

A look back at today

In lieu of passing out yet another hearty welcome to students weary of over-emotion at times like these, we ask you to consider the following letter:

STORM WARNINGS - WAIT AND WATCH; c. 1968

Due to some astute questioning by several students of Prince of Wales, it was discovered that there may well be a bill presented to the Legislature concerning higher education in P.E.I.

From what could be learned from various sources, this bill would place a board over both S.D.U. and P.W.C. It would be called The Grants Commission for Universities. It would have jurisdiction over any and all economic matters of the universities. It would either duplicate our Board of Governors or invalidate it.

In other words, the old U.P.E.I. ghost rides again! Another bitter pill to swallow is the problem of student loans. Prepare to have our loans cut by over 50%. To top it all off, our tuition has to be raised \$100. How does that grab you?

- 1) Why are our tuitions forced up?
- 2) Why are our loans cut?
- 3) Why no bursaries? Every other province in Canada has them.
- 4) The Federal Government allots 1.7 million dollars to higher education on P.E.I. Yet only 1.3 was spent on higher education. Where's the other half-million?
- 5) Is P.W.C. to be politically run?
- 6) Are we to assume that the politicians are not pleased with the way our Board of Governors handles things? The Board of Governors was appointed by these politicians. Besides, let them show us where our board has acted irresponsibly.
- 7) What would happen to academic freedom?
- 8) Could you keep and attract qualified staff members?
- 9) If they insist on these measures, what are we going to do about it?

10) Were P.W.C. Board members or administration consulted on the details of the proposed 'secret' legislation? 11) Were education experts in other major Canadian universities consulted?

Watch for developments in these fields. We, as students, should not accept any infringements on our rights. We should not tolerate being taxed in this way, namely cutting our budget, our loans, and raising our tuitions, to make up shortages in other fields not related to P.W.C.

We will actively support our interests and the interests of our university. We should not, will not, be emasculated or controlled.

Don MacDonald

That such a document was written about fifteen years ago, on an occasion that we are asked to celebrate this week, may teach some that history is not stale and dry, but dampeningly relevant.

The creation of the University of Prince Edward Island from St. Dunstan's University and Prince of Wales Collegiate was not the absolute solution to all of higher education's wounds, as some politicians extolled it to be.

The wounds remain. Some wonder how long it will be before gangrene sets in.

by Carolyn Ryan

The Netted Gem

Volume 2, Issue 2

The *Netted Gem* is the weekly student newspaper of the University of Prince Edward Island. Views expressed therein are not necessarily those of the Student Union. We reserve the right to edit copy for space, style, or legal reasons. Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted before noon on Monday. Letters exceeding 500 words in length are prone to cutting and much abuse by the collective staff. All letters must be signed by their author(s). Our office is located on the fourth floor of the Main building. Our telephone is 892-4121, extension 387. The *Netted Gem* is now a full member in semi-good standing with Canadian University Press.

SU speaks

With classes already under way for a week, Orientation '84 is beginning to seem part of our distant past.

However, great fun was had by both the freshmen and their tormentors which should be remembered by everyone for a long time.

The success of these events was due to long hours of planning and hard work throughout the summer by this year's Orientation chairs: Heather MacNevin, Nancy Field and Marc Doiron. These people were not alone in their labours, as nothing would have been possible without the committee members who put in many days and sleepless nights with their fearless leaders.

A special thanks must go to Marjorie Torrens and her volunteers, whose diligent efforts resulted in the most widely publicized Shinerama to date.

If it had not been for the inclement weather, I am positive that the money raised for Cystic Fibrosis would have surpassed any previous Island record for this fundraiser.

Last but not least, all freshmen who "were not sure..." about what they were getting into, must be

commended for their enthusiasm and patience throughout the week.

For you freshmen who want revenge, remember... there is always Orientation '85.

Thanks again to all involved in Orientation '84.

Yours sincerely,
Howard Beattie
Vice President Internal
UPEI Student Union

CP rules

Just a short note to remind you about the rules and regulations of the Student Union Building (SUB)

1) Students must be 18 years of age and show an I.D. to attend any events at the SUB.

2) At Main Events and Pubs, U.P.E.I. students may sign in one guest. Remember you must have I.D. to do this and you are directly responsible for the actions of your guest.

3) The Campus Police are employees of the Student Union. They are responsible for enforcing the rules set out by the Student Union. Disorderly conduct of patrons will not be tolerated.

4) Anyone causing a disturbance inside the SUB or around the grounds will be subject to a charge and will have to appear before the Student Disciplinary

Committee (SDC). Barring from all activities, from the SUB or fines may result.

5) Remember since you have paid your SU fee's you are a member of a private club. your SUID card is your passport into the SUB and numerous other activities throughout the campus.

6) Patrons cannot carry beverages from one floor to another.

7) Doors close at 11:30 p.m. at Main Events. No one gets in once the doors have closed.

The Student Union Building is here for your enjoyment and we hope these rules will make all activities more enjoyable for everyone.

Stephen MacDonald
Chief of Campus Police



LETTERS

