

VIEWPOINT

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1964

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Student Assistance

To The Editor:

I think you should do some serious investigating and attacking regarding the government's student assistance. The calendar says "a six week waiting period" (from the beginning of the term) is necessary, but this is damn near 10 weeks and approval (?) notices are not even out. (Allow 3 weeks after notices and then 2 weeks for the bursar to notify the student). I, and a lot of other students, allowed 6-8 weeks in our budget, not 13-15 weeks. If I do not receive this assistance in the very near future, there is no alternative but to drop out and go to work. Already, I am not able to meet financial obligations and I don't ask for much; just the right to eat, sleep and cover monthly necessities.

Let's have a good blast.

Karl L. Buchner
ed 3

Bouquet

To The Editor:

I would like to extend my thanks to Miss Janet Orzech, Mr. Don Sellar, and Mr. Bill Miller for the time and effort they expended in allowing me to present my comments in the current dispute. I personally felt they handled it with decorum and efficiency and deserve to be congratulated.

In addition Gateway, I feel, deserves commendation for the noticeable upswing in format, handling of controversial issues, and tone. I hope that Gateway will continue to present all aspects of a situation as is possible, at the same time it advocates a policy it considers worthwhile and enhancing. After my recent experience with the staff at Gateway and after obtaining a glimpse into what is required to present a campus paper I have come to the conclusion that too many judge in hasty ignorance.

Sincerely
R. L. Hertzog
grad studies

Puzzle And Picture

To The Editor:

This is to let you know that I've solved the crossword puzzle you had on your front page Dec. 4. I hope it comes close to the right answer. Clever of you to hide the two important clues (Brook and Beretti) in the lead story.

Let's have more of these.

Yours truly,
Bohdan Harasymiw

Liberty Denied Christians?

To The Editor:

As a serious student and observer of logic, psychology, and philosophy in the practical tasks of living, I find from Nov. 27 issue of The Gateway that Dr. M. R. Lupul's observations on some matters are disappointing. His article reads more like an impassioned appeal against Christianity and what it stands for.

Dr. Lupul strongly objects to the interference in primitive (pardon the use of the word) Samoan, and African pigmy cultures, while deprecating the resurgence of French-Canadian or Christian culture. There must be something very insidious in this latter one when it is compared with primitive cultures. I honestly believe society can learn a great deal from all primitive cultures, including Judean or Biblical.

The very argument that a deeply personal and enduring philosophy of life can (only) be built from "the variety of intellectual fare which raises real, not simulated, confusion, doubt, and frustration" contains logical flaws. Does it assume simulated effort to be wasteful? Should every doctor experience all possible illnesses so that he can understand their effects and the prescribed cures? Of course, experiments in real environment are more informative. However, must everyone ignore any and all psychological and other consequent harm from such experiments?

A strong case appears to have been made for tolerance of every point of view except the Christian one. The idea of a Christian college is to provide Christian atmosphere so that Christian students have a chance to get acquainted with religion. Dr. Lupul himself assumes that certain facts of life can be interpreted in various ways. Why should the Christians be denied this liberty?

I believe the function of critical inquiry should not only "be genuine and of a depth to disturb, even confuse, and certainly frustrate the young," but also, to include a presentation of the best answers and alternatives, which the Christian institution attempts to accomplish. Intelligent Christians do not agree with all the answers given by religion without questioning, nor do they believe the Church has absolute solutions to all problems.

Christians maintain that additions will be made to our present body of knowledge. However, we

Viewpoint's "letter of the week" award goes to the only reader who correctly solved last Friday's crossword puzzle; others attack Dr. Lupul's stand on religious junior colleges.

do need to use our past experience and proven mode of living to get along in society. If this idea of a working base of knowledge and growth in understanding principle is not valid, then what rationality can we offer for spending the best part of our lives studying knowledge much of which, we know, will be outdated or even disproved in future decades and centuries?

In his long article, Dr. Lupul made many generalizations, but the only proven fact is that public funds have supported Christian colleges.

Yours truly
A. A. deSouza
ed 4

Dr. Lupul, Gateway And Garbage

To The Editor:

How lucky all Albertans are that the powerfully evil Social Credit machine has not yet succeeded in doing away with academic freedom and freedom of the press. After all, without these shields to hide behind, Dr. Lupul and The Gateway would not for long be able to spread such garbage as was found in the Nov. 27 issue of the university paper.

This may be news on your campus, but in Alberta are many people—myself obviously included—who do not recognize the university to be the ultimate source of all wisdom or fountain of knowledge; yes, there are those of use who do not regard Dr. Lupul, and others like him, to be a divinely appointed—using a term that might strike your funnybone temporarily—arbiter as to what is good in education and what is not.

It is rather evident from Dr. Lupul's remarks that he did not bother in the least to get any first-hand information about the academic conditions prevalent in the religious colleges of which he speaks. Had he done so, his ridiculous charges of "pat answers," "over-protection," and "stifling intellectual climate" would not have appeared.

Without first-hand knowledge, who is Dr. Lupul to say that religious colleges circumscribe reason and science? These institutions are merely ascribing to these two disciplines a position that happens not to agree with the "above-all-else" concept with which Dr. Lupul would endow reason and science.

I attend a religious college, and I have found many challenges without having had a ready-made dossier of pat answers handed to me by a shadowy church official ever close by lest there be a breath of heresy.

I hesitate to say this, but it

would seem that Dr. Lupul, without the basic and elementary requirement of checking the facts, used the teachers' convention and the pages of The Gateway as a sounding board for his political philosophies—which just happened to coincide with the anti-Manning platform of The Gateway's policies. Dr. Lupul's paper was not an honest attempt to express his doubts about or opposition to religious education, but merely an ill-considered attempt on his part to express his negative anti-social credit political beliefs under the guise of educational theory.

I find it rather fortunate that the citizens of this province reward the by now rather notorious efforts of many U of A staff members to discredit public officials with the contempt they deserve. Too bad, however, that such a previous thing as academic freedom or freedom of the press is made to suffer for it.

William Torgerson
pre-theology 2
Concordia College

The Wall And Fairies

To The Editor:

I am writing in protest to that deplorable letter submitted by an ICEC spokesman concerning "Our Wall."

1. Mr. Souris refers to the "Wall" as the "Berlin Wall." May I assure him that the Berlin Wall is still dividing East and West Germany and under no circumstances has it been transported to the University of Alberta Edmonton campus. I personally aided in the construction and supervision of the "Wall" and at no time during its existence was subjected to regard it as having any relationship to one of Germany's major tourist attractions.

2. Let us assume the engineers did partake in the construction of the Berlin Wall. (I used the article "the" because an unusually reliable artsman once told me there was only one Wall.) Our spokesman stated that the International Cultural Exchange Committee does not believe in the Berlin Wall. He has thus impressed upon me that the ICEC does not believe in reality—because one does exist. A person or group that does not uphold reality must believe in fantasy because fantasy is the farthest extreme from reality. My mother once told me that fantasy was "the land of fairies."

A believer in Society Credit is generally a "Social Creditor." Also, a believer in Christianity is a Christian. Therefore, it is my belief that a believer in fantasy must be a fairy. Thus, can it be

said that the ICEC is patronized by fairies?

3. Were Communist tactics of coercion and name-calling used by the campaigning engineers? (A vision at this very moment flashes through my mind of the head of the Soviet Communist Party calling our Western leaders "a pack of Finks"—or is it Phinques?) What Communist dictator today would allow his subjects to make two alternatives to his commands? Any student may have vowed allegiance to one of the "Fink Holes;" or, may have surpassed the "Wall" by transgressing the warm hallways of the Engineering building. We gave a choice, as democracy allots and relinquish ourselves from any connection with the communist party.

4. Regarding our spokesman's opinion concerning engineers and politics. My reply is: "God help us if he got into politics," if so, Edge could go wild with articles such as "The Bible and Mother Goose;" or, The Sociological and Ethical Dimensions of Fairies in their Natural Environment."

5. I am sorry for being a lowly engineer because Mr. Souris leaves me at loss over the meaning of his Latin or Greek phraseology to convey English thoughts. Is it that fairies regard the English language as incapable of expressing complete thoughts? I refer to a quotation from George Orwell's "Politics and the English Language:" "... There is no real need for the hundreds of foreign phrases now current in English ... Bad writers; and especially scientific, political, and sociological are nearly always haunted by the notion that Latin or Greek words are grander than Saxon ones." Is Mr. Souris implying in his use of a foreign quotation that English is an inferior language?

6. Sealing the engineers in the "crumbling mosaic masterpiece," besides showing direct opposition to one of God's Commandments, further exemplifies an attempt to escape reality. In reality, destruction of the human element is regarded as sin.

7. If our famous "WUS Wall" does return someday, I propose our ICEC members "bear their wings" and fly over. Their success may well serve to distract many fellow students from the support of charity.

The Wall proved to be a remarkable success and I am glad to see that the majority accepted it. On behalf of the engineers I would like to thank the many students who gave their donations to our campaign. In a campus as large as ours there is, however, a small minority of radicals. I pity them.

Roy Davies
faculty of engineering

