

Study a part of red tape

The Alberta Education ministry recently launched a study into the feasibility of having Treaty Indian representation on the public school boards.

Alberta is responsible for educating all youth in the province except the children of Treaty Indians. Their education is the responsibility of the federal government.

Under agreement between the federal government and some school boards, some Treaty Indians children are being educated in provincial schools. Their parents have no voice in school board matters.

For several years now a number of Indian bands have been lobbying for the opportunity to participate in the educational decision making that will affect their children.

In 1976 a private members bill was introduced to the provincial government that would allow Treaty Indian representation on school boards, where it was approved in principle. With typical government speed and efficiency the Provincial Government has now appointed an Edmonton lawyer Mr. Brian Fish to conduct a study into the matter. "I have been requested to

investigate the matter and to make proposals as to how the policy could best be implemented," says Fish.

"There's all kinds of problems involved such as allotting the rights of special representatives, how these representatives should be appointed to the school boards. I'll just be trying to figure out what will be the most equitable legislation," says Fish.

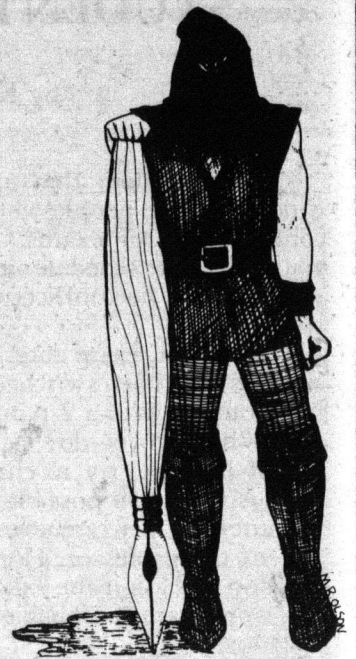
Mr. Fish will consult with Indian bands, school boards, both federal and provincial governments, the Indian Association of Alberta and make his recommendations by December 1.

THE CHOPPING BLOCK

by Jens Andersen

To give you some idea of the swill that flows into the Gateway office through the sewer intake (i.e. the mail) I offer you the following specimen from the IUS (International Union of Students) Magazine, on the Democratization and Reform of Education, which reaches us four times a year from Prague, Czechoslovakia.

It is the lead sentence-paragraph of an article entitled, "The Reform of the Bulgarian Educational System"



In the stage of the intellectualization of all spheres of public life and under the conditions of the accelerated development of scientific and technological progress, when the utilization of high-level intellectual products has become of vital importance, the reorganization of the educational system in Bulgaria has become one of the main preconditions for the improvement of the overall social organism.

After scrutinizing the article with a careful scrute, and comparing its stylistic elements to the speeches of Peter Lougheed (see Chopping Block Oct. 22), I have reached the conclusion that both authors must have attended the same English class.

Or how about this piece of news from our weekly CUP news service:

The effective seperation of religion and politics, "leaves an unsatisfied need," (Conor Cruse O'Brien) said. "The need in question is the need for oneness, for meaning, for the sacred, for God.

Anyone familiar with religious debate is, of course, aware of this spiritual hunger, an oft-mentioned thing whose pangs are experienced by many people.

O'Brien adds a new twist to it, however: apparently if politics is somehow joined to religion (perhaps by making only clergymen eligible for public office, or by making only elected politicians eligible to be God's sales representatives here on earth) mankind's illimitable spiritual vacuum will somehow be filled.

An interesting proposition, but all the same I think I'll stick to wine, women, and song.

Lobby Day -

Where do MLA's stand?

Students from across Alberta will meet with their MLA's Monday, November 9, to express their concerns about Alberta's post-secondary education system.

Lobby Day will be held on the last day of the Federation of Alberta Student's Fall Conference in Edmonton. FAS will hold a news conference in conjunction with the lobby at 10 a.m. in the news conference room at the Alberta legislature.

The key issue at both the news conference and the lobby will be federal Finance Minister Allan MacEachen's proposal to cut \$1.5 billion from post-secondary education and health care spending.

"We want to know where our MLA's stand on MacEachen's plans," says executive member Lisa Walters. "The most important question will be, 'What will Alberta do to support education if the feds cut back?'"

So far, the provincial government has shown no willingness to pick up the slack, if Ottawa pulls

back. If no provincial support is offered, tuition fees may have to be hiked as much as 250 percent.

"Tighter enrollment quotas will almost certainly be imposed," Walter says.

"Classes will be cut, and what classes remain will be much more crowded than they are already," she says.

MLA's will also be lobbied about the Alberta student loan program.

"Two and a half years ago, Premier Lougheed told 5000 students on the steps of the legislature that there would be a comprehensive review of student aid in the province," says FAS president Lorraine Mitchell. "Since then we've seen no move - neither a review, nor any real improvement."

Lobby Day will also see the FAS executive meet with Jim Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education, Al Heibert, PC Caucus Education Committee Chair, and (unconfirmed) Lou Hyndman, provincial treasurer.



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club NOTES

by P. Prince

Country Fun

Bar None, the biggest western dance on campus, is coming on November 28. This is the wind-up to Aggie week and is guaranteed a good time. Usually in March, this year they promise it'll still be just as good as always. Join in all the events and let loose country-style.

Will he or won't he

Tuesday, November 10 is the day you too can find out if *The King Either Will or Will Not Die*. A reading from Dr. Richard Bosley's dialogue of the same name is featured at the next Undergraduate Philosophy Club. For those of you who show up for it today (Thursday), you will have probably guessed that the meeting has been postponed.

So remember if you wish to discuss that age old question (freedom vs necessity?) come Tuesday.

Sour note

Club notes, printed courtesy of the Gateway, is intended to give the clubs on campus a place in the paper that is not just footnotes. This space is not for advertizing products for sale but rather to inform the students of the U. of A. of upcoming activities.

Ads may be bought from the paper, then whatever you like may be printed. If you would like to use this service please have your plugs in by 4:00 pm on Tuesdays for that Thursday's paper.

P. Prince is allowed to edit and present this material as he feels fit. He will not intentionally change the content of the message.

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