

THE BARN

the revealing facts revealed

May 2, 1970 the Student Council Executive, under the leadership of Jim Ross, President, explained Student Union recreation and coffee shoppe facilities. The former S.D.U. Coffee Shoppe, which seated 160, was not capable of handling the demand which would be brought about with the joining of the two campuses into one. Some alternative was needed by September 1970.

The problem was of a financial nature. The year ending May 2, 1970 left the Student Union Council -\$15,000; no one knew the exact amount of this loss until all the bills were received, BECAUSE the treasurers during the period prior to March 1970 had not recorded these bills and no one including the auditors had any idea of their total.

Thus there were two enemies:

Time and Money. After three board meetings, the University agreed to give the Student Union the BARN FREE OF COST, with the stipulation that if the University moved in that direction and the space was needed, the Student Union would be reimbursed the current value of the building at that time to a maximum of \$75,000. However, the grounds committee of the University stated that the campus would be moving in another direction, and that there

was little chance of them needing that area.

At the same time, Jim Ross spent considerable time convincing the former S.D.U. Council and the Athletic Department that this was where the money should go. It wasn't until late summer that the cheque was finally received.

Tenders posed another problem. First tenders for renovations alone went as high as \$120,000 for plumbing and heating and electricity \$50,000. These were cut to a total of \$130,000 (including furniture) The final loan agreement was a loan of \$90,000 through U.P.E.I., payable in installments of \$12.00 a student year.

The contracts for the Barn were not workable until late July. Work began less than six weeks before classes were scheduled to begin. It was hoped that the building would be completed by September 9th. One important stipulation in the contract was that all labor be student labor, which did result in a number of students receiving some summer employment.

Work began with the removal of cement concrete stalls. This took one week. Work then began on reinforcing the beams for the second and third floors. At the same time, all unnecessary strapping was removed from the sides and ceiling of the barn. The third floor was then added.

Preparation of the floors for tile was then undertaken and at the same time the walls and ceiling

were insulated, strapped and wall-board or tile were then added. The building began to take shape.

Since the first of September, tiling, floors, furnished work, painting electrical and plumbing work have been the order of events.

How do students view the building available? One complaint was that Student Union offices were not located in the building, but this is not a legitimate complaint as the number of students presently doing any Union work doesn't warrant spending any amount of money on new offices, and if the past holds true, we won't warrant it.

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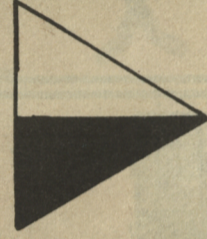
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