

## Harvesting Sour Grapes . . .

The outstanding impression gleaned by an onlooker at the McGoun Cup debate Friday night, was that no one was satisfied with the judges' decision. It may be assumed that the winners from UBC were the two notable exceptions.

The dissatisfaction of the audience could be attributed to sour grapes, since most of them were pulling for U of A's debaters. However, it is difficult to believe that so many University students would be so ungracious as to begrudge visiting rivals a deserved win, partisan though they may have been.

It is far more likely that the judges and the audience were in disagreement as to what constitutes good debating. The audience simply could not understand on what criterion the decision had been made.

Much bitter disappointment could be avoided in like situations in future McGoun debates if the judges were required to give an adjudication of the performance as is done in the Hugill competitions. Adjudication would not necessarily breed complete popular acquiescence to the decision. It would, however, dissolve uncomfortable doubts as to the competence of the judges.

Two of the three men appointed by the University of Alberta to judge the intervarsity McGoun Cup debates Friday night found against Alberta's team. Their decision has caused more oration than it quelled.

Some, indeed most, of the University of Alberta students and faculty members associated with debating, have criticized the judges' decision as being both unfair and unskilled. There is complaint that the "offending" judges were not experienced, and that their decision was influenced by a lack of familiarity with McGoun Cup procedure.

Much of this is shallow criticism, uttered because Alberta lost. It is unbecoming to the University, and to the gentlemanly traditions in which debating is reputed to have root.

In March of this year, Alberta will host

## and Trampling Them

representatives from the four geographic regions of Canada in the nation's college debating final. In the past, this national final has suffered from inadequate preparation, and from the abiding ill feeling which poor preparation brings.

University of Albertans with a sincere interest in debating should channel their exuberance into preparation for the national final. Against the precedents set by past national competitions, a well-organized and effective final in Edmonton would bring more prestige, and give more impetus, to Alberta debating, than the winning of any regional trophy.

And effective support of the national competition would remove the lingering suspicion that many of Alberta's debating stalwarts are more interested in winning, than in debating.

## Give The Greeks A Break

The Awards committee of the Students' Union will soon be threshing through names of prominent students, sticking some with a Gold "A" ring, some with a Gold Key blazer, and just sticking some.

Almost every student who has secretaried one of the campus' thousand committees, and certainly every student who can persuade two

buddies to submit a nomination slip, will have his record reviewed. If he has been active enough in student affairs at U of A, glory will be his during a few seconds of Color Night in March.

The Awards committee, a hybrid fathered by Students' Council and the Gold Key, bases its selection on several criteria. They attempt to limit the awards to students who have made a valuable, and not just a confused or a concentrated, contribution to student life.

However, there is one area of activity which is officially ignored by the committee. This year, as in the past, leadership in the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Association will not be recognized.

In fact, and there are tomes of Administrative protestation to impress the fact, fraternities and sororities are not an official part of the Students' Union. So far as the Union in its official functions is concerned, fraternities and sororities are entities apart, and their members, as such, work without Students' Union responsibility, or acclaim.

But whenever student government wants to gather blood or celebrate an anniversary, the same runners are sent to IFC and Panhel as trot, palms outstretched, to the religious clubs and faculty organizations.

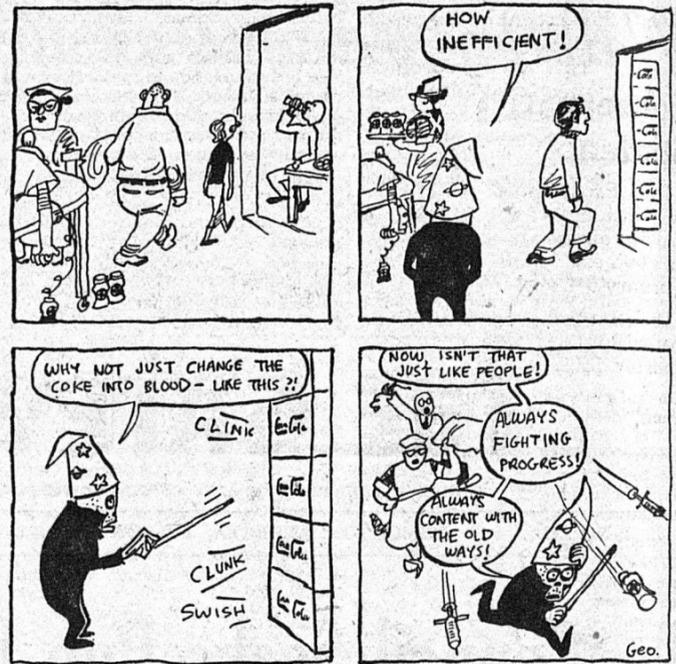
When it is to the benefit of the Students' Union, recognition is granted the workers in fraternities and sororities. Since it will do the Union no harm, consideration should be given these workers when official spoils are divided.

## Service

The Gateway editorial page was undernourished at 12:45 am., Monday. So we asked our late, late staff for "quickie" editorial suggestions.

Topics proposed were (1) "the deplorable lack of escalator facilities on this campus", and (2) "the rich, brown sandy slush on the streets of Edmonton."

As a service to our readers, we wrote neither one.



## The Masturbation Letter

To the Editor:

I wish to thank the engineers for clearing up a few misconceptions about girls. I realize now that I was not really a man, for I paid no attention to the exterior appearance of the human female. I thought the things that mattered about a girl were things you could not perceive by merely looking at her. I labored under the delusion that women had a soul, and that it would take infinite pains and a lifetime of love to discover that soul. I realize I was wrong and I apologize humbly.

Apparently, all the things that matter are right there on the surface; in fact, a girl consists of nothing else. Moreover there are quite sensible objective rules about evaluating the factors involved, and it is possible, by polling a number of engineers, to discover the thing that comes

closest to possessing all these qualities in the greatest measure.

I say 'thing', because I am still convinced that to be human is to have a soul. To elevate a girl to queenhood is to proclaim her the ideal woman. I don't think it is possible to discover a girl's soul in a week, or even to discover whether she has a soul. Of course it's quite obvious that even if she has one it doesn't matter.

I must also thank the engineers for clearing up an ethical problem for me. Since a girl is only a thing it no longer matters how I use her; if she were human, using her would be ethically impossible. I can now use any woman with no pangs of conscience. Masturbation will be so much more pleasant now.

A no longer frustrated artsman.

## UBC Rejects Press Charter

Vancouver — (CUP) — The Canadian University Press charter for freedom of the student press has been rejected by the students' council of the University of British Columbia on the grounds that it clashes with the student society constitution.

The charter, which is supported by the 24 CUP members, asks for freedom from all external influences. It was presented to the UBC council, the Alma Mater society, as a motion for adoption.

At present the AMS controls the financing, and in theory, the censoring of the student paper, The Ubysses, although it has pointed out that it does not wish to dictate policy.

In a front page story the paper stated that all but one of the editorial board felt that, "the AMS's refusal of the charter, with no reasonable solution, is typical of the uncompromising nature of this administrative body."

However, the AMS treasurer pointed out, "The students' council does not have the power to adopt the charter because it is against the constitution as it now stands."

In spite of its reluctance to support the charter, the AMS agreed to support CUP financially for this academic year, and agreed to support the association for the year 1960-61, although this latter pledge of support is subject to approval of the next council.

Outside of the legality of the charter in relation to the AMS, the council could not seem to find anything specific against the charter itself. It was against it mainly because it believed the charter was difficult

to interpret, and because of the tradition of student responsibility which has always been upheld at UBC.

Council member Russ Brink, also national affairs chairman of NFCUS, termed the charter "vague and useless".

President Peter Meekison stated that the students' council was not interested in dictating policy to the paper. "The basis of our student autonomy is that they are willing to accept responsibility, and discipline themselves. The students pay for the paper, and they should have control over it," he said.

Referring to the charter clause which asks for freedom from all external sources, he concluded that if the AMS did not take responsibility for The Ubysses, the administration would.

## A Weekly Newspaper

The Gateway is going weekly this Friday. This is the last Tuesday edition for this term. So cherish it.

The staff, having barely survived Christmas exams, hopes by this move to squeak through in April. Staff members are also looking forward to viewing "Twentieth Century" and "Ed Sullivan" Sunday evenings.

Forthcoming Friday editions will compensate for the lack of a Tuesday paper by running some 12-page editions instead of the customary 8. At least three special editions are also being planned.

The 8 pm. Tuesday deadline continues to be in effect for contributions.

## THE GATEWAY

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### FINAL DEADLINE COPY

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