

Land of hallowed halls not really so far away



Labor supports SU

Alberta universities will become even more exclusive to the rich if tuition hikes are proposed to the provincial government, Reg Baskin, president of the Alberta Federation of Labor said Monday.

Baskin said the 100,000 member federation supports the call from the U of A Students' Union for a larger grant from the provincial government in order to freeze tuition fees at their present level.

"Those least able to afford higher costs, the students, are being forced, because of the government's university financing policy, to pay the shot to keep the universities running," he said.

Baskin called on the government to increase its university funding so students would not be penalized. Many students will be forced to drop out of the fees are increased, he stated.

Mercy killing

SAN FRANCISCO (ENSCUP) - The current debate over whether to allow terminally ill patients to die or keep them alive with medical technology has resulted in an interesting and somewhat surprising survey of the nursing profession.

Of more than 15,000 nurses polled, more than half said they favor euthanasia, or direct mercy killing, and one out of every five said they had actually "helped to hasten death of a terminally ill patient."

Several thousand nurses confidentially acknowledged that they had resorted to such mercy techniques as neglecting to care for deformed newborn babies, giving over doses of narcotics to the terminally ill on doctor's orders, and even pulling the plug on respirators.

According to *Psychology Today*, which reported the survey, an overwhelming majority of the 15,000 nurses said that dying patients should have the right to refuse treatment.

The AFL president noted that 32% of university students in Canada came from families with incomes over \$10,000, according to a 1968 study.

His feelings are that the 25% hike puts universal accessibility even further down the road and will mean that children of working people in this province are denied access to their own universities.

"Oil rich Alberta now has one of the worst student financing plans in the country," he said, "and from the looks of things, our record is going to get worse."

No action on insurance

Last autumn a petition was circulated in SUB which called for public auto insurance. Now it is February - what happened to this petition which was sponsored by the Alberta Federation of Labour?

Private insurance agents can rest assured, because very little happened.

Harry Kostiuk, of the Alberta Federation of Labour told *Gateway* that "the card campaign is still going on" but that they still haven't made a presentation to the provincial government. "We've asked for a separate meeting from the premier on auto insurance," said Kostiuk, adding, "we've been soliciting support from outside the trade union movement."

The petition was in the form of a postcard addressed to Loughheed with the following request printed on the back: "I support the policy of Alberta Federation of Labour for provincially operated no-fault automobile insurance and appeal to your government to introduce such a program immediately into the province of Alberta. This matter is urgent in view of rapidly rising costs of automobile insurance."

In light of reported recent premium hikes as high as 300% from ICBC (British Columbia's auto insurance) there is some question as to the viability of

University is a little less distant for twenty young boys now.

The ten-year old boys toured campus last weekend, exploring a world that can be distant and remote even for freshmen of 17 or 18. Their visit to this "distant" place was courtesy of the University Circle K Club in conjunction with Uncles at Large.

The boys involved in the Uncles at Large program are ones who have either lost their fathers or whose homes are broken, with the mother retaining custody of the children.

These particular youngsters are presently on the waiting list for uncles and sometimes must wait up to a year before being matched up with one. Bob Laidler, Circle K Club coordinator for the project, felt that activities in which a student was matched up for a day with a boy would be beneficial to them and make their wait less cumbersome.

The overall reaction of the youngsters to the university environment was one of elation and surprise, he related. Many of them confessed they expected a dull, monotonous walk around some place they had heard of, but never seen. In actuality, most of the boys appeared very impressed and expressed a desire to come back again soon, said Laidler.

Certain individuals even claimed they had decided to come to university when they

grew up because it was a "fun" place.

The first stop made was the Paleontology Museum in the basement of the Agriculture Building. Many students aren't aware the museum exists, but it houses a number of interesting and varied displays. Perhaps as

was also visited, where Helge Welling, a botanist and professor, pointed out some of the more interesting plant species.

For the remainder of the tour the group split up into pairs of a student and a youngster each and wandered through



Photo by Michael Amerongen

interesting as the exhibit is Dr. Stelck, a professor in the department. In showing the crowd around he proved witty and humorous enough to hold them spellbound - not an easy task when your audience is composed of nine and ten year old boys.

The Botanical Greenhouse

any building that interested the boys. Later two films on nature and ecology were shown, then it was off to MacKenzie Lounge in Lister Hall to end the day.

The fascination about university may have been lost by many university students, but it certainly didn't escape this enthusiastic group.

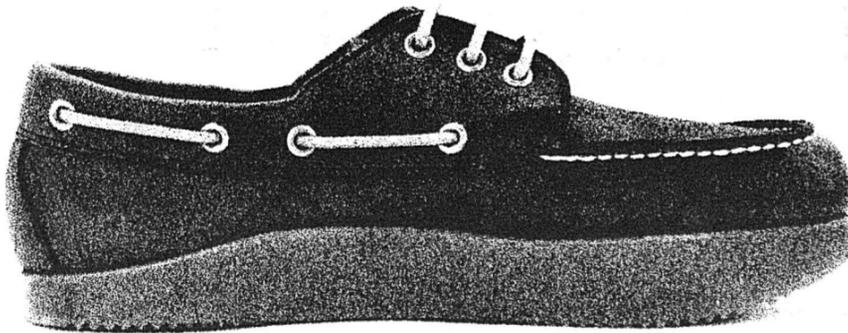
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