

Lettitors

All letters to the editor should be typed double space, not more than 250 words. Otherwise they may be abridged (exceptions will be considered). The writer is asked to include his name and telephone number with his letter. Pen names will be used at the writer's request. Letters should be sent to THE GATEWAY, Room 282, SUB, Edmonton, or should be dropped off at our offices, no later than 6:00 P.M. Tuesday and Friday, if they are to appear in the following issue. THE GATEWAY shall not be held responsible for any libel or damages incurred.

Grad Students Tax Deduction

Dear Editor

This letter should be of interest to all graduate students currently receiving financial support from the University. Last Friday we were all shocked at the amount of our cheques diverted to income tax. Some checking with the University payroll office, and the Assessor's

department of the District Tax Office has revealed that you will probably be able to get this reduced in the succeeding months.

Monthly income tax deductions in 1972 are being calculated on the basis of total exemptions and monthly pay assuming twelve pay periods per year. According to the booklet *Tax Reform and You* recently published by National Revenue and Taxation, p.8, scholarships, fellowships, and bursaries have a \$500 exemption. The assessor's department is presently classifying all assistantships in this category. This \$500, and a \$500 exemption for your fees may be added to your basic personal exemption, but you will have to submit a new TDI form to the University payroll office. You will find no space on the TDI directly pertaining to these exemptions but you can add the \$500 for fees in the

column opposite "Tuition fees" (please ignore the small print in the brackets), and write in "GTA (bursary)"--- \$500 across the bottom before the total exemption claimed. A form completed in this way will be accepted by the payroll office. At present we can see no way to avoid paying tax on any basis except the twelve month salary.

Below is a sample calculation to show what monthly income tax you should be paying: For a single graduate student with a \$3000 GTA,

Exemptions:
Basic personal exemption \$1500
Exemption re: bursaries, scholarships etc. \$ 500
Exemption re: Tuition: \$500
Total exemptions: \$2500
Monthly gross income: \$333.33.
According to Table I38, monthly tax deductions, which can be obtained by any individual from the District Tax Office, the deduction on a gross monthly income of \$333.33 with a total annual exemption of \$2500 should be \$28.85 or \$21.96 less than the \$50.81 paid by people in this category in January.

Patricia Romans GTA
Robert Bubba GTA

Student Health Should Stay

Editor,

I wish to strongly commend Student Health Services, and to thank them publicly for the help they have been to me over the past 5 months in particular. Specialists in the city and city hospitals were not able to be of any help to me, and would dismiss my complaint with "Well, I can't find anything wrong with you in MY area of specialization." They would then suggest that I just wait until the condition went away.

However, Student Health took a much more personal interest in my well-being, and persisted until the condition was finally diagnosed and alleviated. Without their personal interest I am sure that I could not have found a doctor who would have been bothered to diagnose and treat anything other than routine run-of-the-mill 'easy' cases. (With medicare, doctors get paid the same for routine cases or difficult cases.)

I have often written to the Gateway in the past, criticizing certain officials and aspects of the University, and so it is only fair to write a letter of commendation for those aspects of the University which deserve praise. In my visits to Student Health over the past 4 years, I have met many students who use and appreciate the service - students are less likely to go to a doctor if it means making a delayed appointment and travelling off campus - but none of us have thought to publicly express our appreciation.

At the risk of being presumptuous, I would like to thank the friendly and helpful staff of Student Health Services, on behalf of all those students like myself. My personal thanks to Dr. Cookson.
Doug Mustard

Dear Sir:

I wish to add my comments to your recent article regarding University Health Services, which I found interesting and informative, if rather disheartening.

In spite of the economic pressures facing the University of Alberta at this time, it should not be necessary to even consider doing away with so vital a program. The services rendered by Student Health can not be obtained in so rapid, efficient and comprehensive a manner in any clinic off campus, and I make this statement on the grounds of considerable personal experience. Without Student Health, many students would be faced with weeks of waiting for appointments, often resulting in endless referrals and rounds of testing procedures which could seriously disrupt academic endeavors.

Aside from its convenience in terms of location, immediacy of treatment and minimal prescription fees, I feel that Student Health serves us in a more subtle way, through the concern shown by a staff which is in constant touch with the problems, policies and general manner of campus life. This involvement is of great benefit to the student, as it enables his problems to be seen in the context in which they arise, and also helps to alleviate the growing depersonalization in the university.

Surely those in a position to decide the fate of University Health services are aware of its importance to the university community. A way must be found to maintain a service which helps so many students in so many ways.
Barbara Williams
Graduate Studies



To the Students on Campus:

Do you remember the poster of the "beef" on the motorcycle who said "There is a yearbook. To get it, starting Monday, November 30, bring \$2 to SUB Information Desk with your I.D. Cards. Your \$2 will be returned when you pick up your yearbook."

Well everyone who was impressed with the offer went and paid the \$2 and received a receipt for the money. Somewhere in the neighbourhood of 5 months later the yearbook arrived. To many people the yearbook was not at all what was expected and so they went and got their money and yearbook, if they wanted to have some garbage pile practice, or they simply went and got their money.

After a month the people involved with the distribution of said yearbook decided that there would be no money involved in the transaction. So if you weren't one of the first people to get the yearbook someone scored \$2 on you.

Cameron McDonald didn't like this set-up so he came to the Gateway and asked if we would help him. Here is his plea; if anyone of you were ripped off by this scheme he would like your name and address, if there is enough people, he with the help of legal aid will try and get your money back for you. There is only one catch, you must have the receipt given to you by the cashier. If you do PLEASE write, phone, or get in touch with: Cameron McDonald, 10724-69St. 466-0987 (after six).

Just because it's \$2 don't think it's not important, \$2 X 100 is quite a bit of money.

GATEWAY EDITOR CONTRIBUTES TO WOMEN'S OPPRESSION

Dear Editor:

No doubt you will choose a different title for my letter than the one I have chosen, as it does not favor you. Obviously I am responding to last Thursday's editorial captioned, "Women's Week contributes to woman's oppression". Both of our titles are equally absurd, but let me tell you why I've chosen mine.

I see you telling men and women that unless they agree exactly with your view point they are not yet enlightened. Elsie -- if that's "libertatio", I don't want it! I refuse to struggle from one stereotyped conformity to another. Why should I exchange one form of dogmatism for another? Is that your kind of liberation? For me, that's just a new oppression!

And let me tell you another way you are "oppression" women. In your column you put down all the events during Women's Week as "a great liberal trip with lots of liberal bullshit, but saying absolutely nothing." You made derogatory remarks about the "middle aged, well-heeled, well intentioned women". (Think you'll never grow older than 30?)

Seems to me that you want

to enjoy an elite revolution with the friends you've chosen. Do you feel yourself capable of deciding who is too far gone to even hear a new and less oppressive philosophy? Do you wish to decide which women's groups are able to meet some needs of some women, and thus their personal liberation? Do you really believe that your truly liberated woman will suffer contamination because some of her sisters still advocate development of cultural refinement, which may seem something less than a central issue to you, as it does to me? With you, I can't agree with the philosophy of many of the groups represented in the theatre lobby. Neither do I agree with everything all of the speakers said. Can this be just cause to lump such diverse women as Isabel Munroe, Dorothy Smith, Marjorie Bowker, Jean McBean, Lola Lange and Sharon Stevenson under the banner of "liberal bullshitters"? Do you really feel that Dorothy Smith was soothing the status queers with her Marxist critique of contemporary society? Or did you miss her point because she

avoided the cliché terminology which alienates many of the "well-intentioned", "middle-aged" quilters in the audience?

You state the sessions during the week were "totally unrepresentative" and ask where were "the young women, the poor", "the Women's Liberationists". Yes, I'm sure not all groups were represented. But, I don't consider women your age "old" and we had a number in that age category. Neither do I consider a single parent with two children living on welfare, and Indian woman fighting to regain her treaty rights, and a rural woman sharing her struggles with farm life, my ideal of white, suburban, middle-class representation. Did you not hear Charlotte Ziebarth openly declare herself a feminist or a "Woman's Lib"?

You also stated "Women's Week is not coming to grips with the fundamental issues of women's oppression". Then you mention the societal forces that lead women into economic

dependence upon the male, into the role of unwilling wife and mother and into selling her body

for security. These seem to me to be very central in the women's movement. Were you unable to attend all of the sessions? I heard Elizabeth Jeffress, Dorothy Smith, Ted Chambers, Lola Lange, Charlotte Ziebarth and Sharon Stevenson sharing their distress over these very issues.

You put down the chair-person on Tuesday night's panel, because she asked a member of the audience to state her comments in a question so to make use of the panel. This you felt was "One of the few times all week that anyone attempted to come to grips with the gut issues of women's oppression and they were fed platitudes..." Bullshit! I saw more platitudes and clichés in your brief article than I heard all evening.

In conclusion, I'd like to ask you how often you've reached out from your homogeneous circle of friends. How often have you discussed your feelings with men who snicker when you mention the women's movement? How many women that you discuss the movement with have totally brushed the idea aside? How many times have

you been labelled "women's lib" and then been dealt with as a representative of the bra-burners, an un-person? Maybe this doesn't happen. Maybe your circle of friends, but it does with others. Without risking this interaction, how do you let these people know that the women's movement is trying to confront societal problems of contemporary validity?

It seems to me that if you are sincerely concerned with the women's movement you will constructively criticize the program during Women's Week, rather than attacking the whole thing. Barring this, you will offer an alternative program as Chris Bearchell has done to increase our philosophical awareness, i.e., base of choice. This is, in a very real sense, increasing our liberation.

Anyone can bitch, Elsie! Let's see you do something constructive.

Vera Radio,
Students' Union Secretary

Ed's note: in Miss Radio's interests, the original title was retained