

editorial

A CUP full

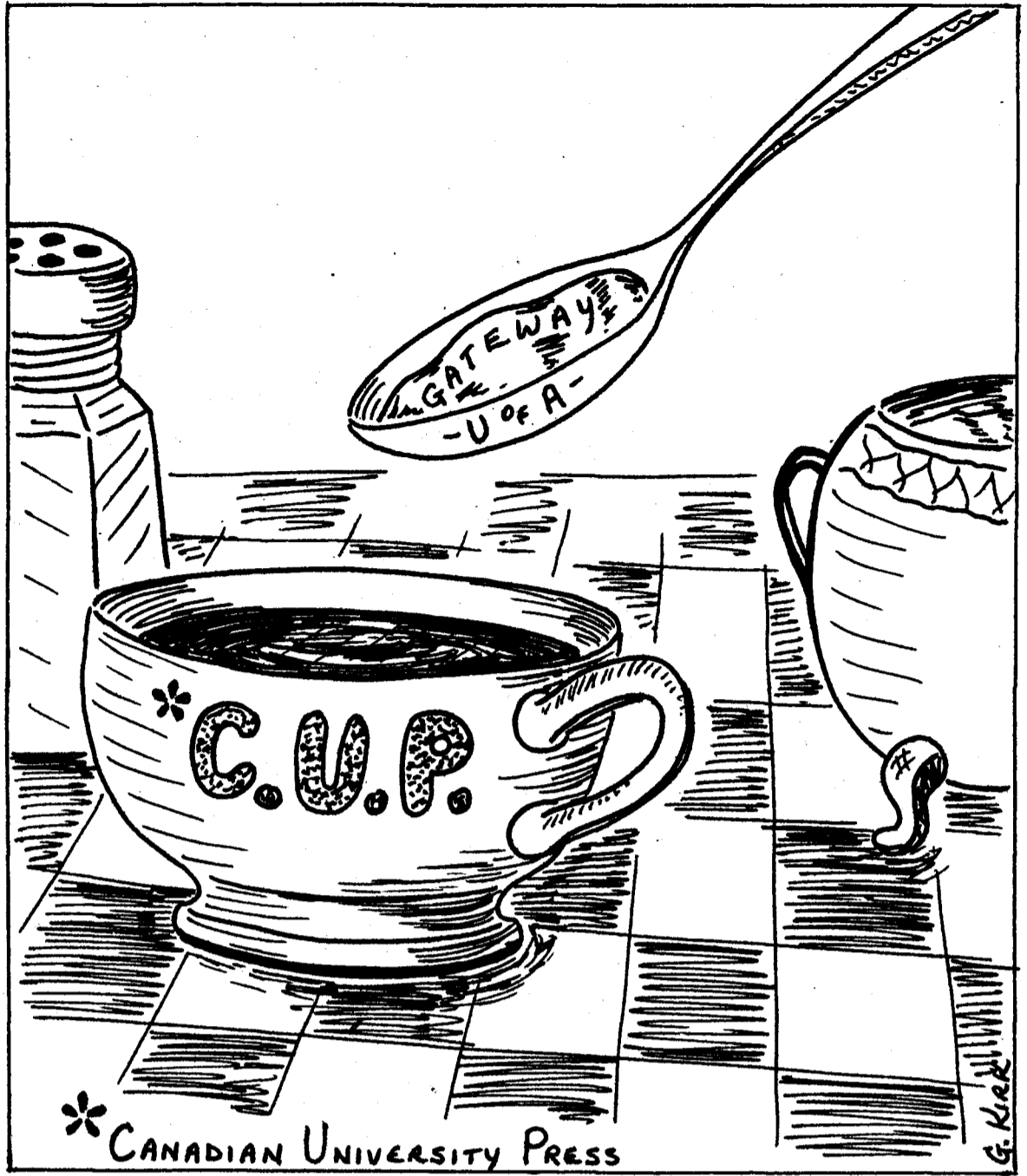
This week Gateway made application to the national office of The Canadian University Press for prospective membership in that organization. Ratification of our prospective membership will be done through a mail-out ballot to all full members, and will be confirmed or denied within the next few weeks. The question of full membership is one that will be decided only at the next National Conference, to be held December 1975.

Until the results of the mail-out ballot are returned, the Gateway-CUP relationship will remain undefined. On the assumption Gateway is approved for prospective membership, this status will allow us to take full advantage of both the news service and the national advertising network (Youthstream).

The reason for this apparent contradiction of Gateway's intent is a result of our attendance of CUP's National Conference held in Saskatoon this Christmas. We learned of CUP's intention to fully separate university, alternate and women's presses which has not been done in the past. The intent here is to help them create press services of their own, rather than including all within one package. We also were given the opportunity to join the advertising network that, if financial projections are accurate, will allow the deficit in the Gateway budget to be halved.

Nevertheless, the CUP question is yet unsettled. The final decision on membership will depend on the staff feeling next December regarding CUP, and CUP's feeling toward Gateway at that time. These questions will undoubtedly play a major part in the election of the 1975-76 Gateway editorship which comes up within the month.

Bernie Fritze



PETITION

INTRODUCTION

Under the present laws pertaining to Cannabis (marijuana & hashish) anyone in possession of Cannabis could be sent to jail for a period of 7 years. Under our system of justice, this could include all those who are in the presence of someone with Cannabis, if they have knowledge of such possession. Even if you have used Cannabis only once or have once been to a party where it was being openly smoked (even if you did not smoke), you could now have a criminal record. You have committed an offence under the Narcotics Control Act and you were lucky the Police did not come. If they did come and you were not charged, you can thank the Police for using their discretion.

Many people are in jail and/or have criminal records as a result of these archaic laws. Many of these people are not criminals but are like many of you, except they were caught. The law, in this case, has not kept up with changes in cultural values and medical evidence.

New legislation has been introduced in Parliament (not yet passed), and has been handed to the Senate which as usual will stall this bill as long as possible.

In this petition to Doug Roche, MP for our constituency, we will make our sentiments known only on the issue of simple possession of Cannabis.

This new legislation would:

1. Levy a fine of up to \$500. for first offence; up to \$1,000. for subsequent offences.
2. Levy jail terms for 3 months for first offence and 6 months on the second offence, only if fines were not paid.
3. Change the jurisdiction from the Narcotics Control Act to the Food and Drug Act.
4. RETAIN the Criminal Code aspects for even simple possession of Cannabis.

The undersigned hereby petition the Government of Canada to:

1. ABOLISH all Criminal Code aspects relating to simple possession of Cannabis.
2. ERASE all records of persons previously convicted of simple possession of Cannabis.
3. Immediately RELEASE all persons presently in jail or prison for simple possession of Cannabis.

NAME _____ COMMUNITY _____ OCCUPATION OR POSITION _____

letters

Monster inflation

Well it seems the ever-growing and familiar monster inflation is dipping its hands into the bookstore coffers. I say this because of the rip-off attitude Mr. Quick and his colleagues have incorporated as "policy" in an apparent effort to keep their books in the black. Here is my story and I hope Mr. Quick's superiors recognize what a fine job he is doing running what I am sure was originally set up as a student service.

I committed a mortal sin which I swear never to do again. I purchased the wrong book. I discovered my mistake a couple of days later when I realized my book was green

and everybody else's was red. Knowing I couldn't return it without my bookstore receipt I feverishly thumbed through one thousand five hundred pages of texts I had purchased the same day before finding it. Maybe \$4.15 isn't important to you but it is to me.

I purchased the book on Jan. 6th and it was already Jan. 8, I rushed over to the bookstore between classes but there was a couple of hundred people lined up at the cash register. Don't you take incorrectly purchased items back through the cashier? Well the answer is not if you are returning it to the U of A Bookstore.

On Thurs & Fri. the store was also full and on Monday (my last day for forgiveness and refund I had seven hours of classes and didn't get a chance to go to the bookstore. On Tuesday Jan. 14th (the eighth day) I managed to get to the store because a class was cancelled.

The cashier directed me to

Art Varker by GERRY RASMUSSEN

