

EDUCATION — WHOT, ME WORY?

It is apparent that the level of involvement at U.P.E.I. is not great by any means. We, as members of the Education Committee do not see this as a problem of apathy on the part of individual students; rather, it is a reflection largely of the powerlessness that students experience here. We are not actually able to determine to any real extent, through our present structures, what happens to our lives. For example, on the question of open residence, both Student Council and student Senators were impotent by themselves.

The reinforcement of passivity can be seen throughout the educational system as well as the society of

which it is a vital ingredient. There are repressive structures and habits, but they are forgotten through distractions of many kinds. We are dissatisfied with this, and feel that education should be a critical and fulfilling process.

The Education Committee is drawing up a program intended to develop awareness. Awareness, we must understand, does not only take place between the hair and the neck. Awareness, or understanding, comes about through a process of activity coupled with constant reflection. Meaning can become attached to an idea only through testing that idea in practice. Our intentions, then, rest not

only at the level of pounding out information. That information must be made public, discussed, and action proposals formulated. That is when the flaws of an educational experience become real. For example, a teach-in on poverty should be followed by concrete steps to alleviate it.

That the Student Council plays a role in the building of awareness on campus, there is no question. The Council, however, has rather limitations — their history believes their aims. Councils in the past were little more than the administrators of a social and athletic club. In other parts of Canada they have begun to see their function as

broader than that, by taking their role as leaders — political leaders — seriously. The contradiction of Student Council then begins to emerge. The system of representatives democracy, upon which Student Councils are based, encourages apathy. A check-mark on a ballot requires no particular understanding. The resulting council makes decisions for the people, rather than encouraging them to guide their own lives. If the Council is serious about wishing involvement, it must recognize that their work as catalyst is insufficient. To administer the business of a large compulsory union and simultaneously develop a critical understanding among students is

a time-consuming affair. Besides, to actually be critical brings into the limelight one's degree of representivity, i.e. whether one has travelled in a straight enough line to satisfy the interests of various constituents. On the basis of principle, then, a Student Council, for that matter all students, should encourage-critical activity within their community such that real dialogue can take place. The college newspaper, the Cadre, is one element of this; some colleges have a political affairs commission; others have a communications committee; we propose an Education Committee.

Reg Phelan
Jock Mackay

FACULTY ASK "FREE TUITION FOR FAMILIES"

Two weeks ago the Faculty Association at U.P.E.I. discussed the report of their committee on fringe benefits. The report recommended a 50% discount on tuition for all members of faculty families who wished to attend UPEI. Saul Silverman mov-

ed an amendment to the recommendation which would change 50% to 100%. He stated in a phone call that he felt Education should be available to all who qualify. He said he supports the idea of a tax funded university, in which students would not

have to pay tuition. He went on to explain how this program should be carried out.

Jim Rigney, Chairman of the Faculty Association, said "This was merely a request being made to the administration concerning fringe benefits." He stated that S.D.U.

had a 50% discount for faculty families but only one person used it.

Apparently there was some concern at the meeting about what the reaction of the

students would be to such a request. According to our source discussion centered around this for some time. In the end the amendment passed with a majority of 5.

Milton Acorn Places Self on R.C.M.P. List

The following letter was written to the editor of the Varsity, student paper at the University of Toronto, by poet Milton Acorn, who read here earlier this year. Acorn is a Charlottetown native.

Sir,

Now that the turn-on premier has become the turn-in premier, and we are instructed by the premier in person to inform the RCMP of any subversive persons we know:

May I urgently request that Milton Acorn, 404 Palmerston Blvd., Toronto 4, makes up his own mind about everything, arrives at his own conclusions, and follows the dangerous unCanadian practice of acting upon his conclusions; no matter what authorities may say. In other words Milton Acorn is a dangerous subversive; and in accordance with the premier's instructions I do so report him.
Milton Acorn

The CADRE Still Needs Staff

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CARNIVAL COMMITTEE BEGINS SURVEY

Your Winter Carnival Committee is hard at work in an attempt to make this Carnival the highlight of the social year. Success or failure rests not only in our hands but in yours. Through this media we plan on keeping the student body aware of activity and progress on all planned events upcoming in February.

It is consistent with this policy to offer the University some sort of choice in main

entertainment around which the Carnival is based, thereby preventing mediocrity from once again rearing its ugly head at our Carnival. The following survey will attempt to indicate to us what type of entertainment the student body wants for its carnival. Please, for your own good, fill in the survey sheet below and deposit it at the box marked "SURVEY" at your nearest coffee shop. Don't let \$10,000 go to waste.

- WHAT TYPE OF ENTERTAINMENT DO YOU PREFER?
POP
FOLK
COUNTRY & WESTERN
OTHER
- PARTICULAR REFERENCES
(not necessarily in order of choice)
1. 2. 3.
- ARE YOU:
MALE..... FRESHMAN..... JUNIOR.....
FEMALE..... SOPHOMORE..... SENIOR.....

Note on Apathy: Should the results of this survey tend to prove what has already been said about you people time and time again no more opportunity of this type will be afforded you and the Carnival Committee will surge onward in its relentless quest without your kind assistance.