

TO UPEI STUDENTS

ON THE UNIVERSITY RIGHT

WELCOME TO UPEI - J. Sanlei
 Welcome to "our Island University", but don't take that pun too seriously- for as is the case with many a seaborne isle, this university as an academic center is surrounded by a vast "ocean" of the real world, whose power must never cease to stir amazement and wonder and who every tempest deserves the most cautious analysis. Beyond the perimeter of every university there lies a multitude of would-be Attila's in siege and counterposing St. Joan's in defence of the battered dreams of civilized humanity. The storm tossed twentieth century, to which we shall soon bid farewell, has thus far offered human-kind simultaneous gestures of attainable heights of civility for all the earth's inhabitants, in time; and death, depravity and wanton destruction of all that those in previous centuries have called dear.
 Beyond the facade of

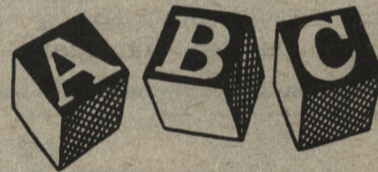
the so-called "ivory tower" hide many who would have us believe that any manner of theoretical, political, philosophic and theological simplicities can alchemically transform our presently depressing temporal state into an earthly paradise. To university also come those who, while suffering from an infantile disorder, have been cut loose from the control of parents, seek a two-to-four-year romp within their favorite hedonistic fantasy. Among this latter number may be included such as: seemingly sex-starved adolescents for whom life must pour out of a (probably cheap) bottle, be grown in Mexican highlands, or be robbed from the medical treatments of horses; and then there come to university as well an assorted mixture of those whose idiosyncratic faiths in religion, political ideology, social-life or physical science have been pre-conditioned prior even to registration to withstand all thought

in opposition. This last group of folks is either as drugged as those previously mentioned as being on chemicals, or they really do hold within their understatably vast minds all of the truths of the universe and should, therefore, find their own universities, having no need whatsoever of ours.
 To these three groups, this column is not and never was, nor shall be, dedicated. For not being a clergyman, social worker or psychologist, the author admits to not giving a damn. However, to those noble, and in an often mindless world, very brave, philosophes of character who have come to this place to enjoy the sweetness of knowledge, I bid you welcome, and it is to you that this column is henceforth dedicated. In the spirit of academic comradeship we are fellow sojourners.
 Our very civilization and our sacred liberty, for which so many have

made the ultimate sacrifice, will be irrevocably doomed should the burden for its salvation fall only upon the weak shoulders of the fanciful ideologues and mental peons of our world. Thomas Paine wrote that "Reason and Ignorance, the opposites of each other, influence the great bulk of mankind. If either of these can be rendered sufficiently extensive in a country, the machinery of Government goes easily on. Reason obeys itself and ignorance submits to whatever is dictated to it". Thus even in the chains of slavery we may possess a smooth running society (to use an old metaphor "the trains will run on time") but if we should believe that liberty and civility are worth more to us than mere order then we must each begin now to train our minds to think for the struggle ahead.

LETTERS

continued



Chris MacKinnon and his Orientation Committee on a job well done. Also congratulations to Nanci Waugh on her successful campaign with Shinerama, which more than doubled last year's total. The Committee started way back in April 1980 and put in a lot of hours and hard work to insure that the 1980 Freshman class would enjoy themselves during their week. Because the names of everyone involved are too numerous to mention, I would like to say thank-you to all that helped with the week, and especially to the Freshmen who took part in the activities. I hope the Freshmen keep up their spirit throughout the year (and that goes for the upper classmen as well). Only with everyone's help and enthusiasm will the 1980-81 year be a successful year, and we already are off to a good start. Best of luck to everyone for the 1980-81 year.

Sue Parlee,
 Vice-President,
 U.P.E.I. Student Union

To the Editor:
 Just before exams started in April, the Director of Student Services approached the residence house committees and asked that a Residence Review Committee be formed to review existing rules, regulations, residence structures, and life styles by soliciting opinions from among those students living in residence. Chaired by a counsellor from Student Services, this committee of seven people composed, circulated and collected a questionnaire covering all aspects of residence life. Replies to the questionnaire were then summarized into a report known as Residence Report '80 and submitted to the Director of Student Services. After this, it seems to have dropped out of existence. For example 51% of those students living in Blanchard expressed room-mate dissatisfaction. The committee, therefore, recommended that students

who did not have preferred roommates answer a computer compatibility questionnaire. Not only was this recommendation ignored, also students who decided in August that they wanted to share an apartment with a friend were told by Student Service Employees that no changes were being made. This would have meant a change on paper only, as students had not yet moved into residence and would perhaps have improved the spirit in Blanchard Hall.
 Other recommendations included requests for improvements in the physical conditions of Marian, improvements of laundering facilities in Blanchard and two or three trial co-ed apartments in Blanchard. Marian is fortunate (?) enough to have two more showers, but Blanchard seems to have more students than last year and the same, now even more inadequate, laundering facilities.
 Yes, many students gave their full cooperation in completing these questionnaires, while

other students spent many hours at residence review meetings, just prior to exams, hoping for improvements. What became of the report?? Has it been filed away destined never to be seen or is it sitting buried in papers on someone's desk getting pushed further and further to the bottom until it is forgotten??
 Signed: Indignant



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