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3-12-1974

## Correspondence from a Maine Citizen

Name Redacted

Howard R. Neville

*President, University of Maine*

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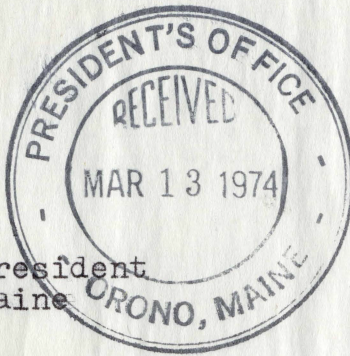
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Greenville, Maine  
March 12, 1974

Office of the President  
University of Maine  
Orono, Maine

Gentlemen::

It is said that confession is good for the soul. Well here is mine:: In July next I shall celebrate my 86th. Back in 1907-11 there would have been no cause for me or for anyone else to write a letter such as I now reluctantly write: our beloved campus was not graced by Sodom in the guise of "Wilde Steinery". The only evidence of homosexuality was when an occasional overwrought heifer in the back lot mounted a sister heifer in an act resulting in mutual frustration, or when a couple of mongrel male dogs tried to kid one another. "Love of man for man", yes, a great deal of it, but not lust of man for man!

When a man is sick he isn't well, but his need is not met by his being issued a false certificate of health by a mistakenly indulgent administration. Also his tragic ailment could be contagious.

Nothing that has come to my attention since first I came to love dear old MAINE has been more revolting than the possibility that a few tragically sick individuals should be given the status of an "organization" to the extent of contaminating a college campus by holding a so-called "convention". The matter of "Constitutional Rights" or "Freedom of Speech" is not involved here. The ugly head protruding from a sick soil cannot be raised to the level where these time-honored principles apply. Do not allow this degrading and costly travesty to take place.

Sincerely and respectfully yours

[Redacted signature]

cc-others

Royelle letter -

March 12, 1974

██████████ ████  
Greenville, Maine

Dear Mr. ██████:

I thank you very much for taking time to write about some of the things that are going on at the University.

As you may know from reading in the newspaper, the conference which we are holding here is a result of a position taken some time ago. We are all as much concerned about it as I am sure you are. Enclosed is a copy of the Trustees' action and my personal statement made shortly thereafter.

I hope that you will continue to give the University your own support as we try our best to make what changes as are directed for us in this difficult world in which we live.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely yours,

Howard R. Neville  
President

HRN/bwl