

# editorial

## PUTTING YOUR REALITY WHERE YOUR RHETORIC IS

I've heard a lot of bitching about the lack of news coverage in the first two issues, and I'm sick and tired of it.

Too many people on this campus are content to be arm-chair quarterbacks and "outside observers," instead of getting up and out and **doing** something. Even if it's only going to a meeting.

We don't lack ideas, believe it or not, (although they are welcome too). What we chiefly lack is bodies, people to suggest and do stories and photography. We also need a functioning photo club so that we can get pictures developed as well as taken.

Anyone wishing to put your reality where your rhetoric is, come to any of the regular Sunday night meetings at the office, either with a story written, or with an interest in doing one, and/or see Jim Hornby or Dennis MacKay.

If you're not going to contribute anything, (even **constructive** criticism), don't complain about the results.

This paper belongs to the reporters. Whoever they may be.

**"THE REALITY OF HAPPINESS IS THE REALITY OF FREEDOM AS THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF LIBERATED HUMANITY IN ITS COMMON STRUGGLE WITH NATURE."**

—Herbert Marcuse, *Negations*

## The Cadre

The Cadre is the student newspaper of the University of Prince Edward Island. The opinions herein expressed are those of the writers. Not really a member of the Canadian University Press (yet). Main office: first floor, the Student Union building, 285 Kent St. Phone 894-4913. Our first year of existence.

- Editor-in-chief ..... Jim Hornby
- Managing Editor ..... Dave MacLeod
- News Editor ..... Dennis MacKay
- Sports Editor ..... Vic Renfro
- Arts Editor ..... Rick Hancox
- Circulation Manager ..... Martin Kenny
- Advertising Manager ..... Benny Smith
- Reporters ..... Marjorie Stevenson  
Lynn Savage  
Mike McGahey  
Carolyn Hortie
- Typists ..... Karen Lloyd  
Cathy Drew  
Karen Lloyd  
to name but a few
- Photographers ..... John Anderson  
Carolyn Horite
- Graphics ..... —

no news is good news retaliated hornby in a very reactionary cadre of mind besides who could be sad in the company of eric clapton, winwood baker grech winter bernstein carlos paxton ochs n other mary makers including ubiquitous dave m vic rick 2 artists at least 4 girls from the other side of nowhere and the news dept which dropped by to say hello. steven and carolyn were also in. the bear party it must be rembered will remain underground until our forces are in readiness. dont be surprised to see a surprise candidate in the student council elections: ie any one. winnie-the-pooh makes sense at leased.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Feedback, Part II

"The university is not, has never been, and never will be a leader of anything." So ends Mr. Stephen Foster's first assertion in his article, "For I've Been Dead since my Conception", (Cadre, Oct. 3), an article consistent only in its use of absurd generalities and blatant falsehoods.

"Universities for centuries have been maintainers of the status quo..." This is a patent misrepresentation of the facts. Plato's Academy, for example, was often politically at odds with the community. The University of Paris gained prominence in the thirteenth century because it counted among its faculty young Abelard, who, if anything, is to be characterized as a radical. In the seventeenth century, it was the same University of Paris, now overwhelmingly Jansenist in sympathy, which was to spearhead opposition against Catholic orthodoxy. Many more illustrations could be cited. It is more to the point to ask whether opposition to the **status quo** should be in fact one of the guiding principles of the academy. It seems that in Mr. Foster's eyes, right and the establishment never go hand in hand.

"...The French are cowards, blacks are stupid, the Irish are drunkards, the Asians are cruel, communists are dangerous," the implication of course is that communists are not dangerous. Yes they are, Mr. Foster. Yes they are. We are now involved with them in a multi-dimensional global war in which psycho-political weapons constitute the main portion of the communist arsenal. It is a life and death struggle; at stake is Western Civilization as we know it. Ironically, only we in the West, as Mr. James Burnham constantly reminds us, seem to be unaware of the war we are in.

"Vietnam . . . an obvious blunder." The blunder, Mr.

Foster, is not American intervention but the ineffectiveness of that intervention. Sir Robert Thompson, architect of the British victory over communist insurgency in Malaya, in his book **No Exit from Vietnam** questions the massive military presence of the United States in that area of the Far East. "...utilizing police operations with strong local roots, with only a secondary emphasis on regular military engagement" would be a much more effective **modus operandi**. That is Sir Robert Thompson's answer as summarized by William Cshneider Jr. in his review of **No Exit from Vietnam** in *National Review*, Oct. 7, 1969.

Mr. Foster also condemns the United States "aggressive . . . mission" against Cuba. Once again, the Bay of Pigs' invasion was justified. Unjustified was President Kennedy's wholehearted commitment to the invasion but only halfhearted support of it. Now Cuba is inviolable territory, and the Castroite regime can engage unmolested in the wholesale exportation of revolution and subversion to the rest of Latin America. What was Che Guevara doing in Bolivia? I can almost hear the answer: "Why, fighting a 'war of liberation'." Simultaneously, smiles come to the lips of those who know better in Havana, Moscow and Peking.

Mr. Foster also has a penchant for grouping into triads the most startling incompatibles: Christ, Gandhi, Malcolm X really.

As for Gandhi not having learned "about racial prejudice in Africa and in India while he was at school in England," would Mr. Foster suggest the universities establish racist situations in green-house settings so as to familiarize the ignorant with racism?

Mr. Foster mourns" the

death of the university and academics as saviors of the world" (note the unpardonable solecism). I grieve that there are too many people both inside and outside the academy determined to save the world. There are still too many of Neibuhr's "stupid children of light" who, while forever extolling man as wholly innocent and all-good, leave the barbarians to fully exploit man's very real capacity for evil. Thoughtful academics are engaged in a much more modest task than the salvation of the world—the seeking of truth. And truth becomes highly elusive for those in "the thick of things". When in the midst of the current, it is indeed difficult to lower anchor, to resist the flow, to look around and evaluation. Even if it were possible the mind would be distracted from contemplation by the tumultuous roar of the waves. If truth is to be found, one must rise above events, not so high up that they no longer can be perceived, but up high enough so that the mond may assess undisturbed. Yes, Mr. Foster, the academy should be an Ivory Tower.

In the October 3 issue of **The Cadre**, the editor declared, "We will print anything that is not a violation of civil law." Having printed Mr. Foster's article, I see that Mr. Hornby is certainly true to his word. The editor might have shown better judgment had he taken Mr. Foster's brain-child to the hills and in Spartan fashion left it there quietly to die. Mr. Foster's effort is the strongest argument for intellectual euthanasia I have yet run across. I can only end with the sincerely felt expectation that a few more years at the academy will provide Mr. Foster with the wisdom necessary to resist the temptation to write another inane article.

Manuel Prutschi  
Hunter River