

Come and get these prizes

Are you a hardworking and diligent student? If you are, have you applied for a Students' Union award?

This year, four awards and a scholarship are available from the Students' Union. Applications for these awards—the Students' Union Gold medal, the Bishop's University exchange, the Lorne Calhoun award, the Maimie Shaw Simpson award and the Walter Dinwoodie award—are now available at SU offices.

The most prestigious of these is the gold medal, available to graduating students who have shown excellence in academic and extracurricular activities. The deadline for application is March 7, and nomination forms can be obtained through the Students' Union office.

The Bishop's University exchange is co-sponsored by the Students' Union and the University. This prize includes tuition fees for one year at Bishop's University, an English speaking general arts college in Lennoxville, Quebec. The deadline for applications for the exchange is March 2.

The Lorne Calhoun award is a \$25 book prize for students who participate in Students' Union and extra-curricular activities. Calhoun was a student at the U of A from 1946 until his death in 1951, and the award commemorates his many contributions to campus life.

Maimie Shaw Simpson was the first Dean of Women at the U of A, and the award in her memory is open to any female student participating in a variety of campus activities, with at least a second class academic standing.

The final award, the Walter Dinwoodie award, is a \$100 prize presented to a student in an undergraduate program planning on returning full time the following year. Dinwoodie was the Permanent Business Manager of the Students' Union from 1949 until 1962, and the prize recognizes his work with the Students Union.

The deadline for the three memorial awards is March 19.

Further information on all these awards can be obtained by the Students' Union offices.

Soviet dissident to speak Friday

Soviet dissident Simas Kudirka will speak at 11:00 am Friday, in Education North 205. There will be a coffee session with him that afternoon from 2:30 to 5 in room 227, Athabasca Hall.

Kudirka jumped from a Soviet fishing ship to a U.S. Coast Guard vessel in November 1970. He was denied political asylum by a Rear Admiral of the Coast Guard, who was anxious not to have talks on fishing rights with the North Atlantic disrupted.

Kudirka was returned to his ship, and once in the Soviet Union was tried and convicted of treason. He spent the next three and a half years in various prison

camps in the Soviet Union.

During this time, two Lithuanian-born women in the United States were pressuring the State Department to intervene. They met with no success until it was by chance discovered that Kudirka's mother was an American citizen. In 1974, Kudirka's U.S. citizenship was declared, and he was allowed to emigrate in August of 1974, with his family.

The forum is jointly sponsored by the Department of Eastern European and Slavic studies, the Central and Eastern European studies Society of Alberta, and the Lithuanian-Canadian Community of Canada.

Bigger classes and less instructors

Pharmacy program hurt by cutbacks

This article is the first in a series focusing on the problems caused by cutbacks in funding at the University of Alberta. The idea was developed by the Committee to Oppose Tuition Increases and Cutbacks (COTIAC); the articles were written for the Gateway by COTIAC members.

COTIAC will be speaking to department heads and faculty heads throughout the campus to study the effect of the cutbacks given to the university last year, and to project the effects further funding cutbacks will have.

Marianne Olszewski Pharmacy 4

The Faculty of Pharmacy, like other faculties, has been adversely affected by recently imposed cutbacks. Although there has been a 6% increase in the operating budget for the '78-'79 term, this increase is slight in view of the estimated 15% increase in cost of operation for the same period. To compensate for this difference, cutbacks in programming and staffing have been made.

Graduate students are essential to the undergraduate teaching program. During the last ten years, the number of graduate students supported by the faculty has fallen from 22 to 11 students, due to a lack of funding. A further decrease in this number is expected. Besides affecting the research activities of the faculty, this has made the student/TA ratio much larger, and consequently the quality of lab instruction has not been maintained. In addition, six new grad students have been tentatively accepted for next year, however at



Walter Buck explains Social Credit philosophy.

Photo by Dave Malloy

People important to Socreds

by Amanda LeRougetel

Social Credit is a peoples party, said Dr. Walter Buck, environmental critic for social credit in an interview on Monday.

He stressed the need for a government which truly represents the people and said the philosophy of the Social Credit party is that the "people are more important than the party." Democracy operates on the local level, said Buck, and it is important that the people have the opportunity to influence the decisions made by the government.

Dr. Buck has been the MLA for Fort Saskatchewan since 1967 and was backbencher for

the government for four years (1967-71).

Calling himself a "realistic conservationist," Buck believes the establishment of the Environmental Conservation Authority (ECA) was one of the best acts passed in the legislature in 1970.

He said the ECA represented a genuine effort to establish an independent agency in which ordinary citizens could voice their opinions. However, the PC government disregarded the ECA's advice on the placing of the Red River Dam and disbanded the ECA in late 1977.

The government set up a new authority (called the Environment Council of Alberta), which is more involved in

business than Dr. Buck thinks an agency of this type should be. No reasons were given by the government for the disbandment of the original ECA.

A forum on Alberta's environment is being sponsored by the SU and the U of A Socreds. Dr. Buck and Julian Kinisky, former chairman of the ECA, will be among the speakers. With the election coming up, Dr. Buck feels it is necessary for students to be informed about the important environmental issues.

Buck said he believes the students of today are the leaders of tomorrow and must therefore know the issues and become involved. The forum is to be held Wednesday, February 21 at noon in SUB theatre.

Restraint still needed

Berger defends pipeline inquiry

by Portia Priegert

The MacKenzie Valley Inquiry was an important precedent in Canadian resource exploitation and has laid the foundation for a firm policy of northern development, said Mr.

Justice Thomas R. Berger last Sunday.

Berger, former Commissioner of the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, was presenting the Third Annual Wolfe Memorial Lecture at

Athabasca University, titled, "Canadian Peoples: Canadian Problems".

"The Inquiry was the first time the impact of a large-scale frontier development project was considered before, rather than after the fact," said Berger. It has attracted widespread support and has increased our understanding of the special vulnerability of the North."

In his report, issued May 1977, Berger recommended that no pipeline be built for the transportation of Alaskan gas across the Northern Yukon and that measures be taken for the protection of wilderness areas and wildlife. In order to settle native claims, he also proposed that construction of a pipeline along the MacKenzie Valley be postponed for ten years.

Berger said that we have never had to use restraint in developing natural resources before. However, he stressed that he is not advocating that we "return to Nature" or "shut off the north."

"Wilderness is an invaluable part of modern day life that compliments our civilization, but wilderness is a non-renewable resource. If we are to preserve it we must do it now," he said.

He also recommended energy conservation as part of the solution to global resource problems. "We shall have to get along with a smaller amount of energy in future."