

No rez for Russell

by Benjamin Rawley
from The Meliorist
LETHBRIDGE

Dave Russell, Alberta's Minister of Advanced Education, has turned down an "invitation" requesting that he spend 24 hours at a University of Lethbridge residence student.

Last October's invitation was actually a petition organized by U of L student Jake de Peuter and the Students' Union, and signed by 650 students, faculty and staff. It arose in response to Russell's earlier comments at a protest when he said that he would stay at the U of L residence if he were a student.

Russell's reply thanked the students for the invitation, but said "it really is not necessary."

"The Department of Advanced Education is well aware of the shortcomings of the residence and the need for student housing improvements."

Citing other building projects that have been proposed, Russell's letter stated that "I am confident that, as the economy improves and flexibility returns to our budget, these projects will proceed."

"Our goal," the letter continued, "is to support the University of

Lethbridge to the highest degree possible. The University is widely known for the quality of its graduates and it must continue to flourish."

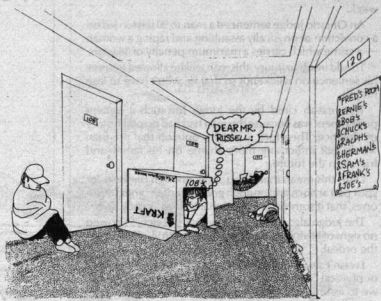
The invitation to Russell was also a topic of discussion in the December 1 sitting of the Alberta Legislature, NDP Advanced Education Critic Gerry Gibeault read the portion of the invitation inviting Russell to the U of L.

"It breaks my heart, Mr. Speaker, that the minister is not here to tell us what his response to that invitation is," Gibeault said.

Gibeault's comments were part of the debate on a motion to increase the base budget of the U of L, moved by Lethbridge West MLA John Gogo.

Also addressing the motion was Representative Party leader Ray Speaker. "I've had the opportunity of touring the present residence," said Speaker. "My colleague compared the rooms to Fort Saskatchewan (Penitentiary). Those residences are not good."

Speaker noted that the U of A and U of C residences have benefited from the Commonwealth and Olympic Games respectively. Since Lethbridge does not host events of that scope, Speaker saw the residence issue as a reason to increase the base budget of the U of L.



Profs ignore overcrowding

by Neil Godbout
OTTAWA (CUP) — Professors teaching in overcrowded classrooms may be legally responsible for ignoring fire regulations, says an executive of the faculty association at

Carleton University. George Neuspil, president-elect of Carleton's Academic Staff Association (CUASA) said CUASA brought it to administration's attention during an early January meeting.

The association was responding to a memo from the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations warning of potential legal problems for a professor who teaches in a class he or she knows is unsafely crowded.

The memo refers to The Building Code Act which states that the occupant load for classrooms is one person per 1.85 square metres. The memo also recommends that "faculty should refuse to teach in overcrowded classrooms."

Neuspil said that administration may post new Fire Marshall notices, making them plainly visible to those entering the class since the old signs have been covered up over the years.

Residents replaced

by Marianna Kennedy
from the Gauntlet
CALGARY

University of Calgary students were moved out of residence January 10, and Students' Union President Robert Petryk said there was a surplus of available locations for relocated students, giving them a choice of places to live.

The students were moved out to open the residences for Olympic athletes and workers.

Petryk said students were also given free use of moving vans, free disconnection and reconnection of cable TV and telephone service,

and two free Olympic tickets.

Peter Fraser, Manager of University Housing, said over 500 locations were found through Alumni Affairs' Adopt-A-Student program. In September students were surveyed to find how many needed the University to find accommodations for them, and how many had already found their own accommodations.

According to Petryk, the cost of the Adopt-A-Student housing is equal to or less than the cost of living in residence (\$240 per month).

Students will be returning to residence on March 5, said Petryk.



An example of a fire inspector's nightmare — Tory Lecture Theatre

"Stabilize monetary policy"

by Ken Bosman

John W. Crow, the Governor of the Bank of Canada, spoke on campus Monday to a crowd of about 250 on Canadian monetary policy.

Crow pledged to use Bank of Canada policy to try to keep interest rates and inflation down, despite outside pressures.

He also said Canada can resist possible increases in U.S. interest rates by following an independent monetary policy.

Crow spoke at the request of the Department of Economics, and delivered the department's second annual Eric J. Hansen Memorial lecture to honor Hansen's long time support and contributions to the department.

"Monetary policy should be conducted to achieve stability in the value of money. Inflation causes distortions," said Crow. "You can fool people for a time with a little extra inflation — but real increases

in wages only come from real increases in productivity."

Crow rejected as impossible Bank of Canada policies to help Western Canada catch up with the booming economy of Ontario. "There is one financial market in Canada, money flows freely. You can't have differential interest rates or exchange rates."

In the press conference following the speech, Crow did not answer any questions directly. As holder of a non-partisan appointment, Crow traditionally declines to comment

on political issues. However, the implications in his speech were enough to let the audience know his point of view.

On the question of the federal deficit, Crow said: "I don't comment on fiscal policy — I have discussions with the Minister. I will say that management of the deficit and progress in reducing the deficit is important."

One of Crow's few unqualified statements was on free trade: "In principle, free trade is a situation in which both countries gain."

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