

letters

More dope

As you know, the laws pertaining to cannabis are in the process of being changed. Presently the legislation is in the hands of the Senate, that beautiful model of all that is just in a democratic society.

Fortunately, the Senate will screw around with the bill for a long time, stalling and talking. This is not fortunate for those being busted today or tomorrow, but it does give us time to try to make our views known. Whether we think smoking dope is good or bad, we must consider whether we think the laws are good or bad. Which causes the most harm to the individual, cannabis or the laws relating to it?

Enclosed is a copy of a petition presently being circulated here at Medicine Hat College. We will be sending our petition to our Member of Parliament, P. M. Trudeau, Justice Minister Lang, Health Minister Munro and to the Senate for, hopefully, their consideration.

It is unlikely, given our system of Government, that our views will even be taken into consideration, but we can try. I draw attention specifically to the Criminality of Cannabis use and simple possession which will be retained as far as I understand.

Please give this some thought and do what you can.
Bob Rolick
VP Internal Affairs
Ron Mavis
Activities Co-Ordinator
Medicine Hat College

Unite, Aggies

There has been some opposition from various quarters to the proposed siting of the new Agriculture building. As most of you are aware, Agriculture II is scheduled to be constructed behind the Students' Union Building. This was considered the best of three possible sites, and the building has been designed accordingly.

The other two sites were considered inadequate for

various reasons. One proposal called for construction of a north wing connected to the old Agriculture Building on Saskatchewan Drive, similar to the Chemistry East Wing. This would result in increased density in an already crowded area. The possibility of the north half of the campus falling into the North Saskatchewan River would be increased, and the aesthetic damage is obvious. In addition, the integrity of the Phase II design would be destroyed.

Another site considered was behind the Temporary Lab. Again this would result in overcrowding and the need for a new design. The shade from surrounding buildings would leave the greenhouses in the same situation they are in now -- without adequate lighting.



The need for proper lighting was one of the prime considerations in choosing the proposed site. The building is designed around a central light well enclosing a tropical display area; research greenhouses will be situated on the roof for maximum light utilization.

Other aspects have been considered as carefully. Research facilities have been designed and allocated in a logical, efficient manner, thus eliminating the expense of duplication of facilities.

One of the arguments put forward by the opposition is that the area of the new building would be less than that currently being used by the faculty. This is true, but the building is designed to accommodate only four of our eight departments. Space in General Services, Chemical-Mineral Engineering, and the old Agriculture

Building would continue to be used.

New facilities for the faculty are urgent. Currently we are scattered through ten different locations, including Athabasca and Assiniboia Halls, the North Power Plant and the South Laboratory. Space is in such short supply that the Department of Soil Science found it necessary to convert a house in North Garneau into a research lab.

We would like the approval of Students' Council for the proposed site of Agriculture II in the hope that it may help the provincial Government to make a decision as to when construction will begin. Enrollment in the faculty has been increasing steadily in the last five years, and facilities are strained to the point where it is becoming increasingly difficult to function.

Rose Burko
Robert Proudfoot
Dale Doran

It was a gun...

I think it's a shame to read smutty little captions like "Is that a gun in your pants, or are you just glad to see me?" on the front page of a university newspaper. Surely your staff can put their heads together and come up with something a little more cleverly humorous; perhaps even thought-provoking or cheerful. Some of your readers would rather be inspired than have their noses rubbed in perversion (probably too strong a term but you get the idea!) and I'd like to be able to pick up a copy of the Gateway and be glad to see it!

Margot Vanderham

Dear Ms. Vanderham:

We always do our best to accept quotes from as many interesting areas as possible. The one you mentioned was first made by Mae West in one of her movies. Guess they didn't have censors in those days.

Greg Neiman
News Ed.

So there!

Re: Your letter of December 13, 1974 concerning a price increase on some fine line felt pens.

We received on December 11, 1974 a new shipment of 13 different kinds of markers. Of these, 7 had price increases.

When there is an increase in price on such merchandise from the manufacturer there is no physical difference in the pens. Therefore, old and new merchandise is identical in appearance.

Because our pens and markers move off of the shelf so quickly, and because old and new stock looks the same, it could very well have been new stock.

Our policy regarding price increases and old and new stock is that all old stock remains at the old price and new stock is at the new price. Normally, dependant upon the item, old stock is put on top and new stock on the bottom, for both rotation of stock purposes and selling of the old stock at the old price first. Either that or new stock is held in our warehouse until all old stock is sold, and then the new stock is put on the shelves.

Our merchandise that is ticketed can easily be identified by date, because the date of receipt is imprinted on the tags. Unfortunately pens, markers and a few other items in the store are not ticketed, therefore each item can not easily be identified as to date of arrival.

We regret that we have to increase prices, but unfortunately we are constantly receiving changes and we try to hold off as long as possible, before increasing the price. As you realize it is as much a nuisance to us as it is to our customers.

The suggested list price of the pen that you purchased is 59 cents and we sell than for 50 cents, which is a saving to the student of approximately 20%. All of our pens and markers under \$2.00 suggested list are discounted 20%.

If we are advised prior to a price increase we normally purchase extra so that we can pass it on to the student.

Trusting that the above explanation is suitable, I remain,

Yours truly,
Mrs. S. Bard
Supplies Buyer

Berry wes Gateway

* What better time to re-hash a few old stories than in the new year, and if you're up on a few of the old ones, there's a new movie in town that might be your bag. The Phantom of the Paradise is now showing at the Varscona, where it replaced American Graffiti after its ninety-sixth month of running.

The Phantom is a story loosely based on the old Phantom of the Opera story, mixed liberally with more than passing reference to the story of Faust. Given these story lines, with the modernization of the musical track, as written by Paul Williams (who stars as Swan), the movie becomes a sort of horror - rock - opera - diabolic film about, among other things, the kind of circumstances needed to succeed in the pop music

market.

If you're prone to confusion, this is your film. The film is cagey and a lot of ground is covered quickly in the introduction of cast, exposure to movies' tempo, with rather vague references to the plot (except for this one song that the audience is told to listen to, but doesn't remember the overall significance of until quite a while after the movie ends). Go see it, it'll be here until next fall.

* In case you missed it, there's an interesting piece of news this week from the Department of National Health. They're real interested in the content of a previously undiscovered street drug. It must be of special concern to them because they don't regularly admit to the people

that these drugs can be purchased readily in every town bigger than Cowtown, Alberta, or of the traffic in other drugs not particularly suitable for human consumption (like that pig tranquilizer that sold so well in Edmonton). Chances are that the whole story is just fancy hype, with the provincial liberals trying to win some support from a wider cross section of society for the next election.

* And speaking of elections, get ready for a heavy one this year. Nomination deadline is only 2 weeks away and student politicians should be coming out from under the rocks pretty quick.

If you're wondering what happens to executive members after their terms expire, go on down to the Bay downtown



and see if you can spot last year's president; he's the one standing on the table with the megaphone chiding you to rape the bargain tables while the stuff still lasts.

Gateway

Volume LXV, Number 31

January 14, 1975.

Published bi-weekly by the University of Alberta Students' Union, in the Gateway offices, Room 282, Students' Union Building.

Editor-in-chief: Bernie Fritze

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CIRCULATION

Circulation 18,000. The Gateway publishes on Tuesday and Thursday during the Fall and Winter Session. It is distributed to the students and to the academic and non-academic staff on campus.

Subscription rates: 54 issues, \$7.00

Circulation Manager: Jim Hagerty

PRODUCTION

Ad make-up, layout, and typesetting done by Student Media, University of Alberta, Room 238, Students' Union Building.

Production Mgr: Loreen Lennon
Typesetter: Margriet Tilroe-West

ADVERTISING

No mats accepted. National and local advertising \$.28 per agate line.

Classified ad rate \$1.00 per issue. All classified ads must be prepaid.
Advertising Mgr: Lorne Holladay
432-4241

FOOTNOTES

Publicizes campus events or those of interest to students, without charge. Footnotes forms available at the Gateway office and should be submitted before 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.
Footnotes Editor: Cathy Zlatnik

LETTERS

Submit all letters, typed and double spaced to the Editor, who reserves the right to edit the copy. Regular copy deadlines apply. Editorial comments are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily that of The Gateway.

GRAPHICS

Submit all graphics and cartoons, by copy deadlines to:
Graphics Editor: Gary Kirk

COPY DEADLINES

Monday noon for the Tuesday edition. Wednesday noon for the Thursday edition.

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The Gateway is a member of the Intercollegiate Press and The Earth News Service.

