

# EDITORIAL

## The CUP stops here

To anyone who reads this paper regularly, the acronym CUP will be a familiar one. It stands for Canadian University Press, an organization of student newspapers from across the country. It's a very large organization. The largest of its kind in the world.

The Gateway upon being a member in CUP receives a weekly news package, a monthly features exchange, the help of a paid fieldworker, and we attend several conferences throughout the year. We don't receive these services for free, however, we pay. We pay a hell of a lot.

This year our total invoice for fees came to \$11,469. That's a lot of money by anyone's standards. If the service we received was efficient then I would not complain, but in my mind the service is not efficient and I am complaining.

Our fees are going up next year. In accordance with the feds six and five policy they're going up 12%. That means that the Gateway will be paying \$12,845 for a service that has been declining in recent times. Now apparently the service is supposed to improve in the next little while and our fees may even come down. CUP owns this national ad agency, Campus Plus, that was supposed to make scads of money and start paying those dividends back to the organization. I don't see that happening. In fact, I don't see it happening for quite some time.

In all honesty, we can't blame Campus Plus for having a bad year this year. Everyone is feeling the pinch of the recession and for Campus Plus to simply maintain a level head is good. But the problem lies not with Campus Plus but with CUP itself. I have no confidence in the organization at the national level. I have no confidence in the ideology that springs from many of the papers within CUP.

The Gateway has been accused, this year, of minding the financial store a little too closely. We cater to advertisers too much. We're too concerned with rising costs and how to keep them from getting out of hand. I think those accusations hold little credence.

We are concerned with our costs this year, I admit it. We take pains to ensure that we don't run away with our expenditures. But even adhering to strict budget guidelines we still expect to lose around \$20,000 this year.

Now, a lot of the idealogues within CUP feel that student papers should be free from the evils that afflict the commercial press. Namely: advertising. Many papers boycott certain companies because they disagree with their practices. But they still want to put out newspapers.

Advertising by its nature is a dirty business. To recognize it as necessary evil (which CUP does in its Statement of Principles) seems to me to be a weak rationalization. Advertising is what keeps our papers afloat. Without it we couldn't do anything.

The reason I have no confidence in the organization to survive financially, thereby survive, is because the idealogues of whom I speak are the people who will be making up the national budget in the future. They are the ones who will be telling papers that they, through their national ad agency, can't give us any more revenue but they're going to raise our fees anyway. There seems to be no grasp of financial reality. The reason I think Campus Plus will not be able to provide increased revenues is thus: if papers continue to boycott companies advertising and the numbers of papers doing so increases (as is happening now) then the companies being boycotted will turn their attention (ie. dollars) elsewhere and forsake Campus Plus.

Now many others may rejoice at the thought of getting rid of certain advertisers but how can you expect an ad agency to solicit ads if there's no guarantee that those ads will run in the papers Campus Plus represents? So fees go up. Increasing fees mean that many papers will drop out of CUP because they can no longer afford it.

We need money, we need advertising. Until that sinks in, sink is exactly what CUP will do.

Andrew Watts

The volume of mail that comes into a magazine or newspaper is no index of anything except that you happen to attract a lot of idiots, because most people that write letters to newspapers are fools.

H. L. Mencken  
quoted in Gateway, Oct. 29, 1963

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**gateway**  
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YES, FOLKS, YOU TOO CAN RENT ALL YOU SEE HERE IN BEE-YOU-TEE-FULL NORTH GARNEAU FOR ONLY 400 BUCKS A MONTH. WATER, HEAT, AND ELECTRICITY ALL EXTRA, OF COURSE. THEY WON'T LAST LONG AT THESE PRICES!!

## « LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »

### Commies are no mirage

Mssrs. Campbell, Schiff, & Schiff (Gateway 5/1/83) have been setting up straw men - to state that the leadership of the CND is "top-heavy with members of the Communist Party" in no way implies that the said members constitute a majority - it only points to an interesting discrepancy. Messrs. Campbell, Schiff, & Schiff write that "affiliations to the CND have been accepted from groups within all the major political parties. The CND's membership is open to the entire population of the UK..." Therefore one might expect the leadership of the movement to mirror this. However, that is not the case.

The total vote gained by the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB) at the 1979 general election was infinitesimally small (16,858 out of a total of nearly 30 million - about 0.05%) However, according to the Morning Star (CPGB daily paper) of November 16, 1981, four Communists were elected to the twenty-member National Council. In addition, one of the V.P.'s and two of the full-time officials were also Communists as of November 16, 1981, although these figures may be out of date by now. However, judging by CND's recent pronouncements, it is unlikely that they have changed significantly. It does look a little top-heavy.

Of course, it is always remotely possible that these Communists are really sincere in their desire to see both blocs, and not only NATO disarm, but given statements issuing from the Soviet and East German governments recently, together with the stream of pro-Soviet apologia emitting from Western peace movements, this does seem a little unlikely.

Messrs. Campbell, Schiff & Schiff complain that the CND and kindred movements in Western Europe are "continually labelled as being a pro-Communist front without the slightest shred of evidence." In my previous letter I alluded to documented cases of the KGB funnelling funds to Western European peace movements. It would be interesting to know the reactions of the recipients were - did they refuse the proffered funds or did they accept them? Furthermore, the CND nearly always echoes the current Soviet line - if they talk like Communists, they should not be surprised if they are labelled as Communists. An ex-member of the CND, John Braine, has in fact stated that the CND is "about as independent of the Soviet line as a ventriloquist's dummy."

The above-expressed opinions are commonly encountered in much of the British press today. The Times recently warned: "It can hardly be coincidence, therefore, that the extra effort by the CND coincides with the enormous pressure from Moscow, through all its front organisations, to disturb the NATO plan to acquire a new generation of Cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe next year....it would be a mistake for churchmen to be lulled into thinking that, because the General Secretary of the CND is a Monsignor, therefore the organisation itself is apolitical. In practice it is a left-wing front." Even the Guardian Weekly, which can hardly be accused of right-wing paranoia, has referred to the "hijacking of the CND by the people who have destroyed the Labour Party," with some regret.

In conclusion, I would in no way wish to question the sincerity of the many genuine pacifists involved in the CND, even though I believe them to be mistaken. If I have personally offended Roddy Campbell, David Schiff, or Pauline Schiff, I would hasten to apologise. Nevertheless, I see no reason to

withdraw any of my statements, and suggest that bona fide disarmament campaigners would do better to direct their attention to the Communist cuckoos in their nest, rather than at people who simply state facts.

Robert Orr, Grad Studies

### HUB Association fee indexed to rent hikes

HUB residents, be forewarned; because of the HUB Tenants Association your rents will be increased more than in previous years. In September, HUB tenants overturned a \$15 mandatory HTA fee. A new constitution was adopted and a new executive chosen. Since the November 1 election, no apparent action has been taken on any tenant concern.

A major tenant concern is storage. The HTA has two storage rooms below the mall. Apparently, the new executive would prefer to leave them empty as HUB tenants have not been informed that the HTA controlled tenant storage.

In fact, the executive have not informed tenants of any action since their election. The constitution which was adopted (although not the same one which had been posted prior to the meeting) and which was accepted by COSS included a fee to come from the interest on the security deposit. It was possible to opt out of the HTA by not signing over this interest. At the urging of COSS, a grant of \$500 from Housing and Food Services was paid to the executive in lieu of collecting these fees. This \$500 grant is listed as an honorarium in the HUB budget. That means the rents will be increased to recover this grant.

Further, the HTA approached H & FS with a scheme to ensure that they always had sufficient funds despite the effects of rising costs. The HTA honorarium is an annual grant indexed to the average rent increase in HUB. The executive have put the HTA into a position of conflict-of-interest. As a tenants association, they should negotiate with the landlord (H & FS) for lower rents, but the money they receive is keyed to larger rent increases. Can they really be expected to do more than accept rent increases as proposed by H & FS?

This year, no budget was requested before they received these funds. No other student organization is allowed to operate without a budget. This raises many questions. Is there a budget? Why was tenant input not requested in the making of a budget? Why were tenants not informed of the \$500 which was received in mid-November? Most importantly, what has been done with the money?

It has been impossible to ask the executive these questions directly, since their office hours are infrequent and they have not posted addresses or phone numbers. Who is running the HTA and when are they going to hold a meeting for the tenants who elected them?

Brian Dawkins, Commerce III

### Phrase in letter omitted

Thank you for printing my article "Test the Cruise Missile".

However, I'm very disturbed that someone omitted the most important phrase in my letter. This is what appeared in the Gateway: "What many people have not realized, is that the Cruise missile testing comes only (in European Russia, at a rate of approximately 2 missiles per week.) These SS-20 missiles...."