

Editorial

Science and the Bourgeois

Gary Webster's class on "Underdevelopment" has become a source for some interesting editorials lately. The recent class is no exception. Concerning the Irish Moss industry on Prince Edward Island, Gary had four very interesting people in to talk with us; they were: Dr. Rigney, Chemistry; Dr. Manic, Biology; Wilson Shea, Moss Plant Mgr.; and W.B. McLellan, retired farmer.

The abovementioned scientists from UPEI did an analysis of the Irish Moss Plant itself; its structure, reproductive process, relationship to the environment (other plants, lobster terrain, etc.), all of which constituted a very impressive presentation. Science, in its ability to give witness to natural phenomena, is always impressive.

But why was the Irish Moss Plant subjected to analysis in the first place? Mainly because it possesses an important element used for creating smooth texture in jams and pastes -- corroginase. As a matter of fact the Irish moss grown around Prince Edward Island, contains a greater amount of this substance than anywhere else in the world. The plant has as much as 85% of this substance. Naturally, therefore, it has worldwide demand. Due to the fact it is in such demand, but is not universally grown and, where it is grown apart from Prince Edward Island, is of inferior quality, scientists single it out to study in the hope of growing it elsewhere of comparable quality so as not to rely on Prince Edward Island for their source. In other words, the question of economics comes to the fore in those countries who require it for whatever industry is dependent upon it.

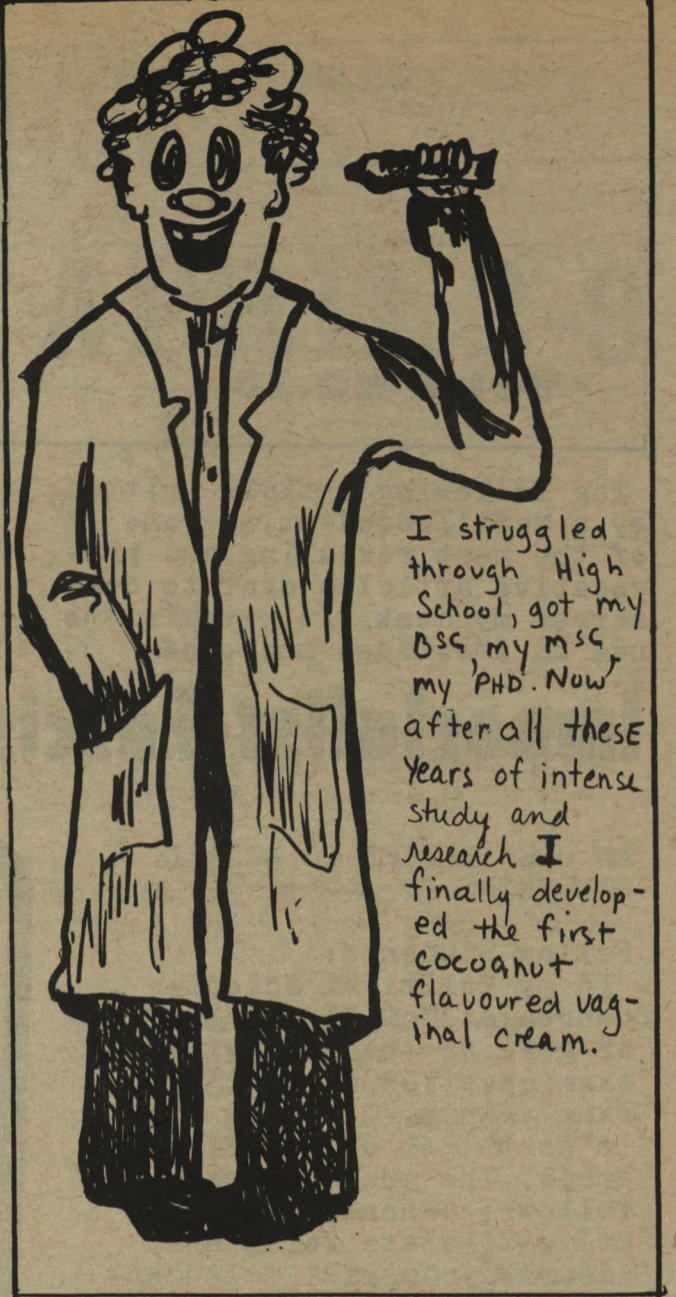
This problem with which this article concerns itself is as follows: if it were not the case that the Irish moss could contribute to a specific industrial enterprise (and this assumption is feasible) would it be subjected to study? If the profiteering enterprises could place a value upon it -- that is to say, if it were not seen to be profitable -- would they finance any study regarding it? If the Irish moss had a human value, but not a capital value, would funds be forwarded to facilitate such a study?

What I am suggesting by such a question is that, in North American Capitalist Societies scientific endeavour is supported by, and is in the interests of, the leading, dominant class -- the Bourgeois; by whom moreover, I mean the multi-national corporations; federal concerns as well as provincial; the institutions

whether political, social, legal or even religious. The suggestion further implies that scientific pursuit, in its endeavour to maintain & perpetuate that system which funds its activity, is science but for a few -- the few who sustain it.

The implied suggestion by this latter remark is that science is not free to be itself; that is, to be pure, non-prejudicial and humanistic. (By "humanistic" is not to be meant that science concern itself directly with acting in the interests of the people.

The fact that this question be raised at all implies what the author feels about it. It is implied, or no, an accusation against contemporary western science. The author is ignorant of scientific content and cannot, unfortunately, articulate a responsible answer; however, the questions are posed for those with more scientific articulative acumen and, hopefully, an answer will be forthcoming from those in a position to do so.



I struggled through High School, got my BSc, my MSc, my 'PHD. Now' after all these years of intense study and research I finally developed the first coconut flavoured vaginal cream.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to complain about the slackness of the SU office. Presently, any member of the Student Union is free to inspect any documents, particularly medical receipts from Zurich Insurance. Recently there was an embarrassing occurrence at the university cafeteria which, much to the discomfort of a female student, involved a member of the Senate announcing, in the presence of a large audience that Ms. X's receipt for 'the pill' was awaiting her at the Student Union Office. Such indiscretions are a constant source of discomfort for the female populus of the university. Why should we have to stand for this?

A Not so Innocent By-Stander

Dear "Arts and Leisure"
Editor of the Cadre:

In the days of nude Greek olympics, the hardened, athletic human body, honed muscles rippling with lithsomeness and tone, may well have been a thing of beauty.

To try to claim the same for today's blubber-bottomed non-beauty is lunacy.

It is bad enough to share the scene with flab-jowled, wheezy, corpulent, greasy, squint-eyed, hedonistic, flatulent, porcine, slow-witted people when they are clothed. To see them huffing about in

the nude would be completely demoralizing.

Gen. Eisenhower once gave his secret for remaining relaxed at a speaking engagement. He imagined all the dignitaries in their underclothes. It explains the famous Eisenhower grin.

Until people learn to chuck their morning doughnut, orange flavour synthetic juice and that ilk for an active life filled by fresh air and staple foods, few will want to be seen in the nude.

As aye,
Lucid Maude

Mr. Editor:

It was indeed a great pleasure to find my picture gracing the front page of last week's Cadre (dated April 2nd -- April Fool days are here again --). It was no surprise to find you espousing a 'liberal' typology modeled after another self-styled 'savior' of humanity --- may the souls of such men rest in peace! While there are eleven types of 'liberals', there are two types of radicals: Type I -- those who write good nonsense, and Type II -- those who write plain nonsense. In the present case, I definitely see scope for improvement!

Sincerely,
M.M. Rahman
Dept. of Psychology