

# Patrolman Says Reporters Thieves, President Johns Thinks Differently

By David Estrin and Bruce Ferrier

The Gateway's enterprising reporters are thieves, according to Campus Patrol official Ken Waldron.

But university President Dr. Walter Johns doesn't exactly agree.

Mr. Waldron made the charge following publication of a Gateway test of the library's security system.

### OFFICIAL SUPERVISION

The staffers arranged for a campus patrol officer to be on hand, took books from the library without checking them out, and then before handing the books over, had Gateway photographers record their skillful skulduggery to prove the inadequacy of the security system.

Mr. Waldron said Monday the taking of the books constituted theft. "Asking a patrolman to be a party to a theft is unacceptable," he added.

Dr. Johns, noting that the administration already had all the evidence it needed relating to students' clan-

destine book borrowing, also observed The Gateway was careful to first seek "permission" for its experiment.

### STORY BACKGROUND

"Please show the contents of your briefcase to the library attendant."

So says the sign on the check-out desk and according to chief librarian Bruce Peel, the checking of briefcases is here to stay.

"What alternatives to checking have we?" he asks. The planners of the research library purposely did not include checking facilities for briefcases and coats in the lobby as a convenience for students, he said.

### ED LIBRARY POLICY

This is the policy in the new Education library and the planners of the Cameron Library especially felt that graduate students would need to take their briefcases into where they were working.

"We would be very happy not to let briefcases inside the library," said Mr. Peel, "but we try to think of the student first."

The security measures were instituted as a result of the change from a closed to open stack system. "In return for student access to all books we have had to institute security," the chief librarian explained.

"Our security regulations were hurriedly instituted," he admitted, "and we are quite aware that the main exit has not been properly covered at all times." He said there was no excuse for the checkers letting books get by them, even if this means eventually the checking of purses.

### JUST A REMINDER?

Meantime, one of the library's security officers (not the one on duty during the recent Gateway security test) remarked that the system was not created especially to catch thieves red-handed—it is also a reminder to legitimate patrons to be sure to check out their books.

Many people forget this procedure, he said, particularly if they have stuffed books into their briefcase and gone off to study before leaving.

The guard also noted that he and his colleague had never been instructed to examine ladies' purses—this was why reporteress Marion Raycheba had been able to "slip by" with a book in her purse.

### OFFENSIVE SECURITY

"The best possible security is the honesty of the patrons, whether students or others," according to Dr. Johns. Other types of security are inevitably offensive, Dr. Johns said, and cannot be completely effective.

"A person who is determined to take books without permission can find ways of doing so," he said, "in spite of the best efforts of the library staff to prevent it."

Dr. Johns terms the library one of the most important parts of the university's educational system.

### Unofficial Notice

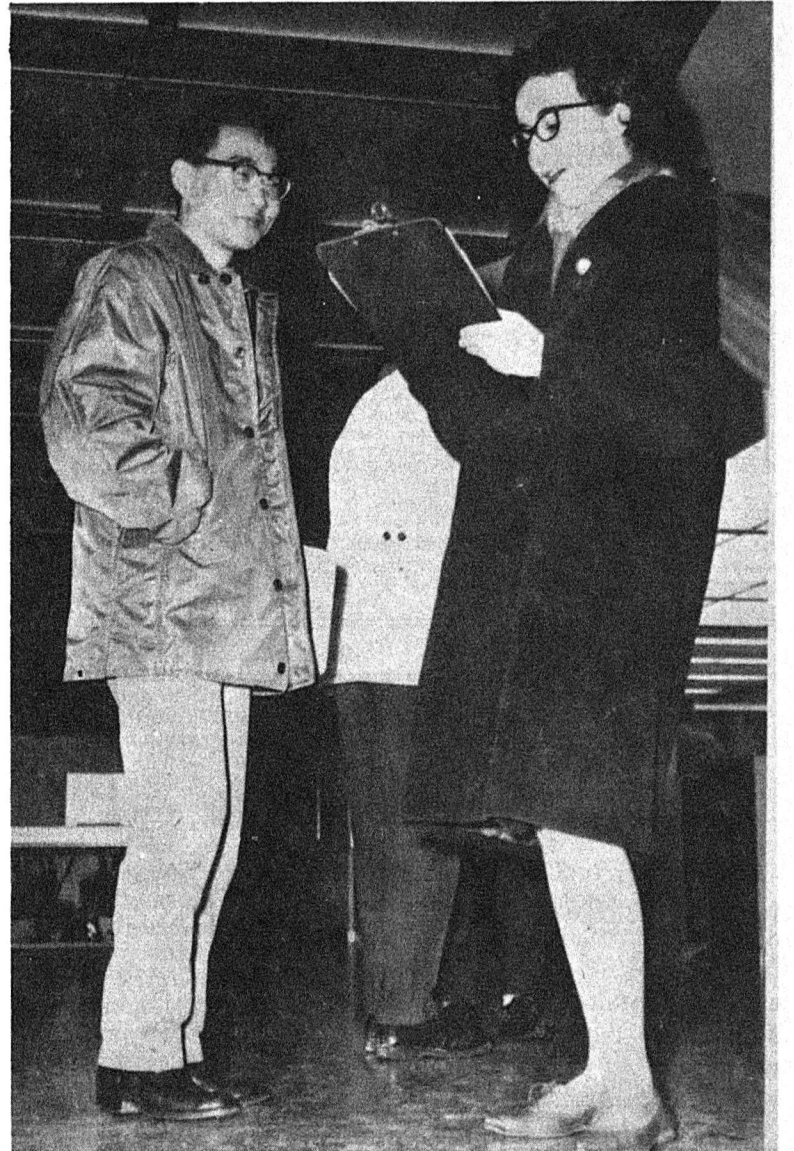
## Elections Soon

Hear ye! Hear ye! All students shall prepare themselves to vote in Model Parliament elections, Feb. 14!

This year's session of Her Majesty's Parliament will run from Feb. 24-26. It will be contested by campus Liberals, Progressive Conservatives, New Democrats, Social Creditors and Constitutionalists.

Governor-General for this session shall be The Honorable Mr. Justice S. Bruce Smith, Justice of the Supreme Court of Alberta.

Be all persons informed of this forthcoming election.



**YOU DON'T AGREE?**—With the imposition of fines imminent, Gateway reporter Pat Hughes attempts to find out whether or not students agree that Chief Librarian Bruce Peel is a damned fascist dictator. See story this page.

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