

Editorial

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE...

Usually those who contribute the most are the least rewarded. Nothing could be truer about the president - Ronald J. Baker.

Highly educated and competent both as professor and administrator, Ron has made significant contributions to other universities than U.P.E.I. He has studied in England, Simon Fraser in B.C., at which places he was highly regarded as an example of academic success not to mention his personal qualities.

Without doubt U.P.E.I. would have suffered greater birth-pangs than she did if it had not

been for the outstanding qualities our president possesses. We owe him a great debt. His competence is obvious when one perceives the skill with which he guides Senate or any committee of which he is a member. The students would be well advised to attend any committee meeting where he is in attendance that they might benefit (as I'm sure they will) from the manner in which he contributes. U.P.E.I. is young and, fortunately, so is our president. With Ron at the helm there is no storm we cannot weather. The faculty - having been

influenced by Ron - know this; this accounts for their confidence. I've noticed, with considerable delight, that much of Ron has "rubbed off" on them; it is obvious in their policy tendencies.

Furthermore, one cannot help but notice the harmony with which UPEI and our government co-operate - again Ron has much to do with this. It is known that Ron and Alex (as his friends call him) are friends. This cannot but help our future. It seems everything is secure. We indeed owe a debt of gratitude to a fine president - Ronnie.

Letters to the Editor



Dear Stan,

Here is my answer to your question posed in the Cadre: You may have my job if you want - to teach "Island culture".

Yours,

G. Llewellyn Watson
Sociology teacher of non-island culture.

Dear Editor:

In reference to your recent comic sketches of management and staff at UPEI, I would like to say that poor taste has been shown in allowing

such a front page liner to go on without a substantive editorial.

Since your challenge is aimed at the worker, I would like to respond as one. The following statements are my own observations and conclusions.

First of all I have been employed as a stationary engineer whose probationary period is still in progress

During the short time I have been here I have had the opportunity to speak with a number of fellow employees. From these conversations I have noticed a growing discontent between management, union and employee.

The first point and it is an important one is the contract. The question has often been raised as to whether the contract has been properly ratified and therefore is it binding. A recount of ballots seems to be in order; however, this step is too late. Management or union having reference files in order could and should produce these files to appease the doubtful.

A second and more vital sting is the present wage scale. It seems ludicrous to see any man or woman working for a meagre five thousand a year salary. One may look at our present unemployment insurance scheme which ensures a small family of one or more children four thousand and eight hundred dollars a year. Surely two hundred a year extra is a poor incentive for anyone to seek employment at all.

Another point is the growing dissension between the workers and the union. Has

there been any collaboration between union and management without the workers' knowledge?

As a former union president (P.S.A.C. Ship's crews) I would like to leave these points with you regarding union management relations.

First of all no union can or will work unless it is organized. This seems to be the primary problem at UPEI. In my opinion, management has taken advantage of this situation to seal a poorly written and highly ambiguous contract which has little or no effect to the worker.

Management, in all fairness, should reopen negotiations for a new contract in which the workers will be better informed as to their rights and privileges not to mention substantial increases in pay.

The workers should unite to form a strong working body, not to throw management out as suggested but to solve our problems and frustrations.

Such a body could encompass all the workers and all their problems. Management knows that the only result can be better understandings and relations with their staff.

As to the proposed threats of harassment I don't think the worker should subject himself to such rumors and falsehoods. We hung this yoke on ourselves. Why not take it off.

In conclusion I would like to say to the worker, you have the means for a better living. All we have to do is organize. As to management, I believe that in the area of management - employee relationships much is to be desired.

M.P. Lund