

What exactly do you think you're doing, Brian?

People are naturally curious.

Now that is not new or amazing, and it's not meant to be. It's merely the statement of a fact often observed by students of human nature. Observers have also seen that when people's curiosity is not assuaged, humour comes along, and if the subject matter is weighty enough, general panic may set in.

Consider false news of invasion during war when scared-witless souls trample each other or may even commit suicide to avoid a worse fate that isn't coming.

Consider tales sown that a firm is on shaky ground. Stock prices fall, and mass selling of shares drives the business closer to bankruptcy.

Consider a Prime Minister who announces that a Summer Works Program which employed 30,000 students last year may be cut, then instructs all civil servants involved not to say a word about this to the media or the public.

Brian, Brian, Brian.

Surely you know better than that?

Surely you don't think students pressed to find continually rising tuition fees will calmly accept the news that their means to this end is to disappear?

One professor at UPEI thinks your action, if you go through with it, will polarize Canada into two camps, the rich and the poor. The rich will have access to education. The poor will not. The poor will thus stay poor. The poor will not be too happy with you in the end, Mr. Prime Minister.

This kind of reasoning, and talking, is dangerous to your well-being— more dangerous, perhaps, than us knowing some statistics or the alternatives you must have planned for us.

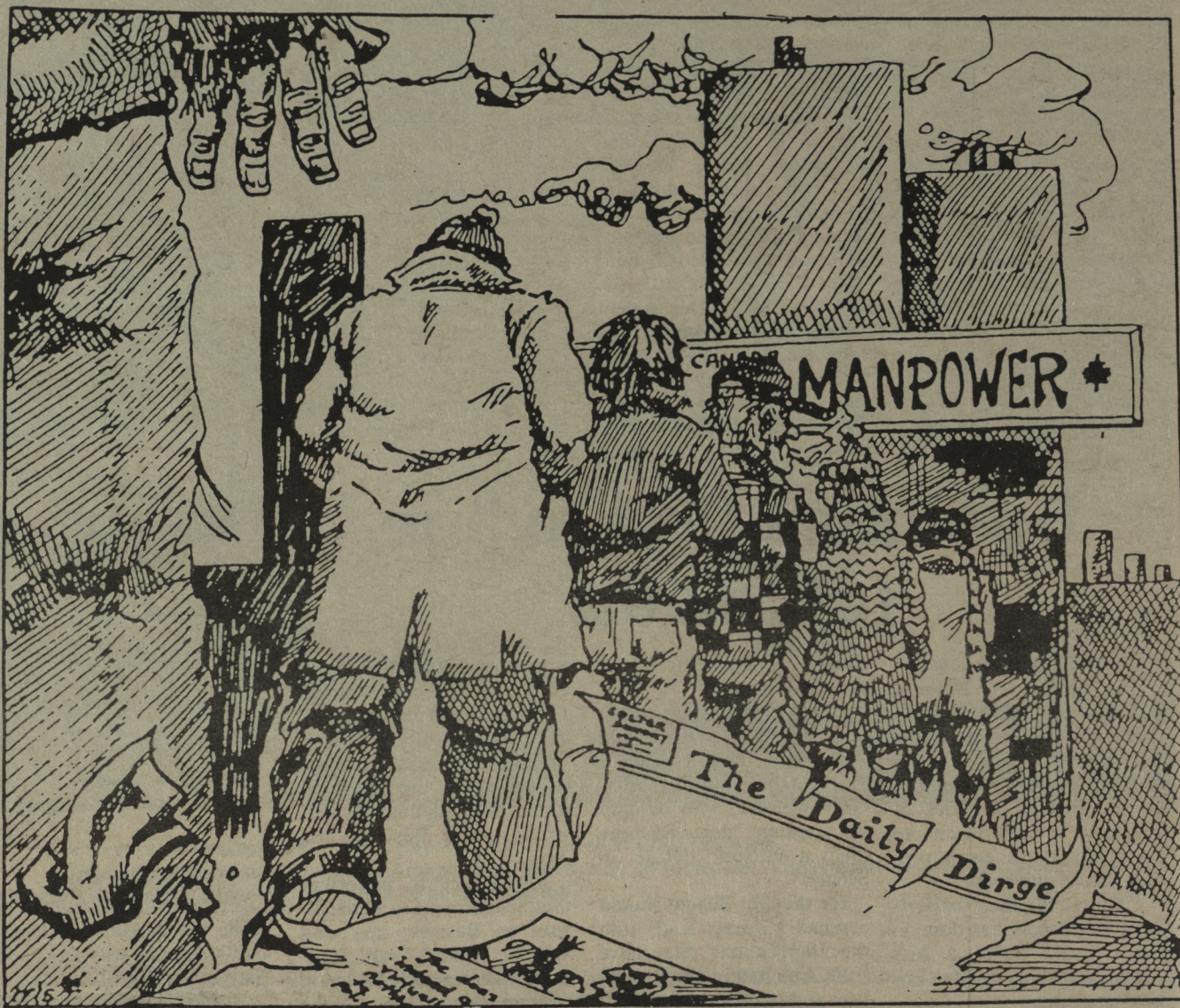
Do you have alternatives planned, Mr. Mulroney? Or are you disregarding us, now that you're in office, as a bunch of parasites who don't need the government's aid?

Education, particularly post-secondary education, is at the root of the Research and Development you promised us. High quality education for everyone who qualifies academically is an ideal not to be treated as "idealistic".

And young people who can't get Student Loans and can't find summer work are not being used to potential.

Isn't that what your government stands for, sir, bringing Canada to its potential?

Please, Prime Minister, say something soon.



LETTERS

TV violence

Dear Editor,

Last week's paper contained an article in which the reporter totally misquoted the director of *The Tempest* (John Lunman). He has never directed a play at Stratford. We regret any confusion this mistake may have caused.

Producer, Bob Stanley

Thanks to Tempest

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to the director, cast, and crew of the University Theatre Society's production of *The Tempest*.

It was a well executed presentation — one of which the University Theatre Society and the entire University can be justly proud. The skill and effort put in to staging the performance was obvious.

Sincerely,

Ian MacDonald,
Student External Services, UPEI

I am sick and tired of violence on TV. Why? Because it's unrealistic at best. The producers would have you believe that a pistol has an unlimited number of shots, and guns miss like crazy.

A pistol usually has from six to nine shots. No pistol can hold more than nineteen. If you have to use a pistol that much I'd recommend getting another gun.

I fail to see how a sub-machine gun spitting out ten bullets a second could miss a target only ten feet away. Even a klutz for five seconds could get a few of them to connect.

Violence is also messy. If you're going to have violence, you might as well tell it like it is. That means blood.

Don't get me wrong. I only want to discourage any psychopaths who love the sight of blood. Sure, it's gross. So's the famine in Ethiopia.

I must also disagree with those who call any violence violence. It also comes in

degrees. For instance, running a person over with a steamroller is more violent than stepping on his toe.

I just want to say, let's get some reality on the screen. I can't stand TV shows that would insult the intelligence of a twelve-year-old child.

Alix Kreap

Engineers pull out

We are writing to inform the *Netted Gem* readers that the engineers will no longer be submitting an article.

Every two weeks a group of us work with ideas from many engineering students, to produce an engineering article. After all, every newspaper has a humorous section and we feel the *Gem* is lacking in this respect.

The majority of students we are in contact with enjoy our material. Those who are not interested in our humor are not compelled to read it.

We go through the work of writing the article because of the many requests from the students, not just for our own benefit.

Unfortunately we have trouble getting our article printed. For example; four weeks ago we submitted a full page article and 3 weeks later only a small portion of it was printed on the second last page in a 5 x 10 (inch) block. Most of the article was omitted, including our

little block which we have used for many years. (We assume the editor does not like the fact that the nuts are exposed on the bridge.)

An active society representing more than 110 students deserves more than 50 square inches tri-weekly considering it is an article in demand by the student population who finance the newspaper.

This is especially evident when we see one lone student (and the editor) getting upwards of one and one half pages every week. There is certainly an injustice here.

So we are regretfully withdrawing "The View From The Top". We say regretfully because our newspaper is beginning to look like a

newsletter from the morgue.

It is unfortunate the students cannot get what they want into the student paper, which they are financing, and when what they want to read is available. Perhaps we can attempt another article with next year's editor.

Good luck on your exams and have a Merry Christmas.

U.P.E.I. Engineering Society.

We apologize to the members of the Engineering Society for omitting to print the graphic you submitted with your last "View From the Top". It was somehow

misplaced during the week we didn't publish, and we forgot about it until one of your number reminded us this week.

We do not intend to apologize for cutting your article, because it was not funny (ten out of ten staff regulars who saw the copy agreed) and because we felt such unadulterated smut has no place in publications outside of *Penthouse* or *Playboy*.

Nor do we intend to guarantee any group (or even any paid advertisers) first-class spacing every week, or even every other week.

Your decision to stop submitting articles is entirely your own, of course.

Merry Christmas to you, too.

The Netted Gem

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The staff of Canada's best student newspaper this week are: Nancy Ross, Jill Warburton, Kaberi Dasgupta, Robert Bodrog-Goodland, Melanie Clarke, Bob Stanley, Jonathan Orlowski, Sandra MacDonald, Lori MacLeod, Ross Hartinger, John Dougan, John Pendergast, Michael Zinck, Tony Sauer, Lori Anne Heckbert, Jim Lai, Brian MacLeod, Carol Doiron, Ron Lewis, Phil Stanyer, Glen Boswall, Brian Linkletter, Dawn MacLean, and editor Carolyn Ryan.

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