

Gazette not alone

Council closes student paper

MONTRAL (CUP)—In a move billed as an attempt to reorganize the newspaper, the student union at John Abbott College closed the newspaper on March 15, for three to four weeks against the wishes of its staff.

The student union complained that the paper, the **Bandersnatch**, had no written editorial policies, and had failed to bill for typesetting work done in its shop, resulting in a cash flow problem.

Newspaper editor Paul Brown said the paper's staff thought the student union finance officer was taking care of billing. He also said that the newspaper had "never had any written editorial policy," so he didn't understand the council's

sudden concern with that aspect of the newspaper.

After the council meeting, Brown complained that the matter was "railroaded through the council without enough discussion about the implications this had for the freedom of the press."

Canadian University Press staff person Doug Ward said the council action seemed to be "a thinly disguised purge of people the council didn't like," and that the financial charges were not serious enough to warrant the action taken.

Student union president John Revay said "no one really liked having to close the paper but we had no choice if we wanted to change the structure and image of the paper." The council established

Rich get fatter

OTTAWA (CUP)—Not only are the rich getting richer, they're getting fatter at the same time. And the poor are getting hungrier.

While more than 450 million people, or one quarter of the underdeveloped world, is undernourished, according to a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization report released March 13, rich and industrialized countries suffer from "excessive food intake or improper diets". This leads to "the steadily rising prevalence of diseases" resulting from calorie intake per person of as much as 3,380, according to the report. In the poorer countries the calorie intake is declining, and now stands at around 2,000.

As a result, the percentage of undernourished in Africa rose to 28

per cent from 25 per cent, and a similar increase was noted in Asia.

In the poorest countries, nearly half the children can be classified as underfed. In developing countries, 40 per cent of the women are anemic and up to 100,000 children go blind every year. In Latin America, more than half of the deaths, in the second year of life, are attributed to nutritional deficiency.

The situation is likely to worsen and the food gap widen because, the study says, poor countries with low food production also have high birth rates. At the same time, food production in the industrialized countries is increasing, but in the poorest countries food production has actually declined.

Bank withdraws loans

SAN FRANCISCO (NDS-CUP)—Citicorp, which owns Citibank, the United States' second largest bank, says it has stopped granting loans to the government of South Africa and to companies owned or operated by that government.

Declaring that it "deplores" apartheid, the bank-holding company says it will loan money only to "constructive" private companies "that create jobs . . . which benefit all South Africans." "Tangible

progress away from apartheid" will apparently make it easier to get Citicorp funds.

The firm refused a request made by five church groups that it reveal how much money it has loaned to South Africa in the past. But a recent U.S. Senate report showed that Citicorp had lent more than \$760 million to South Africa from 1974 to 1976. It was also one of 11 U.S. banks which lent \$2.2 billion at the beginning of 1977.

a subcommittee to reorganize the paper's structure and to set new elections for editorial positions.

The action is under investigation by a CUP commission, and a report on the council attitudes and relationship with the newspaper will be released shortly. CUP president Susan Johnson said: "The student union's attitude to the

paper is very important here—they seem to think nothing of closing the paper and don't understand how to bring about change in the paper in a democratic way."

The newspaper staff has complied with the council decision and is not making any attempt to publish the paper against the wishes of the student council.

Grads slam rules

OTTAWA (CUP)—Canadian graduate students have characterized a proposal by Immigration Minister Bud Cullen to disallow work permits to international students seeking teaching assistantships, as "lunacy".

The change would "radically damage the infrastructure of the entire Canadian post-secondary education system," says a March 10 letter to Cullen from the Graduate Commission of the National Union of Students.

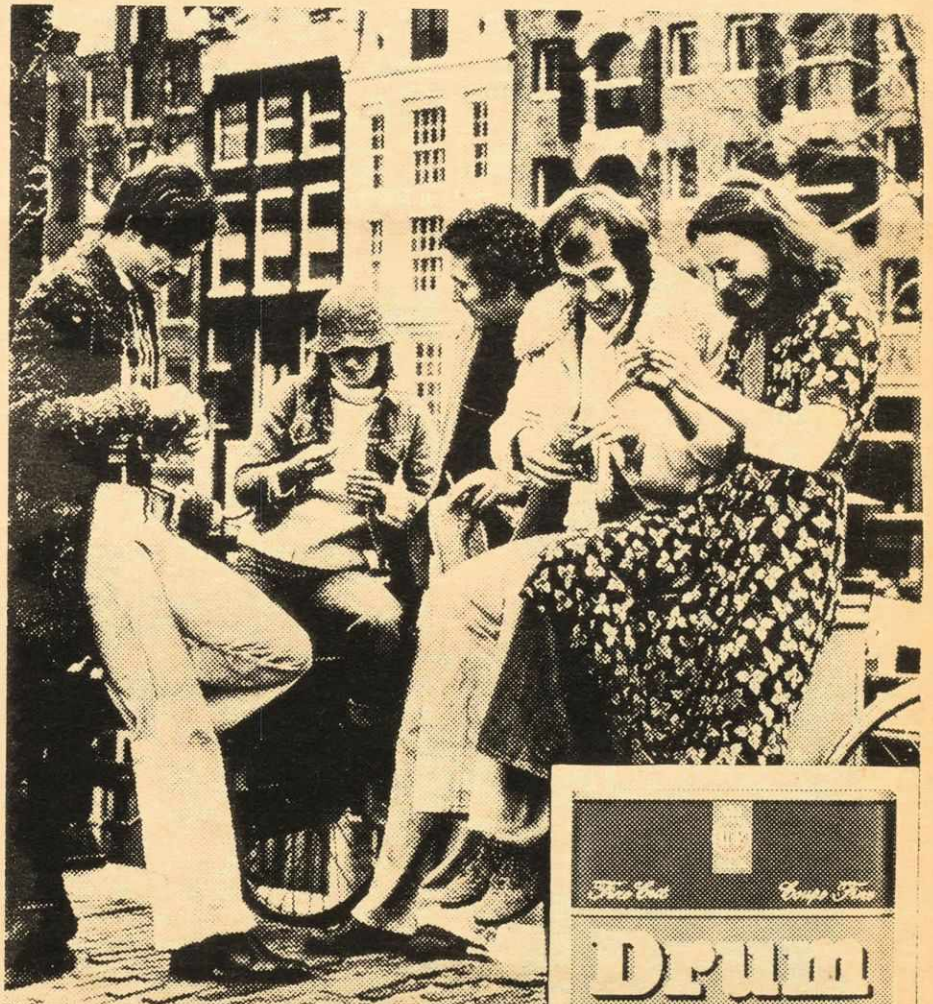
New immigration regulations, which come into force with the new Immigration Act April 10, will retain the power of the ministry to force universities to hire their teaching assistants through Canada Manpower centres. This will guarantee the jobs go to Canadians and effectively disallow work permits for visa scholars.

The graduate student letter points out that "immigration and international students can be scape-

goated only so much . . . (the proposal) would not solve Canada's unemployment problem." Immigration and employment ministry officials have argued that the proposal would create jobs for Canadians.

"Teaching assistantships are not permanent jobs but part of an educational program" the graduate statement says. The measure would not save money, because the cost of teaching assistantships is now returned to universities through the service they provide at low costs. They cite figures for the University of Toronto, where TAs do 40 per cent of the undergraduate teaching for 10 per cent of the university's teaching budget.

The graduate commission says the greatest loss would be to the quality of education for Canadians. "No nation can now be in the educational mainstream without taking advantage of what the rest of the world can offer."



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