



photo courtesy U of A Library

Pilgrim's Progress, part of the rare seventeenth century John Bunyan set in the U of A Library's Special Collections. The Gateway helps the library celebrate its seventieth anniversary and its 2 millionth volume on page 17.

# the Gateway

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1979

Absurdity: a statement or belief...

...manifestly inconsistent with one's own opinion.

Ambrose Bierce

## Greater government intervention here?

by Alison Thomson

Governments may have to become increasingly involved in the governance of post-secondary institutions if the institutions "fail to make the necessary and very difficult decisions required to examine and readjust their direction."

This statement was made by assistant deputy minister of Advanced Education and Manpower R.A. Bosetti in his discussion paper on board-government relations presented to the Board of Governors in a closed seminar last week. The seminar involved representatives from the boards of all the post-secondary institutions in Alberta.

"Government expects the boards, and most particularly the public members of boards, to be able to reflect the expectations, views and values of the general public," says the document.

Public member of the U of A Board of Governors John Barry agrees. "Universities are too important to be left in the hands of the academics," he said.

This attitude refers specifically to funding of post-secondary institutions.

"...where funding is no longer provided as a "right" of

institutions, boards of governors will be increasingly called upon to justify their funding requests through evidence of their ability to readjust priorities and reallocate resources internally," says the report.

The paper says the boards and governments need to find compromises on tuition fees. Barry said, however, that boards alone should set fees. He said no one should have to miss post-secondary education for financial reasons, but students should be paying 10 per cent of the cost of their education.

The paper considers the situation in different countries

post-secondary institutions with regards to board-government relations. It contrasts the relative autonomy which the institutions in Britain enjoy with the increasing government involvement in universities and colleges in the United States."

The paper concludes that in Alberta, relationships between boards of governors and the government are characterized by public participation through the boards, and through co-operation.

Barry said about this however, that "faith without good work is useless."

## Province gives bucks to U Vic

The province of Alberta has given \$50,000 to the University of Victoria's W.A.C. Bennett Memorial Fund.

The fund is a scholarship pool providing fellowships and bursaries to students in public administration and management. These students generally assume a career in the public service or private industry, and the degree is roughly equivalent to a Business and Commerce degree.

The grant was authorized by the Alberta cabinet this summer, and was intended as "an enduring tribute to a prominent western politician," said the premier's office.

## Students' election postponed for week

The election for vp finance and administration of the Students' Union has been postponed until Friday, October 19. The election was to have been held this Friday.

A special meeting of Students' Council yesterday decided that the four-day week would make it difficult to make students aware of the issues of the election.

The election is being contested by interim vp finance and administration Glen Gallinger and commerce representative to council, Willie Gruber.

Several other positions will be contested in the students' election. Richard Roe, Fred Popowich and Erik Fenna will be contesting the vacant science seat on Students' Council. Two empty education seats will be contested by Robin Kramar, Rob Porkka and Edmund Metatawabian.

In General Faculties Council, four science vacancies will be contested by Karen Boodram, Catherine Johnson, Richard Roe, Mark Roznicki and Gord

Kirk. Two arts vacancies will be filled by Norbert Lorenz and Scott Thorkleson. Education nominations have been reopened.

Gallinger spoke against the postponement of the election, saying that it will prejudice his changes since his campaign plans are already made.

"I'm going to be complaining if the date is changed," he said. "The date was set two months ago."

Gallinger said he had prepared posters to be highly visible for only a short time and now his posters will be torn down long before the election.

Vp internal Sharon Bell said many of Gallinger's posters were taken down because they were in places not allowed by building policies.

President Dean Olmstead said council should consider students before candidates and postpone the election to give students a chance to find out about the issues.

The motion carried with only Gallinger opposed.

**Because of special arrangements with the Journal and the Sun, the Gateway will only publish one issue this week. We'll be back to our regular publication schedule next week.**