

The Gateway

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editorial

The Students' Council showed themselves yesterday to be conservative in their thinking, removed from supposed concern for student needs, and naive to an extreme degree in regards to their influence with political leaders. The question under debate was whether or not Students' Council should support the Thursday march to the Legislature to demonstrate opposition to the differential fees. Council voted 14 to 10 against the motion to support the march — with the young Tories of rationalism and rationality carrying the day. The young Tories argued that the demonstration would be fruitless and, what's worse, it would antagonize the government. Oh goodness! We couldn't have that, could we? Antagonize Peter?

Thankfully, such skittishness has not always prevailed on this campus. To suppose we will get further by negotiation on a subject where the government, from the beginning, indicated its total lack of responsibility, is ridiculous. To suppose a demonstration would be ineffective is to misunderstand the powerful influence the sight of people has upon a politician's sensibilities (i.e. if there are this many people opposed, perhaps it might hurt my votes in the next election).

In any case, Council support or not, the protest against differential fees is a good idea. It's a bit late, and it falls at a bad time for most students. But if you're a concerned person — worried about parochialism, university autonomy, unresponsive politicians — take to the streets Thursday at 2 p.m. and show Loughheed we're not all ignorant worshippers of media-image politicians.

Friday the Board of Governors met in closed session to decide such matters as the rejection of a proposal to reinstate Dr. Vanek, and debate over the university's operating grant from the provincial government. Monday, General Faculties Council Executive met to discuss possible changes to the structure of GFC exec. and GFC itself, and barred the media "to allow freer discussion."

It's strange the university would bar media from these important debates. In the Vanek debate, it's hard to conclude that they did it for any reason other than that they would be embarrassed if people knew how simply they could overthrow a tenure appeal committee's recommendation when they themselves have not been involved in the hearings Vanek has pursued in his long struggle to win tenure on this campus. On cursory inspection, Vanek has been screwed again. And if he hasn't been screwed, why won't the Board of Governors make public their arguments used to justify their decision against Vanek? It can only be from cowardice. The Board sets its confidential discussions as they wish — and no one knows just how much they withhold from the public. As with most decision-making bodies, the Board lets the public know only what it wants them to know; decisions they are ashamed of, they withhold from the public eye. And that, obviously, shouldn't be.

The more the university pursues a closed-door policy, the more it invites comparisons with those leaders who prefer to pursue their own policies rather than answer to the wishes of "the people." Supposedly in our enlightened academic environment, such feudal thinking is anachronistic and is to be avoided. Let's hope the university does so.

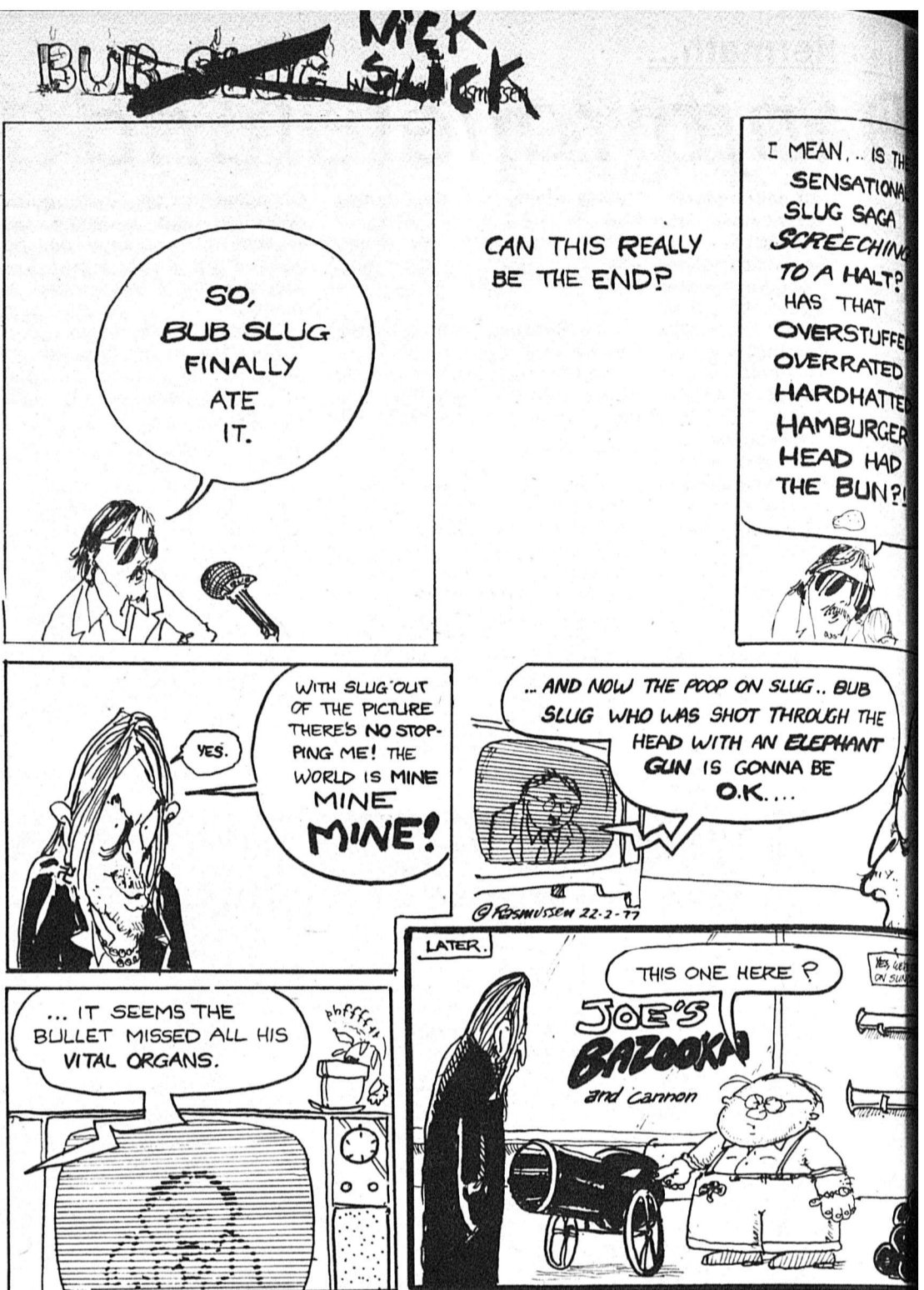
We knew all along that HUB was a slum. Now we find out it's also a firetrap. There was, apparently, an arson in HUB on Wednesday (and, if not an arson, a fire under strange circumstances). No one was hurt in the fire, but the incident has brought to light a number of interesting revelations concerning HUB's fire safety.

For instance, the emergency exits between HUB apartments were jammed Wednesday. Officials tell us most of them still are. Emergency roof exits—intended to allow tenants to run up a stairwell, onto the HUB roof, and down a safe stairwell away from the fire—are all padlocked. The firemen who answered Wednesday's call were obstructed by a smoke-filled mall—and officials tell us there is no way the mall should have windows facing its inside without emergency high-speed fans to suck smoke out of the enclosed mall area.

Those are pretty unsafe conditions to live with, aren't they? And it's quite obvious they have to be changed.

The *Edmonton Journal* has pretty well ignored the whole incident. But they certainly seem to have enough room for their advertising copy.

by Kevin Gillese



Gateway is inconsistent

We would like to express great concern over the Gateway's acceptance of advertising for Carlsberg beer. It needs to be pointed out that in your willingness to advertise Carlsberg beer, the Gateway is for all intents and purposes lending support to a business firm that has direct connections with the racist Apartheid system of South Africa. As you may know, Carling O'Keefe, the maker of Carlsberg beer and several other labels (Alta 3.9, Heidelberg, Old Vienna, Black Label, Bohemian Maid, Calgary Export Lager, Cascade Pilsener, Golden West, Extra Old Stock), is owned (51%) by

Rothman's of Pall Mall Canada Ltd. The latter corporation is in fact the dominant subsidiary of Rothman's of Canada, which in turn comes under the Rothman's group of South Africa. One need hardly repeat here the well known facts of systematic exploitation of black labor carried out by corporations operating under, and supportive of a social and political economic system that denies basic human rights to the majority of South African peoples. Just as the Gateway appears to have a policy of not accepting sexist or racist advertising, we feel it would only be consistent

with that enlightened attitude to promote the interests of corporations that are active sustaining quo embodying repression and oppression fellow human beings in South Africa. In short, an advertisement for "Carlsberg" is ultimately advertisement for apartheid, as at an individual level, a drink Carlsberg or any of the labels mentioned above, is ultimately act of personal involvement in maintenance of apartheid.

Merrie Johnson Toh Sweet
 Muriel Tupper Andrea St
 John Kostoff Brenda W
 Kathleen Wall Anne But
 Ken Luckhardt Mitsuo O

University often makes for superficial superiority

It didn't start out that way. I came to university to learn, to broaden my horizons, and to experience a stimulating environment. I came so I wouldn't have to stock shelves all my life. But it's happening. I'm starting to feel superior. To make oneself better is a worthy motive, but that doesn't make oneself better than other people. That's snobbery, and that's wrong.

On campus it isn't noticeable, because there everyone's pursuing higher education just like everyone else. But when one gets with people who only have their Grade 12, the pride starts coming. It's easy to do. The university student doesn't have much in common anymore with his friends who work. They seem limited and superficial, just living to get out of the office at five every day. They don't know the joys of racquetball, or coffee with a prof, or RATT at night. Besides, what do they know of continuous random variables or Wordsworth's "The Prelude?" Of course, university can be the pits at times too, but at least you can always comfort

yourself with the fact that you're one of the few who made it past high school at all.

Well, it may be easy to feel superior, but that doesn't make it excusable. People are full of worth no matter what their qualifications — or lack of them. Those without degrees probably have the same basic goals, but are just fulfilling them in different

ways. It's alright to think everybody else as the unrefined

rabble but I've heard the grass grows greener over the sept tank. And, as a letter to the Journal put it — "When you look down your nose at 'unskilled labour', remember that there are no small jobs, just small men." Bev Wall Home E

"Frogs" is anti-Frenc

I have read with interest your coverage of the ice sculptures created by the engineers. With regard to the "prime minister in the soup," it is reasonable to regard that as political satire in the same sense as is a political cartoon; of course, no one has yet shown that satire — and not good old fashioned Western Canadian anti-French feeling — was the motive.

However, the frogs and lilly pads must be seen in a different light. Having lived in Alberta (and I should first say that prejudiced Manitobans are no different) I am well aware of the bigotted way

many people use the word Frog is usually used as a down, especially by those who have neither the knowledge (sic) the inclination to learn about Quebec or what it is to be French in this country. Despite whatever humors (sic) connotations there may be to the little green speckled amphibian it is for the above reason that intelligent, open-minded persons know uses the word frog or th

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