



Light and breezy...

While passers-by were diverted from the scene, six two-ton pre-cast blocks of concrete facing on the southwest corner of the 13th floor of the Clinical Sciences Building flapped about in a 90 k.p.h. wind Monday morning.

The slabs, measuring 10' by 20', swung out as much as

six feet from the building before Physical Plant workers strung restraining cables. The ground area around the southwest corner of the building was blocked off and the first three floors of the building evacuated as a precautionary measure.

Bottom ties on the facing blocks appear to have either snapped or rusted away, although university officials

declined to comment until further examination can be made.

The building, owned by the provincial department of public works, has been plagued by structural problems since it was opened in 1969. In 1972, \$350,000 was spent in exterior renovations to the facing on the north and west sides of the building.

photo Kevin Gillespie

How many times must Clin. Sciences be repaired?

The Gateway

The answer is blowin' in the wind...

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It ain't no problem

There's been a great hue and cry raised recently over the problem of student literacy, but Alberta Teachers' Association president Halvar Jonson is not convinced that it's all justified.

Jonson said Monday he does not like the way the whole "literacy affair" has been handled and he indicated that the picture had been distorted in some ways.

"I feel that before publicity of these literacy studies is brought out in the media that there might be meetings between school board officials and university administrators," he said in a telephone interview with *The Gateway*.

"I feel there's more room for consultation and discussion instead of this being taken care of the way it is," he added.

The ATA president explained that elementary, junior and senior high school English courses cover a much broader range of subject matter than exam results would indicate. He would like the university to point out exactly where the students display serious literacy problems, rather than merely issue general statements.

He described the literacy studies as "not all that valid" because conclusions were based on exam results and not on the ability to read and interpret literature.

"I haven't heard whether that particular ability is up or down," he said.

Mr. Jonson said he thought exams and tests could have been handled better from the students' points of view, giving as example the literacy test administered to Calgary university students in which approximately 60 per cent failed. He claimed that remedial classes were organized before

the exam was held and that this kind of pre-judgement might have affected exam results in some way.

According to the ATA president, the current literacy debate has ignored the fact that "five to ten years of television has taken away from students' reading and writing time." This problem is compounded by the fact that media, especially advertising, has moved farther away from proper English usage, he added.

Employment schemes receive more money

OTTAWA (CUP) - The federal government's recent announcement of its employment strategy for 1977 includes job creation programs designed to give a few more students work next summer.

But the National Union of Students (NUS) notes that funding for the new job programs is much less than it was in 1971 when unemployment was lower. NUS says it will continue to "do all it can to see that every student who needs work in 1977 will get it."

The five-year employment strategy was announced by minister of manpower and immigration Jack Cullen as a program designed "to help fill the employment gap over the next several years." It will not put Canada's 750,000 unemployed back to work next year or relieve the glut on the student employment market next summer.

Cullen's proposals for both the permanent and student job market call for low wages and jobs of short duration.

Jonson attributed the higher percentage of high school graduates entering university to a lowering of entrance standards. Five years ago only 15 per cent of high school grads continued on to university but now, he said, the percentage is probably closer to forty.

"A different 'class' of student is going to university and it's quite possible that they're not up to the literacy standards of previous years," he concluded.

The new Canada Works program will create 61,000 jobs in high unemployment areas for not more than 12 months, with wages based on the provincial minimum.

The "Young Canada Works" program will employ 21,000 students next summer for periods up to 14 weeks in community organizations, with wages "generally...kept down to the minimum provincial wage levels."

An undetermined number of jobs are supposed to come from federal departments and agencies who will be "invited to set up projects ... which will carry out activities that relate to a responsibility of the sponsoring department" under the "Summer Job Corps" on which the government will spend \$10 million.

The government also plans to increase the funding and the number of on-campus Canada Manpower Centres, which placed 158,000 students out of 502,-

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FAS delegates oppose fee hikes, discuss problems

The Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) voted this weekend to organize a province-wide campaign to oppose the anticipated differential fee increases for foreign students.

This was one of the highlights of the third semi-annual FAS conference held Oct. 29-31 at the Assumption campus of Grant MacEwan Community College. The conference, the largest in FAS history, was attended by over 55 delegates who represented all member colleges and universities in the province.

Delegates attended workshops and also passed resolutions on student aid, tuition increases and cutbacks, student employment, housing, women in post-secondary institutions and daycare.

Plans for Nov. 9 National Student Day were reviewed and the experiences of the campaign on the various campuses were evaluated by delegates. They

discussed how FAS should proceed after Nov. 9 in continuing the process of educating the students and the public about the state of post-secondary education in Alberta.

FAS is anticipating fee increases next Sept. as high as 20 per cent and it was decided to initiate a campaign to focus on opposition to tuition increases and the decline in the quality of education caused by government cutbacks.

The new president of FAS is Steve Chesire, an ex-pres. of the Graduate Students Association at the U of C. Other executive members elected this weekend included Jay Spark, U of A student union rep., Noel Jantzie, U of C student and provincial coordinator of NSD, and Carl Pattison, a pre-law student from Medicine Hat Community College.

Other FAS conference stories pages 2, 3 and 6.

Statistician wrong

The registrar's office today announced that incorrect registration figures were released last week, as a result of an incorrect computer run.

Although figures released last week showed only 19,817 full-time students on campus this year, there are actually a record 20,461 full-time students, up 295 from last year's 20,166 students.

There are 3,405 part-time day students registered, down 115 from last year's 3,523 students.

And there are 40 less evening-credit students on campus this year, down to 483 from the 523 students last year.

Figures are valid as of Oct. 15 of each year.