

EXCHANGE DECEASED

By Maureen Hartman

Another Student activity "bit the dust" as the past semester drew to a close. "The Exchange" (UPEI's Coffee House) had been happening every Wednesday night from 9:00 - 12:00. It featured local talent playing folk, rhythm, and blues music.

When asked about the folding of The Exchange, Manager Larry Loveless attributed it to two basic reasons. Firstly, "the participation of the students was really poor. The students were simply not interested in participating in the Coffee House". It seemed to be a reflection of the age-old complaint of apathy on university campuses. Secondly, no one seemed willing to put a lot of time and effort into The Exchange. The burden was left on one person to cook the goodies, set up and remove the speaker system and to advertise. These chores generally took a day and a half to accomplish, which hindered studies and cramped leisure

time. Like many activities on every campus, there was enthusiastic aid in the beginning, but this help dwindled to nothing as the semester progressed. Loveless stated that he also had to do most of the scouting for entertainers. Very rarely did they come to him, wanting to perform.

Loveless speculated that the poor turnouts may have been due to conflicting activities, such as classes (most classes were finished by 10 P.M., which still left two hours to unwind at The Exchange), activities at the Chaplaincy Centre, and the Pig and other pubs (in the sense that a few students set aside only one weeknight per week to abandon their studies and get out for a breather). It may be interesting to note that, after asking other students why they had never attended the Coffee House, some replied that they were unaware of its existence.

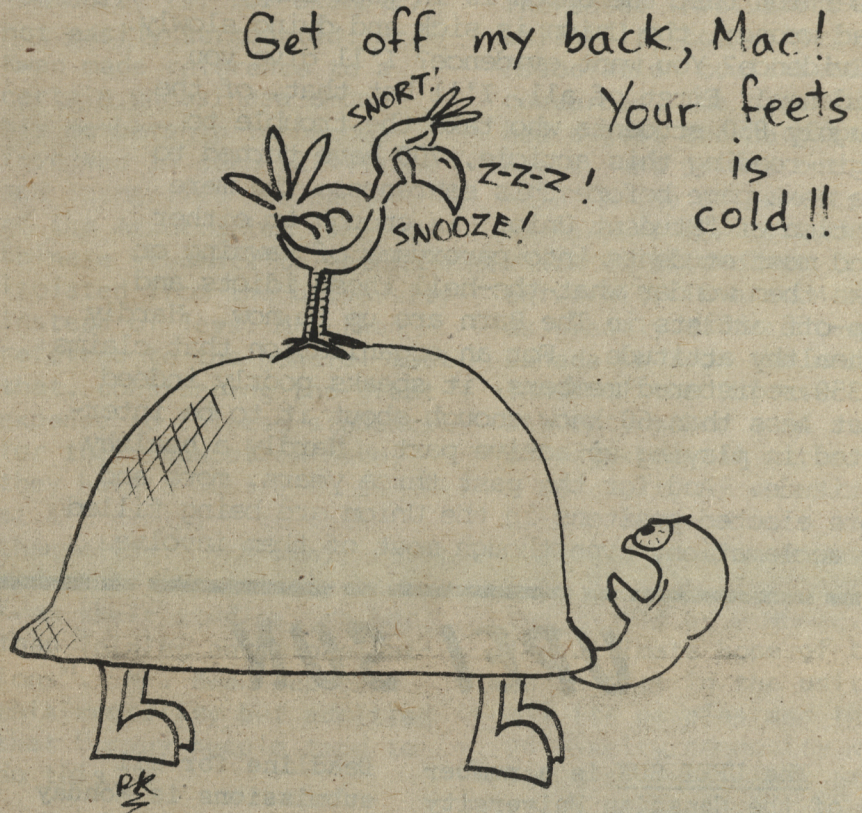
When asked if A.C.T. had had any part of The Exchange, Loveless replied that there was "no out-

ward religious expression", but that many people may have received "certain impressions of a Christian bent", because of some of the conversations overheard there. He also conjectured that it appealed more to the off-campus crowd, who tended to be more mature.

Loveless outlined a few ideas on the future form of the Coffee House, but nothing definite had been decided. If it was to be started again in a different form, the entertainers

would be expected to perform on a volunteer basis. In the past, they had received the entire proceeds from the door, and it tended to be rather embarrassing if there was only two or three dollars to pay the performer for three hours of work.

Whatever the reasons for the folding of The Exchange, the absence of alcohol and the prevalence of apathy seem to be involved.



LIBERAL VISITS LIBRARY

By Alan Buchanan

With election day rapidly closing in, candidates are on the move, trying to garner every possible vote. Although the University is in Hillsborough riding, many of the students from outside the greater Charlottetown area will be going home to vote on election day, and on campus last week hoping to gain the support of those students from the Cardigan district, was Dan MacDonald, Liberal candidate in that riding.

Mr. MacDonald, accompanied by his wife, Polly, spoke to students in the lounge at the Robertson Library for approximately 15 minutes, and then opened the floor for questions. In a short and informal speech, MacDonald criticised the budget of the P.C. government and called the 18¢ per gallon excise tax on gasoline unfair, especially to farmers and fishermen. He also attacked the fisheries policy of the present government, claiming that it

would be harmful to the inshore fisheries of Prince Edward Island. The former Liberal cabinet minister referred to his experience in Ottawa as the Minister of Veteran's Affairs, and suggested that Canada now needs a government which is seasoned and experienced.

In answer to a question concerning Liberal policy on oil price increases, MacDonald stated that their policy would not mean an across the board increase, but rather, it would be designed so that those best able to pay would be penalized the most. He did not, however, go on to describe the policy in any detail.

One student made reference to the move by the U.S. to re-instate the military draft, and asked the candidate what his position would be on a similar type of draft or registration for Canada. MacDonald stated that he hoped the present world situation could be settled by peaceful means and would support involuntary registration only as a last resort.

When asked whether or not he felt that the move of the D.V.A. would only be of short term benefit to Prince Edward Island, MacDonald replied that although many of the Veterans are literally "dying off", care of family members will be on-going for another 20 years. "After that", MacDonald says, "the Department of Fisheries would fit awfully nice in that building."

Mr. MacDonald ended his visit to the university by urging all students to exercise their franchise on election day, "no matter what candidate you vote for".

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