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schepanavitch

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needs you

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—Driscoll photo

WHEN YOU'RE SENT TO PENNY FIGHTS—The 3D's sing out during their Tuesday night concert. Gunga Din was only one of several poems-put-to-music featured by the group. (See review page 14)

Price knocks council decision

Following Monday night's council meeting, former students' union president, Richard Price, was asked his opinion of U of A's withdrawal from CUS. The following is a copy of a prepared statement he made for The Gateway:

"Firstly, I am somewhat hesitant about becoming too involved in this whole question because I have had opportunities of leadership in the students' union, and I wish to allow the new council similar opportunities.

"The question of our relationship with CUS is, however, quite basic.

"It appears that Alberta's 'conservative' political views are in a distinct minority among student governments in Canada.

"The Alberta position is good in asking CUS to set priorities for their projects and get

more contact with students' opinions.

"This position, however, seems to exhibit very little concern for the 'human and civil rights' movements which have been sweeping the United States and Canada.

"It is my view that the student government here has claimed too much for its own position, and then in self-righteous fury, it has withdrawn from CUS.

"In the short run, this may have appeared to them to be the best thing to do to change the organization, but I think, in the long run, this action will lead to isolation and a breakdown of inter-campus communication of ideas.

"In several years, we will be able to look back on this action as being either very prophetic or as a backward step in the history of our student government."

Council passes withdrawal

Referendum to re-join CUS set for March 3 elections

By PENNY HYNAM

U of A has withdrawn from the Canadian Union of Students. Council passed the motion by a vote of 12 to 4 after a heated four hour debate Monday evening.

A referendum on the question of rejoining CUS has been set for March 3, in connection with the general elections, forcing candidates to campaign on the issue.

Branny Schepanovich, students' union president, questioned the CUS national executive's right to formulate policy statements on national and international affairs that claim to represent those of the total Canadian student body.

U of A delegates sent to the 30th CUS congress in Halifax this month enumerated what they felt to be the weaknesses of CUS:

- the organization is over-extending its involvement.
- there is a lack of communication at the student local level.
- CUS does not represent all Canadian students.
- CUS lacks proper direction at the national level.

Delegates Marilyn Pilkington, students' union vice-president, and Owen Anderson, CUS chairman, joined Glenn Sinclair, student co-ordinator, in presenting the arguments for withdrawal.

Anderson claimed withdrawal would not seriously affect the services and benefits offered by CUS.

He told council the main points in the 1926 founding constitution of CUS were understanding, co-operation, and advancing legitimate student interests.

RABBLE ROUSERS

At least fifty interested students attended the meeting, an unusually large number. Many were given a chance to express their opinions. The Chairman often had to reprimand "rabble-rousers".

David Estrin, co-ordinator of Second Century Week told council the success of the project depends greatly on financial co-operation from campuses across the nation. He fears a withdrawal now from CUS might jeopardize the whole project.

Blain Thacker, law rep, agreed there were areas of serious concern in CUS. But he preferred that U of A remain a member, at least for another year.

"If we pull out now, we are going against two of the basic principles on the 1926 constitution, understanding and co-operation", he told council.

STRONG MEMBER

CUS president Doug Ward expressed "disappointment" at the pull-out because "Alberta traditionally has been one of the strongest members of CUS".

He added "I am glad Branny has had the strength of his convictions." U of A is the fifth member university to withdraw from CUS in the past three weeks, following Memorial, Mt. St. Vincent, Loyola, and Marionopolis.

U of A encouraged to return

OTTAWA — Canadian Union of Students president Doug Ward said here Tuesday he would personally encourage and assist U of A in any future move back to the CUS fold.

Ward's comments came after he received a telegram from students' union president Branny Schepanovich informing him of U of A's decision to leave the organization.

"I am glad that Branny has had the strength of his convictions," the CUS president said. "Alberta traditionally has been one of the strongest members of CUS."

He expressed little concern about the financial implications of U of A's withdrawal. U of A's estimated 11,500 enrolment would have added more than \$7,000 to the CUS coffers this year.

Ward said CUS will probably embark on a fund-raising campaign to raise money for its depleted budget, and denied there will be any cutbacks in CUS projects this year.

"It means we're going to have to work harder," he said. "It will be a smaller and a tighter union now."

Asked what effect withdrawal will have on Second Century Week, a \$280,000 cultural and athletic centennial project, scheduled for next March on the U of A and University of Calgary campuses, Ward said:

"I have no comment on this. I don't know what other councils will have to say, and I wouldn't want to prejudice their opinions."