

REACTION TO NAUSEATED

The following interview was conducted as a follow up to a letter to the Editor which appeared in January 15 edition of the Cadre concerning the food in the U.P.E.I. Cafeteria . I talked with Mr. Peter Haldemann ,who runs the catering service at the U.P.E.I. Cafeteria.

CADRE: Beaver, in brief, what was your reaction to the article printed in the Cadre concerning the cafeteria food?

BEAVER: First of all, I think that this student should have complained to the food committee or come to see me first. Then, if he did not get any satisfaction or explanation, he should have written to the Cadre.

CADRE: Is there any truth what-so-ever to what he or she says concerning dehydrated potatoes, canned vegetables etc.?

BEAVER: No, certainly not! We have no such a thing as dehydrated potatoes and all our vegetables are freshly frozen when bought. Not canned.

CADRE: What about your meats?

BEAVER: The meats are like the vegetables; freshly frozen when bought. We can't take the chance of food-poisoning here--or anywhere for that matter. If we cook a roast, say on Tuesday, it lasts no longer than Thursday. We don't give it a chance to go bad. I'm repeating myself, I know, but the student who wishes to complain about the food here will get better and faster results if he sees his "food committee" representative on his floor. We are trying as best we can to see that the student gets what he wants. But you can only do the best you can; that's all.

CADRE: Do you perhaps feel that the equipment, which is owned by the University has any effect on the preparation of the meals here?

BEAVER: No, not really. It could be better I suppose, but it does the job well enough. You see, the university will be building a new cafeteria in the near future, so what's the use of spending thousands of dollars on new equipment now?

CADRE: How do you think your food compares with the foods in universities in other cities, especially Halifax?

BEAVER: I believe, from what I hear, that the food has a good standing. Another point which I would like to point out is that we receive \$1.97 per student per day to cover the cost of food, labour etc. 7¢ of this \$1.97 goes to the company. If at the end of the year we are over our flat rate paid by the University then this money goes to the college. If we are under it then the money must come from our own pockets! Therefore we must be careful.

CADRE: Do you feel that you and your staff have adequate working facilities here?

BEAVER: Its not bad you know; fair! Its good. The University does what it can for us. They co-operate well with us and

we get along well.

CADRE: Do you think that this persons opinion is the opinion of many students or just a few?

BEAVER: I think he is just speaking for himself. We have suggestions boxes around and every two weeks or so we get a good response from concerned students who want changes in the Cafeteria. We try to comply with the wishes of the student within reason of course! We do what we can. There are many members of our staff who get along well with the students and they often receive complaints and suggestions from people. This is the way it should be.

CADRE: Are the types of meals selected, decided upon for any particular reason?

BEAVER: Well, we always have fish on Fridays. For tradition more than anything else. We also have Italian days on Wednesday.

CADRE: Then you try to have as many different kinds of meals in a week as there different kinds of nationalities?

BEAVER: Yes, thi is correct.

CADRE: Does the University buy the foods which are prepared or does the company; and how are these foods rated with respect to quality?

BEAVER: The company buys the food. We get get all our meats fresh from Canada Packers and Judson Packers at wholesale prices. All the food is of a very good quality. The vegetables are bought freshly frozen from General Foods.

CADRE: Undoubtly you felt unjustly accused when the article in question was published. Would you rather talk to people personally who are dissatisfied with the meals before they write to the CADRE?

BEAVER: Well this is it, eh? If people come and talk with me and dont get any satisfactory results then they are justified in writing to the paper! If they dont want to talk to me personally then they should get in contact with the president of their Food Committee.

CADRE: What about the breakfasts here? I understand that they are not to elaborate, to say the least.

BEAVER: Well at the first of the year, the students voted against having Bacon and Eggs for breakfast because it would mean a \$20.00 increase in tuition per student per year! Also since only about 100 people ever attend breakfast in the morning- - well it just wouldn't be fair.

CADRE: Is there any closing comment which you would like to make concerning the Cafeteria?

BEAVER: Well, at our Christmas dinner we put table-cloths, candle holders and lighted candles on the table for a more sentimental atmosphere, you know? But after the meal there were only two or three candle