

TO CLARIFY MY STAND
by alex burke

To some of the students of U.P.E.I. I would like to clarify an issue which has been bothering me for several days. I have been approached by two members of the students council and was asked to justify by slice of the Education Budget.

I have no slice, so to speak, of the money that is being presented to the Tenant's Association. The money is to be used for meetings, transportation, and literature; not my personal use. This money could be used as your contribution toward the cause that I am fighting for.

If the majority of students do not want to participate, then I refuse to accept your offering, on behalf of the poverty-stricken people of our community.

I did not ask for your support; many, and I mean many, students instead contacted me regarding how the students could help me in fighting poverty; by typing, distributing literature, and assisting in meetings by getting and running films and in other ways.

POVERTY COMMITTEE

The meeting called November 27, 1969 is for the purpose of getting support. By this I mean to submit a brief to the premier, and to the mayor regarding the poverty of Charlottetown. This does not mean that we are forgetting the rest of the Island but only that we are starting

here. Later we will move to different place through the Island to instigate (so to speak) a solution. I have been studying the poverty situation for two years on the Island and have lived through for 10 years, but I will not go into my history at this time.

Our biggest problem is rent control and believe me the rent race on the Island is outrageous. I am sure that many landlords and landlords, (not to forget the lawyers and mortgage companies) who control and handle much renting throughout the Island are ready to shout that our rent is not too high. Let them leave their Ivory Towers and live in some of the rat infested, cockroaches and bed-bug infested apartment houses on the Island. Then they would be prepared to do something. They are committing the biggest sin allowing this to go on.

If you give us your support and are willing to get involved and help, this is what you must do. Fight with me, not against me to show the government of P.E.I. that you intend to aid in the stopping of poverty. Here is our plan. We will set up a fund in the Bank of Montreal to be called the Poverty Fund. The money which is placed in this account will not be used to feed or clothe, but to be used to purchase property and construct apartments — not Bachelor or one bedrooms— but three and four bedroom apartments. The first step will be to approach the Government to purchase a said building indicated and to sell this to us for the sum of one dollar. Then we will ask contractors, plumbers, electricians and carpenters to help

donate time and remodel the sit in the minimum amount of time. The government will be asked not to tax the land and the tenants will pay the sum of \$50 which will go to the Poverty Fund. If the Government want to help then let this be their contribution. Once we have this done we will approach the City Council and the Mayor and ask them to match the amount the government paid for the said building to remodel into apartments. The Poverty Fund will be used for the upkeep and heating for these complexes and also to purchase other areas for the same purpose.

Once this is accomplished we will move to other areas for money for the Poverty Fund. These other areas are clubs and organizations which want to help stop poverty with ideas and donations to the Poverty Fund.

For individual support a person can do the following. He can attend the meetings, answer all literature that he receives, advise his friends what it is all about, and take an active, NOT PASSIVE part in the organization. The address for more information and for volunteers against poverty is A. Burke c/o 1A Chestnut St., Charlottetown, P.E.I.

—A. A. Burke

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY

Poverty is a terrible thing, we all agree, but what do we do about this terrible thing. Sure we send out welfare

cheques, but do the poor really want this? Maybe some do but I think the majority of the poor people would rather have guidance and learn how to do things properly then be given money. We think the welfare cheque solves everything. But because the people can not handle money, it soon disappears quickly and the people are stranded again.

So the poor really want Ottawa officials to be in their homes making a survey of everything. I don't really think so. Would you like it if there were a couple of well-dressed, well paid officials at your home looking everything over carefully?

And what about the jails? The men from Ottawa come down and make a survey of the jails. They say the conditions of the jails are terrible, but do they do anything about it? I don't think there is too much done about it though.

— Twelve-year-old Student

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HEART OF THE ADMINISTRATION (if it has one):

Oh woe is me! What a splitting migraine headache!

The heavy hand of the Administration has struck a hard blow against the student body by setting a deadline of December 10 for all full-credit examinations.

After having completed five tests within the past three weeks, I find on consulting my work schedule that I have seven examinations and a term paper to be completed by December 10.

In view of this heavy burden, which I'm sure is shared by all students of UPEI, I suggest that a portion of the exams should be held after Christmas — or later. Because the announcement has been made so close to the actual deadline, I feel that it is highly impractical and quite impossible to sufficiently prepare for these examinations.

Perhaps the progress reports required by the Administration could be derived from half-term tests, or else submitted after Christmas. May I suggest that before the Administration makes any more such crackpot decisions, it take into account the heavy work load of the students.

—A Forced College Bookworm

Dear Sir:

You quoted me, in the issue of November 21st, as saying that I thought that the R.C.M.P. were "totally justified in investigating narcotics..." Since this statement has been misunderstood by several people, I should like to make my position clear

I believe that all members of the University are also citizens, and that as such they have no special claim to freedom from the laws of the country. As long as certain narcotics are illegal, I think that the R.C.M.P. is as justified in investigating their use by members of the University as in investigating their use by any other citizens.


Members of the University have the same rights as anyone else to attempt to change laws which they think are wrong. I do not believe that they have any special sanction to disobey the law as it now stands.

Yours sincerely,
R. J. Baker,
President.



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