

# Save Our Soil

The Brothers and Sisters of Cornelius Howatt are concerned about the rapid and accelerating rate

with which Island land is currently being bought up by non-residents. We feel that this process of soil

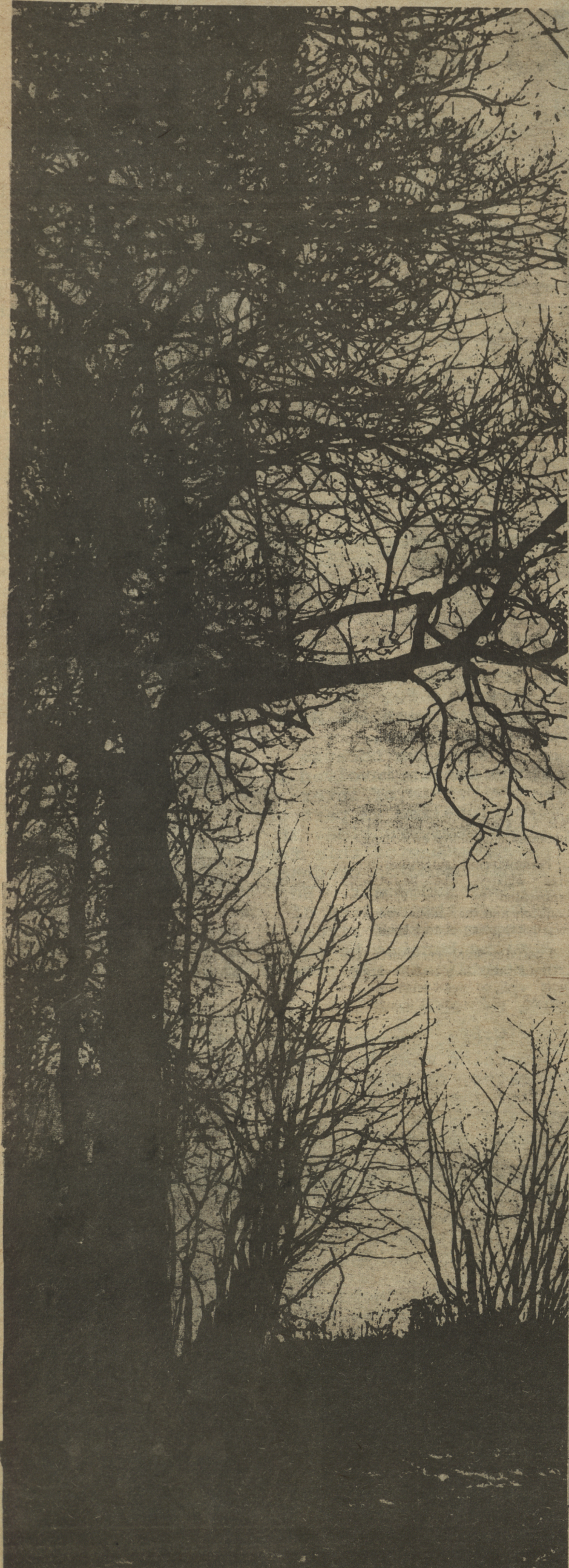
erosion poses a serious threat to the future of our province.

This loss of land is proving destructive both to our agricultural industry and to our rural communities. Good productive farms are being delivered into the possession of those who merely want a summer home, and the price of land is being forced up so high that few local farmers can afford to compete for it on the open market. Last year alone more than 20,000 acres were lost in this way, and so far in 1973 the rate of non-resident purchase has tended to increase still further. Already more than 100,000 acres of our land, and about one-third of our available prime recreational shore frontage, is in the hands of non-residents.

We feel that our Island Government has shown too little initiative in either providing assistance to our family farms, or in encouraging young

people to take up in agriculture. We are unable to make an adequate livelihood that can hardly be faulted in selling--and that at the highest bidder! We Islanders do not want to fully realize the ultimate value of our land. Farms which have sustained families for more than a hundred years and which could do so for generations yet to come, are being sold for the equivalent of a small suburban lot and a few industrially-manufactured trinkets. We are selling for a trifle the basis of our economy and our cultural heritage.

It is ironic that when the world is being chronically short of good agricultural land and the price of food is showing substantial increases, we should be in the process of a wholesale sell-out. Just as the family farm could once again be a productive economic unit/it is



## New Enrollment

K.J. McNeil

The new full time enrollment is 1447. This is down 9% from last semester. Part time enrollment is up 9%. In total, enrollment is down 123 or 7% from last semester.

The long awaited figures are out. The enrollment has dropped again! At one time, U.P.E.I. boasted of approx. 1870 students. Today 1450. At this rate, what is the future of this institution.

The writer will even go out on a limb to say that if this drop continues, this university will be extinct in 5 years. It is not too late to do something. It is time the administration started mixing their rosy view of the future with some present day reality. According to President Baker, a university is a dynamic tension between the people, who pay the shot (the province) the faculty, who teach, and the students, who come here to learn. If any of these withdraw, the university dies.

The students are withdrawing and the university is dying. If any of the readers of this have any

