

Otto Lang is a four letter word

Lethbridge (CUP) - Justice Minister Otto Lang is under attack again.

Dr. BETTE Stevenson, president of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) said Jan. 9 Lang should be removed from office for "allowing personal bias to interfere" with his department's stand on abortion.

Lang is a Roman Catholic with seven children.

He sent directives to all provincial attorneys-general telling them too many abortions are performed in Canada, and that hospital termination committees must cut down on the number.

CMA president Stevenson says government legislation on abortion is vague, and much of the interpretation has been entrusted to doctors.

Lang now "berates the medical profession and has the unprecedented audacity to usurp the privileges of the court by providing his personal interpretation of the law, with regard to the performing of abortions in Canada", she said in an address to the Empire Club of Toronto.

Lethbridge women interviewed by the Meliorist agreed with Stevenson's position.

Susan Oughtred, acting coordinator of the Women's Place, was "delighted to see her take this stand. If Lang has the right to speak out, then I'm delighted to see a woman in a position of power speak out her opinion."

"Unfortunately, Lang's opinion is more than opinion", she said. "In his position as Justice Minister, it influences his office's policy and how the (abortion) law is interpreted."

Janice Page, Birth Control and Information Centre counsellor, said, "Lang's personal feelings are bound to interfere. But in his position of authority, he should be looking at facts."

"He should look at how many women died from illegal abortions before 1969, when the law changed; if he pushes for harsher laws now, he won't stop abortions. Women have had abortion from way back", Page said.

Page said the government should spend money on preventive measures like birth control information; "but the government spends more on patient care in abortions than getting out information".

Centre director Pauline Hoskin said Lang's directives could be "dangerous".

"We'd be right back to illegal abortions, infections, and women dying", she said.

Hoskin said women who come to the centre for abortion counselling have become pregnant due to "ignorance about anatomy, distorted ideas about fertile periods, not knowing how to use certain contraceptives, and contraceptive failure".

Page and Hoskin agreed abortion should be a decision between patient and doctor.

Several university women said Lang's push to tighten laws would discriminate against poor women. Wealthy women can always find medical help, regardless of laws, they said.



Executive privilege charges were those heard by the DIE Board in their second case this school year. SU president Joe McGhie asked for more time to prepare his defense in the matter and the hearing will reconvene next Wednesday. Although hearings are usually held in public, one executive member suggested that the press be excluded from the hearing in this case. Watch Gateway for further action.

Book price increases industry-wide problem

Vancouver (CUP) - University students will be paying up to 20 per cent more for textbooks next year says Bob Smith, manager of the bookstore at the University of British Columbia.

As usual, rising costs are the main impetus behind price increases but in the case of textbooks the problem is more complex than other industries.

Ted Lucas, western sales

manager for Gage Educational Publishing Ltd. said last week in an interview the average cost increase for all lines of Gage books has been 17 per cent from last year.

Smith said because college bookstores are only 10 per cent of the total market, many Canadian publishing companies are turning to selling high school textbooks.

He said printers find they can sell large quantities of a single book to a whole province and make more money than selling 10 copies of one book to one university and repeating this process throughout Canada.

Lucas said he could not understand suggestions that publishing companies are leaving the university market.

He said "10 per cent of millions is still a large amount."

Smith said a big problem for next year would be getting the books the professors order into the store.

"Every year we can count on about 20 per cent of the orders running into problems," he said.

Lucas said poor service "this particular year has been an industry wide problem."

He said because books come from outside Canada they have to be stored in warehouses but no publisher wants to lose money by keeping a large inventory so big orders often have to come directly from England or the States.

Smith said they hoped to be able to overcome some of the problems in book deliveries by having professors order earlier, and possibly recommending that book companies known for poor service not be dealt with.

Career Life Styles - a success renewed

Students who have difficulties selecting their professional and social career may find it worthwhile to attend the next seminar of *Career Life Styles* on Tuesday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. in CAB 297. This course is designed to assist men and women in their search for a career which will match their life style.

The selection of a career involves self-assessment of one's strengths and weaknesses, one's talents and dispositions. *Career Life Styles* focuses on this process of getting to know oneself. A special emphasis is laid on determining what the participants really want to do and not what is traditionally expected of them.

The course material includes a sequence of questionnaires which assist in the process of self-assessment and serve as a basis for group discussions.

Career Life Styles was first offered last fall and met with considerable success. Participants in the pre-Christmas session felt that the feedback received during the discussion while not providing

an automatic answer to their problems, was helpful in stimulating new ideas. For some members of the group it was beneficial to recognize that their problems were not unique.

Career Life Styles is conducted by members of the Dean of Women's OFFICE. Four more seminars are planned this term and everybody is welcome. There is no admission fee. For further information, contact the Dean of Women's office.

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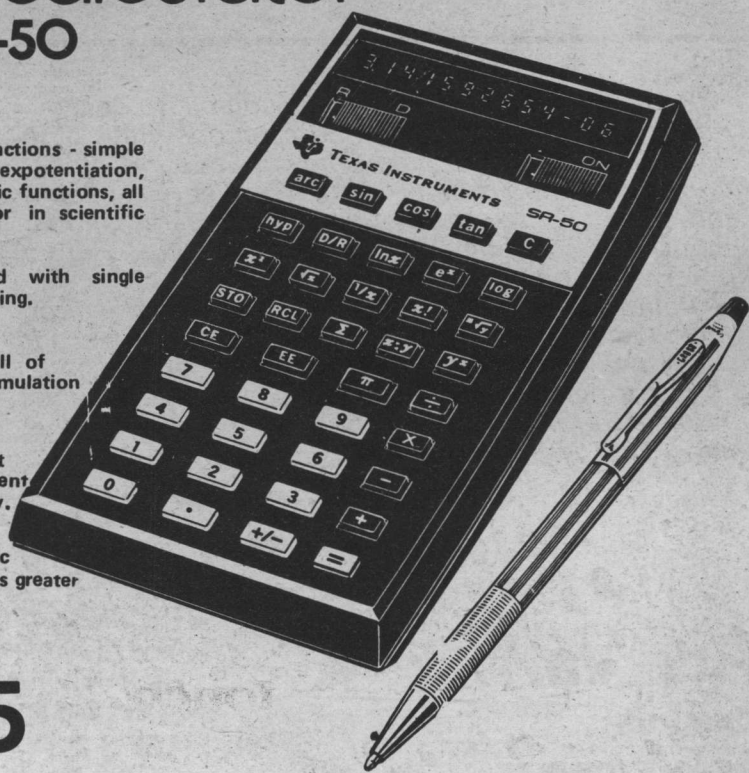
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