

Summer jobs more doubtful now

by Kevin Gillese
Over 13,000 students between the ages of 14 and 24 will be unemployed this summer.

At least, that's the prediction handed down by the Federal District Economist in the annual Alberta Labour Force Survey.

This figure actually reflects only the numbers of students who will seek jobs and come

away empty-handed. Others who do not search for employment are not included in the estimate.

The forecast comes in the wake of federal government cutbacks which have resulted in the cancellation of Opportunities For Youth (OFY) and Local Initiatives Program (LIP). These cancellations have removed one thousand Albertan students from the OFY

program, alone. Further intimations that the wage and price freeze will result in economic stagnation in those industries most heavily dependant upon temporary (student) labour, have many people believing it will be a long, hot, and poor summer for some students.

One organization which has become a by-word in attempting to alleviate student

unemployment distress is Operation Placement. Each year this student-run organization operates as a job-soliciting and placement service.

Last year OP placed seven thousand students of the twelve thousand who applied. At the same time, it helped set up thirty-one student-run businesses, making it one of the most successful of the student

employment offices operating throughout the country each summer.

In running their program, OP must devote large amounts of time and energy on job solicitations and publicity programs, aimed at making personal and mass contacts with employers. These contacts, explains OP Director Barry Galbraith promote students as viable workers for the summer period and also let the employers know that there is a job-listing service available in the city which is separate and distinct from the main Canada Manpower Center.

Equally important is the task of making students aware of OP and the function it serves. Last year, Galbraith explains, poor advance coordination and publicity was a problem. "In order to forestall that problem, the opening date will be well-publicized to make sure students are aware of us - to make sure they know how and where to contact us."

Until that time, OP personnel in SUB (RM 243) are available to answer questions and give advice, particularly in regards to the feasibility of opening student businesses. At present, however, the center operates on a part-time basis; by mid-February they will actively engage in helping students form businesses and the program will formally mobilize with a full-time complete staff in mid-April.

Last year Operation Placement was funded by the federal and provincial governments, the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, the Edmonton Public and Separate School Boards, and the students' unions of all post-secondary institutions in Edmonton. The U of A Students' Union provided a donation of \$2500 last April.

Winter housing is still pending

The reopening of the Student Housing Directory has been delayed due lack of applications for the position of its director.

Terry Sharon, vp (services) said applications for the position will be accepted for one more week. After that he and Gene Borys vp (finances and administration) will look to other sources of administrative manpower to run the directory.

Begun as a pilot project last summer under the direction of Ray LaPerriere, the SU Housing Directory managed to compile a list giving hundreds of housing openings to students during a time when the city vacancy rate was less than one half of one percent.

As well, temporary housing units in the Arts Court were organised between the SU and the directory to give students a place to live while they were looking for housing.

To begin again, though, the directory needs an organiser. The director would be expected to re-establish the housing lists, which last summer amounted to over two hundred per day, to see they're printed and distributed and to renew publicity ties with local media concerning the housing situation in Edmonton.

Summer staff would be hired on the director's discretion, under the guidance of the SU executive.

"We're looking mainly for an administrator and organiser," said Sharon adding he was unsatisfied with LaPerriere's more political

motif in the pilot project this summer. Last summer's directory challenged the provincial government and the university on several housing issues during LaPerriere's many radio, television, and newspaper interviews.

Pay has been set at \$50 per month during the school term and \$700 per month for the summer. Applications should be made to Terry Sharon in the executive offices, second floor SUB.

Sickness is more costly lately

An academic committee investigating Student Health is asking Student Union to support compulsory \$10.00 health fees.

Student Health is a medical clinic run by the university, the major advantage to members of which, is cheaper pharmaceutical goods. This is because visits to doctors are covered under AHC (Alberta Health Care).

In a telephone interview with Dr. F.B. Cookson, Director of University Health Service, he said making the fees compulsory was not necessarily a result of cutbacks or improper use by non-members.

Problems begin when students who aren't members come into the clinic for help and/or prescriptions. They then have to be signed up before they are treated and "it's an administrative nightmare," said Dr. Cookson.

"In the sense of whether it's



Barry and Rosemary

left voluntary or made compulsory, we (Student Health) won't press for it, but if it was made compulsory it certainly would be easier." He noted that for most universities, facilities like Student Health are part of basic fees.

Dr. Cookson also revealed that many students who wished to use the service were unaware

that they had opted out during registration procedure. Said the doctor: "It's the first year students who generally get it mixed up but the other students seem to get it straight."

"The reason (for the proposal) is basically," said Dr. Cookson, "that the vast majority have paid for it and got a good deal."

Focus to be on native rights

Rene Fumoleau, author of the book, *As Long As This Land Shall Last*, a history of Indian Treaties Eight and Eleven, will speak in the Students' Union Forum on Friday at 12 noon in Room 142 SUB.

Father Fumoleau, a member of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, has lived amongst and taught the Indians of the Northwest Territories for many years. In the face of the new development of the Mackenzie region, Father Fumoleau's concern for the culture and welfare of the Indians of the Northwest Territories moved him to research and write the history of the treaties between the Federal

Government and the Indians of the region.

Earthshaking news

Dr. E.R. Kanasewich, a professor of physics at the University of Alberta, will reflect on his recent trip to China at a special seminar to be given today.

Beginning at 3:00 pm in room V-114 of the Physics Building "V" - wing on campus, the seminar will feature Dr. Kanasewich speaking on the insights he gained into Chinese science as a member of a Canadian Seismological Mission which was in China for five

weeks in October and November.

Using the Chinese approach to earthquake prediction as an example, Dr. Kanasewich will elaborate on his impressions of the way the Chinese approach scientific development. It involves large amounts of manpower - not necessarily technical manpower - to be effective, he says.

Dr. Kanasewich's presentation will be supplemented with films and slides.

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The Course Guide is a book designed to provide information on specific courses and professors. It does not evaluate the professors ability to teach. It tries to describe the teaching style, competition, and the degree of difficulty one might expect in a course.

The Students' Union needs an energetic, aggressive student to develop the questionnaire for the guide and to see to its administration, collection and compilation. Experience in the techniques of question design, statistics and computers would be an asset. Preference will be given to students intending to return in the fall of 76.

Those interested please apply at the Students' Union Offices, Room 256, SUB. Deadline for application - January 30th, 1976.