

P.E.I. Civil Liberties Press Release

The P.E.I. Civil Liberties Association supports the principle of improved police-community relations as recommended in the Grosman Report on Policing. Since the Grosman Report was intended as a blueprint for drafting a new Police Act in 1975, the Association hopes the government will encourage future public meetings and receive public briefs on the subject of the police and the community before enactment of the legislation.

The P.E.I. Civil Liberties Association takes the position that the role of the proposed P.E.I. Police Commission should be enlarged to include the supervision of the activities of the R.C.M.P. as well as, the municipal police and provincial police. One of the central recommendations of the Grosman Report is that the Government appoint a P.E.I. Police Commission to upgrade and supervise police activities of municipal and provincial police. The Grosman Report states, however, that "internal R.C.M. Police policy and operations are not seen as

central to provincial interests in a study of this kind for the purposes of proposed provincial legislation".

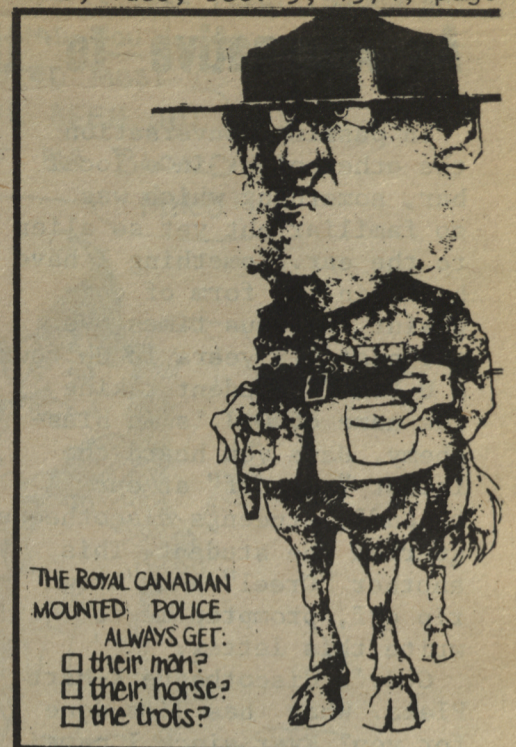
In the past year, the P.E.I. Civil Liberties Association has received complaints from citizens about the treatment they received from the R.C.M.P. At present, there are 128 R.C.M.P. compared to 62 municipal police on the Island. It costs the province over \$1,000,000 annually to maintain the R.C.M.P. here. The R.C.M.P. are contracted to police many rural municipalities where there are no municipal police. All these items point, the Association believes, to the necessity of the local police committees and the P.E.I. Police Commission having some say in the operations of the R.C.M.P.

The Grosman Report states that "few members of the public are aware of the power exercised by the police". Consequently, the Grosman proposal of a P.E.I. Police Commission and local police Committees, that may investigate citizens complaints against the police, is extremely important. With

this in mind, the P.E.I. Civil Liberties Association recommends that the new Police Act should state definitely that members of the Provincial Police Commission and Local Police Committees will not be representatives from any police force.

To inform and involve the community in the work of the police, the Grosman Report recommends that the local police committees should hold open public meetings. The Report states, however, that meetings related to conduct or discipline of police officers shall be conducted in private. The Association would like to see that point clarified so that people of the community and members of the police force who complain to the Local Police Committee are ensured an open and fair hearing. Even when such meetings must be held in private, the decisions of such meetings should be made public.

The P.E.I. Civil Liberties Association would also like to see concrete recommendations to ensure that the number of women police



officers be greatly increased and that equal opportunities exist for men and women in the police force with regards to hiring, advancement and the handling of police functions.

In summary, the Association feels the Grosman Report is an important step towards improving the working relationship between the community and the police. The next step should be public discussion of the Report's many recommendation that will lead to a new Police Act, as soon as possible.

Mail's Our Bag Cont. From Page 2

like Borden got along for years with only one cop but the University needs more every year as the enrollment shrinks?

Incidentally, to humour the burly boys in blue, I asked for a registration sticker long ago but have not, to date, been issued with one.

As aye,
Sharon E. Cregier

Fellow Students:

Have you yet had the honor of sitting in the Lower floor of the library on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday morning? If not, try it and you may well find yourself astounded by the remarkable facts you will learn about hockey, hunting and the inability of particular students to solve a f--king problem. If you have experienced this yourself I have no doubt that you realize the annoyance caused by this group of 4 or 5. You may well say that the answer lies in telling these people to be quieter. While these people(?) are busily chattering(loudly) about how drunk they had been the night before, sighs of agitation are common from those who have actually gone there to study! - heaven forbid!! Yet, no one

will do anything about this situation. Since I do know these people, I did mention to them that they were annoying others. Instead of voicing surprize or apologies they hooted louder than ever, "If you f--king people don't like it here, why don't you f--king well leave!"

So here lies an option
1) Either all the conscientious or interested students can go up to the top or second floor to study in order to leave these gentlemen(?) gossiping in peace or
2) put up with this obnoxious behavior. However I personally think that a better solution to this problem would be for these people who have to talk, to vacate to the smoking lounge. However, this might spoil their plans of impressing other people with past drunks, dates, or knowledge of hockey. I would hope that by now, we as university students have passed the stage where we need supervision under library hours. Still, unless these people recognize the politeness of remaining relatively quiet, steps should be taken to keep these people out of the library! After all it is getting close to exam week, and as one of my friends once said, "It's a good

thing this is a library, or it might be noisy in here."

Wendy Ripley

Dear Sick of Being a Blot,

Your letter last week reveals your sharing of the principal concern running throughout the "Letter". It really hit us too; it's quite a challenge to all of us.

The concise way your letter restated the original - make it real, Christians, get involved - has helped us face the challenge more squarely. It's hard going, as you know. If you would like to share your concern with us more fully, a number of us meet each Tuesday at 8:30p.m. in the Medical Centre. Seven of our group represented us recently at a Ten Day for World Development Seminar and volunteered to participate in the programme.

We're slowly learning how difficult it is truly to be informed well and to be together on something. We need all the help we can get.

Sincerely yours,

Concerned Campus Christians

Dear Sick of Being a Blot

I read your letter in the CADRE last week and the following thought occurred to me. Either you misinterpreted a lot about the "lett-



er" itself or the people behind it or else I misinterpreted your letter. I am not sure upon whose shoulders the lack of understanding can be placed. I am anxious to discuss this with you but for the past few days, nobody, when asked could quite remember knowing anyone named blot. Perhaps if you could come forward with your real name we might be able to find each other and iron out those wrinkles of inclarity where ever they may lie.

I am,
Urban Carmichael