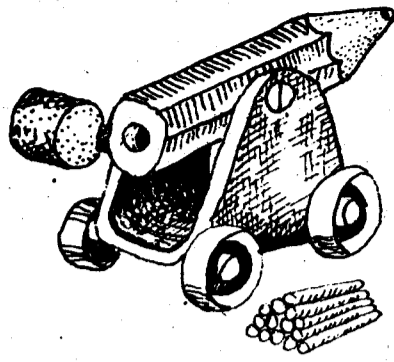


editorial



Decision pending

The University of Alberta's Students' Union has been invited to attend the National Union of Students' semi-annual General Meeting. The meeting will be held October 10-14 inclusive, in Saskatoon.

As one of Canada's largest educational institutions, our attendance of this meeting is of particular importance because we are no longer members of NUS. A student referendum held last year indicated that our interests in NUS at that time did not justify our staying in the organization. Consequently, we withdrew.

However, since that time, NUS has been attempting to complete a major change in direction. Rather than concentrating on issues that do not have immediate impact to students-at-large, they now are drafting policies dealing with student housing, the financing of post-secondary education, and the goals, needs, and resources of the Union.

To date these changes have not proven to be totally effective, due mainly to severe financial difficulties. Added to this is an ineffective communications system within the provincial caucus and the result is NUS today.

One of the items to be discussed at this conference is the increase of fees to member institutions. They are currently based on .30/student, and the new budget calls for an increase to \$1.00/student.

If it can be shown that the increase in membership fees is imperative to the survival of NUS, and if it can be shown that our Students' Union can benefit by rejoining, then we should embark immediately on a campaign in support of the National Union of Students.

They presently represent over 100,000 students, and our membership in a powerful union could benefit virtually every student.

But on the other hand, if NUS is unable to solve its internal problems of communication and finance, there's nothing to be gained by jumping on a sinking ship.

Bernie Fritze

For good measure (since he has nothing more substantial to accuse us of), Nock tosses into the fray a couple of miscellaneous *ad hominem* attacks: he accuses us of "brazen ignorance", yet, fails to provide a single instance where our facts or arguments were mistaken; he accuses us of "callous disregard for the overwhelming poverty in which most Indians and Metis are forced to live." After we said "we wholeheartedly support attempts by the OWS to reclaim that property" which the government has stolen from *living* individuals - and I might add here that we abhor the treatment of Indians by the government, and the fact that Indians are legally second-class citizens. Where is this callous disregard, Nock? Where is this brazen ignorance? I challenge you to find it.

I'm at a loss to explain how a literate person could miss the point of our letter. I mean, we were hardly subtle about anything we said. But since you missed it Nock, (see, I can use *ad hominem*, too), I'll reiterate it for you.

We denied the validity of inherited responsibility and guilt, I will not be held responsible for a crime my great-grandfather committed. Nor will I feel any guilt about the crimes the settlers of this continent committed. Nor will I volunteer any retribution to the ancestors of those Indians - since I haven't done anything wrong, and they haven't been wronged by me.

Concomitantly, we stated our belief that Marx would have agreed with our position on the

inherability of responsibility, and that, thus, for the Ojibway Warrior Society to assume the posture of Marxists while arguing for such inheritability is tantamount to fraud.

When all is said and done, all that Nock has accomplished is to misrepresent almost everything we said, and to adroitly evade any position we assumed.

Sincerely,
Brent Bissell

Condemned

I thought that when I came into the Lister Complex I would enjoy the same rights that any other tenant is allowed under The Landlord/Tenant Act.

I was wrong!!
The seniors on the floor are the people that create the most noise. I guess that is because they have been here the longest. After all, who studies before midterm exams anyway?

After having studied at the library all day, I came back to residence to find that the seniors in my wing were having a gay party, one in which, if you are really lucky, you can hear yourself think.

Is there no recourse available to the unlucky student that happens to be unfortunate enough to be condemned to a year in residence???

Name withheld
4th Floor Kelsey

opposed the construction of BAC on this site.

The issues were, and still are, clear. Development densities that are accepted for a population of 30,000 can be intolerable to a population of 20,000.

This vote is important. You can contribute to the Campus as an environment and a place to be, or you can vote for the building. Please choose carefully.

Greg Teal
Colette Meunier

Knock Nock

I very much enjoyed David Nock's response ("Ojibway", Oct. 1) to the letter written by Dick Nimmons and myself "Ojibway, meet Marx", Sept. 26). The history lesson he offers is enlightening -- reinforcing my mistrust of and distaste for government -- although irrelevant to any arguments we made in our original letter.

His tirade was sparked by a paragraph we wrote caricaturing this statement in the Ojibway open letter: "Since 1492, we the Anishinabe People, have been in constant struggle against the aggressive system of exploitation..." We simply wanted to point out the absurdities such careless mis-statements of fact lead to. We don't appreciate approximations of reality, and if the open letter had been as precise and specific as Mr. Nock is in his letter, then that paragraph wouldn't have been needed at all!

What interested me about Nock's letter is the big deal he makes of that paragraph. He calls it "One of the main points of the letter..." and says that our "...obvious ploy...in discussing the Columbus versus Cabot argument is to make light of the very real and very military conquest to which the Indians were subjected by the whites." How Nock read that substance and that important into what we wrote I'll never understand, because:

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five

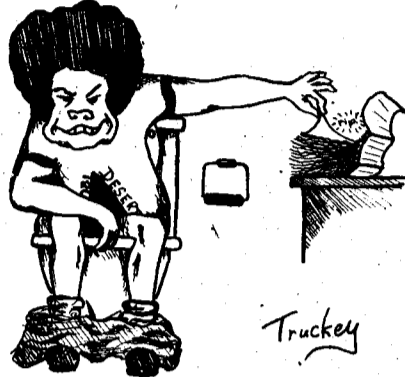
1) The paragraph was a throwaway, it could have been omitted without affecting our arguments one way or the other. It was merely a complaint against an all-too-prevalent practice of shoddy scholarship in the interests of metaphor: Mr. Nock would have to undertake some might impressive verbal gymnastics to prove that paragraph as a main point of the letter.

2) We weren't in any sense "making light" of the oppression to which Indians have been subjected; it was terrible; it was tragic; it deserves a belated condemnation by any civilized person. All we were saying is that nothing can be done to right *those* wrongs.

Frustration is...
discovering that a
Norton Anthology left
out in the rain acquires
the texture of a saturated
roll of toilet paper.



Happiness is...
discovering, during a
time of shortage,
a useful purpose for
that ruined Norton
Anthology.



signing the capitalist class has been violating the treaties by continuing to steal land, sending its foreign police onto the Native People's lands, and interfering in their internal affairs. Now, as spelled out in the 1969 "White Paper on Indian Policy," the monopoly capitalist class wants to steal the last vestiges of the Native People's lands, drive them into the cities as cheap labor, and destroy their nations and tribes.

The offensive of the monopoly capitalist class has given rise to a new upsurge in the struggle of the Native People to restore their hereditary rights. The demonstration on Parliament Hill on September 30 was to present seven demands to the Federal Government:

- 1) That the treaty and aboriginal rights be respected,
- 2) an end to the Indian Act,
- 3) full investigation be conducted of the Indian Affairs Department by the Native People for the purpose of dissolving it,
- 4) that a just settlement be made for Indian land,
- 5) decent housing for Native People,
- 6) economic development for the "reserves", and
- 7) adequate health care and education for Native People.

The immediate demands of the Native People are entirely just and are part and parcel of the struggle to restore their hereditary rights and against genocide. For example, the demand for housing is a struggle against the Federal Government's attempt to drive Native People off the reserves by depriving them of housing.

The source of violence is the monopoly capitalist class which daily perpetuates violence against the Native People--the violence of racism, of police brutality and of poverty. The attack by police, troops and RCMP on the peaceful demonstration on Parliament Hill is but a continuation of this violence.

Some people, say, "The Native People's cause is just but first they must follow my advice in how to struggle." How the Native Peoples will carry on their struggle is entirely up to the Native People and no one else has any right to interfere. As Louis Cameron, Chairman of the Ojibway Warrior Society, said, "We only welcome support from those who respect our independence."

The Edmonton Student

Movement firmly states that, regarding the Native People, the central issue for the Canadian people is whether to support or to oppose the struggle of the Native People for the restoration of their hereditary rights. We resolutely support this just cause. All progressive people have the duty to support the just struggle of the Native People. We are convinced that the vast majority of the Canadian people will support it. The only individuals interested in opposing are the monopoly capitalists, speculators in land and natural resources, and sell-outs of Canada. One way of supporting is to send financial aid to the Ojibway Warriors Society, 208 Water Street, Kenora, Ontario, which organized the Native People's Caravan from Vancouver to Ottawa and the demonstration on Parliament Hill along with the Warriors of Cache Creek. Another way is to organize discussion groups, etc., to investigate and to explain to people the just struggle of the Native People.

The Native People will certainly win!

Dennis Fong
Edmonton Student Movement

BAC

An Open Letter to Members of the Students' Union Council:

The matter of the Business Administration and Commerce Building (BAC) being brought before Council October 7 is an important one requiring much consideration. The future of the Arts Court, one of the few remaining open green spaces on campus, is being decided. Such a building site would permanently alter the physical and social organization of the Campus.

At a public review sponsored by the Campus Development in December, 1972, all of the many briefs presented, except three, opposed any further building construction on the Arts Court. Also presented at the review was a petition of more than twelve hundred signatures of people opposing the site.

In the spring of 1973, a referendum asked students their opinion of the Arts Court site. A clear majority (over 70%)