEI coffee

house was composed.

During the afternoon we learned that Malcolm had previously been associated

with CIMN and while the meetings progressed, he recounted some of the adventures he had as a CIMN D.J.

The visit ended successfully. Everyone enjoyed it and everyone learned something. With the success of this meeting, more such visits are planned for the future with representatives from the broadcasting field. We would like to thank Malcolm for giving of his time. His assistance was greatly appreciated.