

# Residence Authority A Visitor To U of A

by Bill Samis

Fred A. Schwendiman, president of the Association of College and University Housing Officers, and director of housing at Brigham Young University, visited the University of Alberta last week. He was invited to Edmonton, he said, to allow him to share his experiences in University housing projects with U of A officials.

He spent his nights in Athabasca Hall, and his days in discussion with the Board of Governors, the University's long range planning committee, the department of public works . . . in fact almost everyone who is involved in planning the University's proposed residences. He managed though, to take in part of the Golden Bears-Oil Kings hockey game (4-2 for the Bears) Wednesday evening, and pick up some Alberta souvenirs for his children on Saturday.

Mr. Schwendiman is considered one of the top authorities on college housing in North America. He has visited over 120 campuses, and aided with residence planning on most of them. "I am certainly learning from your experiences here," he said. "I hope you are gaining something from mine."



FRED SCHWENDIMAN

Housing is one of the major problems on North American campuses today, Mr. F. A. Schwendiman, president of the Association of College and University Housing Officers, stated while in Edmonton last week. Few Universities have been able to keep up with the tremendous growth in enrolment over the past few years.

Most Universities have to content themselves with residences for 25 to 40 per cent of their student body. His own University, Brigham Young, now has accommodation for 40 per cent and is now trying to raise the figure to 50 per cent.

To have the total student body in residences, as do several British Colleges, would be "an ideal situation . . . Utopia", he said. "However, because we can't build residences fast

enough on our expanding campuses, this is impossible."

On the majority of campuses, the housing shortage is compounded by a tight land problem. The solution to both problems at many of these Universities has been high-rise residences—buildings of at least eight storeys, often grouped in two's or three's around a central dining and social centre.

High-rise residences, he said, seemed to hold the key to the residence shortage at the University of Alberta.

### APARTMENTS CONSIDERED

Prof. A. A. Ryan, assistant to the president, noted that current U of A plans favor two residence complexes, one to be built now, the other later. They would be placed on the 20-acre plot west of the Jubilee Auditorium in such a manner as would allow the maximum area for playing fields. About three-fifths of the area is to be used for buildings.

Mr. Schwendiman said that University of Alberta planners had also expressed interest in an apartment-type of residence that has been found quite successful at Brigham Young. The apartments each accommodate six girls, who do all their own cooking and housekeeping.

Each suite has three bedrooms, a kitchen-dining room, a study-living room and a bath. BYU accommodates 1,539 girls in 24 three-story buildings in this manner.

### FINANCING DIFFICULTIES

The girls live quite economically, he said. "A boy who marries a girl who has cooked for herself for four years in one of these apartments has a big advantage over a boy who marries one who has been waited on in a residence hall."

The only disadvantage of the system is to the University. Because of the low rents charged for the suites, it is hard to pay for the buildings. He would not recommend the scheme at a University that has not already established fairly comprehensive residence accommodation.

Family style dining, currently practiced in Alberta's residence halls, is disappearing in the United States, Mr. Schwendiman stated. Cafeterias need only about half the space, and a much smaller staff.

### UNIFYING EFFECTS

The family dining system, where everybody sits down together for the meal, forms a very valuable communication link amongst the students and between students and staff. "It is an excellent system, one which I have always cherished," he said.

Mr. Schwendiman said that all

over the United States he had noticed the unifying effect good residence accommodation had on the campus. A closer tie between students and faculties and departments is evident than when most of the student body lives off campus, he said.

In a large residence, the secret of efficient operation is in proper student organization and government. "I have a lot of faith in the students' desire to make things go", Mr. Schwendiman stated.

In large residences, especially those that run to several storeys, it is necessary to divide the building for student organization purposes. A group of 50 to 70 students makes a good social unit, he said.

### CONDUCTIVE TO ACTIVITIES

He noted that students who are active in residence student government are usually outstanding in other campus activities, and generally obtain fairly good marks.

Because of the social and economic advantages it offers, residence accommodation is very popular on most campuses. When good student housing is available, student leaders tend to live in residence, rather than in fraternities and other off-campus accommodation.

Prof. Ryan indicated that the present Alberta residences could be filled several times over each year. The student body tends to less

fraternity-conscious when good residences are available, Mr. Schwendiman said. There is a marked trend away from fraternities at Universities that provide adequate housing.

### FRATERNITIES IN RESIDENCES

At Pennsylvania State University, fraternities are leased a wing of the residence. The fraternity receives almost complete control of the wing, and has the use of several rooms for social purposes. It must, though, see that all the rooms are rented, most of the rent going to the University.

The chief disadvantage of Penn State's system, Mr. Schwendiman said, was that the fraternity members tend to become very cliquish, missing almost all of the advantages of residence life. This is particularly true of the womens' fraternities, he said.

At Brigham Young University, fraternity-like social units are in existence, but they are not allowed to build houses. On no campus does the number of people belonging to fraternities exceed 10 or 15 per cent. (At Alberta, it is about 12 per cent.)

### LOANS AVAILABLE

The method of financing large, expensive buildings is a major problem on most campuses.

It is generally not too difficult for the college to obtain a loan to erect the building. It may have trouble, though, raising money to retire the loan.

Union buildings are generally most easily paid for. Sources of income include the student body, each member of which is generally charged a small fee each year to defray capital and current expenses; and social activities, cafeterias, snack counters and other profit-making ventures in the building which can be charged rents.

Teaching buildings, on the other hand are very difficult to pay for, because they offer no source of income, unless the student body is charged through raises in tuition, a practice which most Universities try to avoid.

Residences offer an income source through room and board rates. But these rates are subject to many factors.

The cost of the building, its size, and the ratio of the cost to capacity, or cost per bed, must be considered. Are family style dining rooms or cafeterias to be used? How much can the students afford to pay, and what services can be provided from this? How much of the income will have to go to current expenses and how much can go towards repaying the loan on capital expenditure?

Such basic questions as these are now being answered by the Board, Mr. Schwendiman said. He has discussed the methods other Universities have found successful with the campus's planners, but the final decisions must be related to local conditions and developments.

if ideas are your forte

and their implementation your aim, you'll find most satisfaction in an Alcan career.

Strong statement?


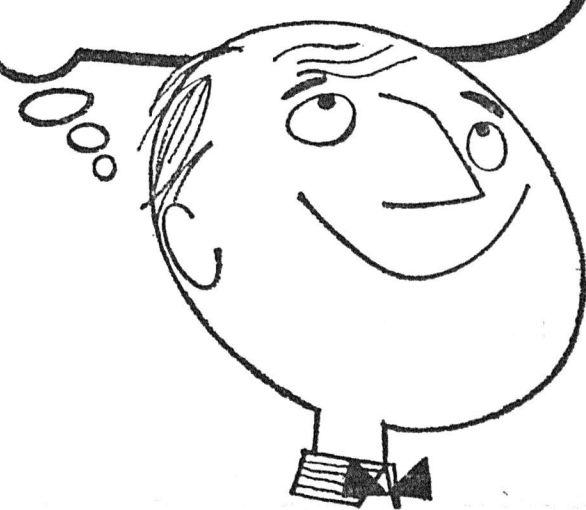
Not if you look at aluminum — the world's most versatile metal; or if you ask any of the 1,400 Canadian manufacturers who use Alcan aluminum in some form or other — as ingot, powder, rod, sheet, tubing, bar, fabric, foil — to make — not one product or another, but — a thousand products and more.

They may be electrical, mechanical, structural, ornamental, utilitarian, simple or sophisticated products, well established or daringly new . . .

Now, if ideas are your forte, you can help these users of aluminum make even better use of this ubiquitous metal — because that's one of the jobs of Alcan career men. When you get your degree here's what Alcan offers you:

An excellent salary and a generous pension plan. An employee share purchase plan and other benefits. A Canadian organization international in scope with a wide selection of challenging careers in production, process control, development, research, sales, business administration, accounting, marketing, legal work, personnel, industrial relations, etc.

**ALUMINUM COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED**  
Personnel Department, P.O. Box 6090, Montreal 3, P.Q.

**Drs. LeDrew, Rowand, McCLung & Jones**  
OPTOMETRISTS  
707 Tegler Bldg., Edmonton  
Phones:  
GA 2-2789 GA 4-2630  
South Side: 8123-104th St.  
Ph. GE 3-7305  
Crestwood: 9630-142nd St.  
Ph. HU 8-7514  
Contact Lens Centre: 705 Tegler  
Ph. GA 2-2932

**St. George's Anglican Church**  
87th Avenue at 118th Street  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th

8:00 a.m.—Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m.—Holy Communion  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer  
7:00 p.m.—Evensong—Canterbury meeting

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE CAMPUS