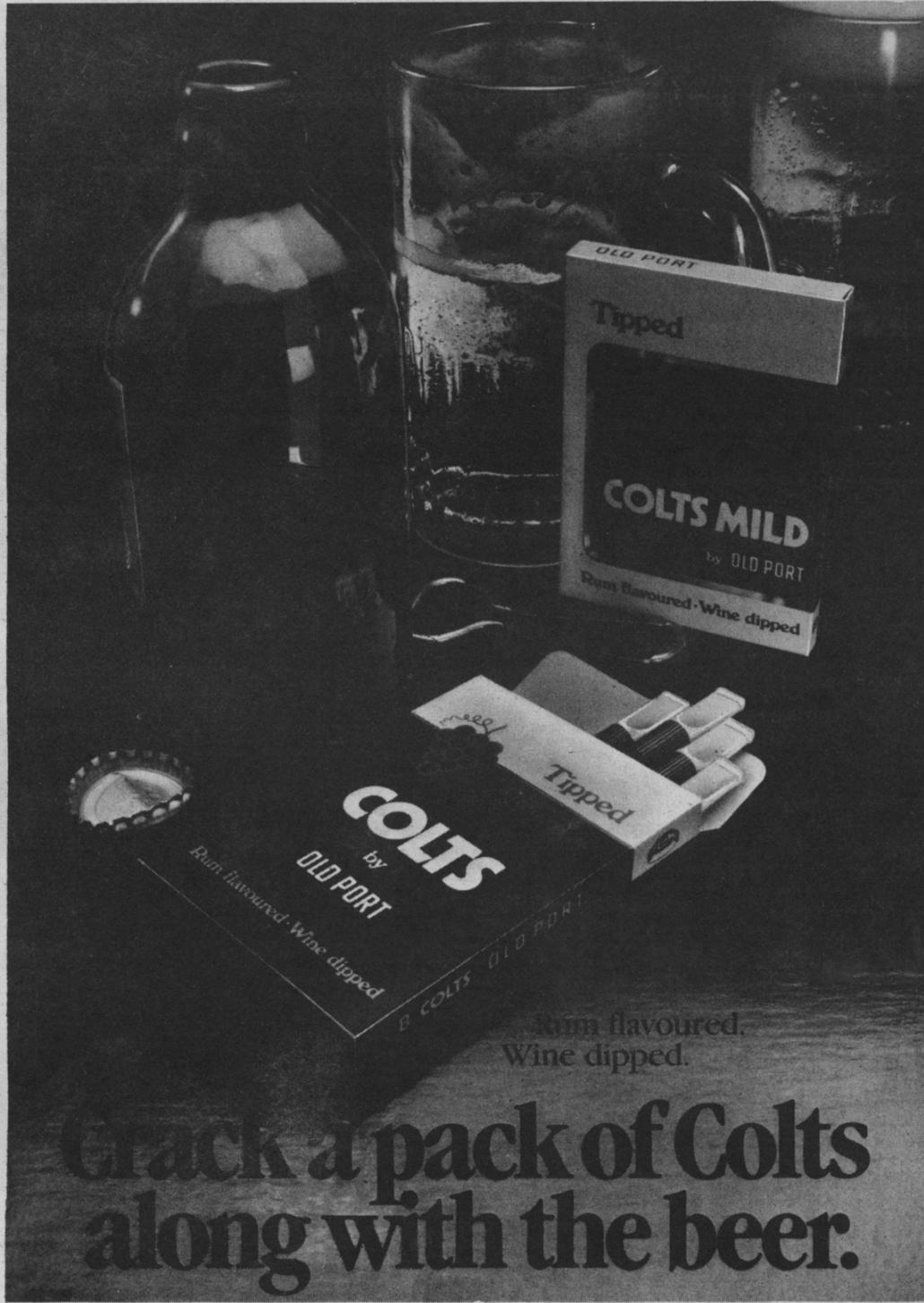




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Will more follow?

Study hall down

Government cutbacks in funding of the university libraries have had dire effects on many services, including a reduction of library hours and study space.

Students will lose one of the largest and most accessible study halls on campus with the relocation of bound periodicals to the second floor of Rutherford South.

The periodicals, formerly housed on the first floor of Rutherford South, were originally going to occupy the entire second floor study hall.

But a petition initiated by SU president Dean Olmstead and vp academic Chanchal Bhattacharya, during final exams last year was signed by 700 students in less than 24 hours. The petition forced the library to make concessions.

The front room on second floor Rutherford became a combination stack area and periodical reading room, while the rest of the space was used for storage. Lack of shelf space for this year's 80,000 to 90,000 periodical acquisitions forced the change.

The only space left for a late night unsupervised study hall was the former periodical reading room on the ground floor of Rutherford South. It is approximately half the size of the old study hall. As in past years it is open until 2:00 a.m. Sunday to Thursday and until midnight Friday and Saturday.

Chanchal Bhattacharya says that this is not enough space. "Already the area is packed. There will be chaos within a month of mid-terms."

He says the main problem is to provide a reasonable amount of study space when the rest of the system is closed.

And with continuing declines in library hours this can be a serious problem.

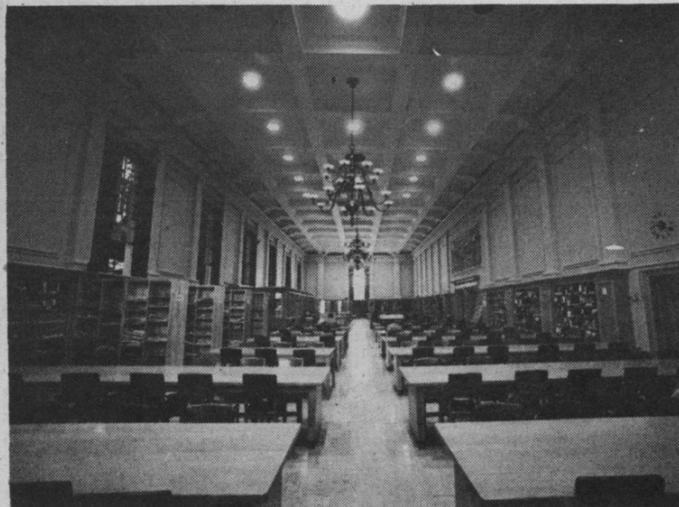
Though most of last year's hours remain in effect, the Education libraries' circulation times have been cut two hours on Saturday and one hour on Sunday, and its hours of weekend operation have been cut by five hours.

The last cut in circulation hours occurred two years ago when Cameron and Rutherford Libraries lost four hours of service on Friday evenings and together with reduction, three Saturday morning hours.

Assistant librarian (public services) Calvin Evans says the U of A's libraries are open 92 1/4 hours a week (including the law libraries, that figure rises to 103 1/4).

According to Statistics Canada, the University of Manitoba offers 78 1/2 and UBC 89 hours per week.

But, he says, it is possible that more late-night study space may be available although the library has not yet made any proposals to the university or received a capital grant from the provincial government for a new building.



The old Rutherford study hall.

photo Russ Samson

New B of G member

Douglas (Max) Ritchie has been appointed to the University of Alberta's Board of Governors.

The announcement of Ritchie's appointment was made this week by James Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower. Ritchie fills the public vacancy left by James Hole of the Board of Governors.

Ritchie is president of Midway Investment Limited. He is the past chairman of Investment Dealers Association of Alberta and is currently on the board of ChemBiomed, a pharmaceutical research firm, and vice-chairman of the Salvation Army advisory Board.

He is also past president of the Citadel Theatre and head of Edmonton's 1977 United Way.

Born in London, Ontario, Ritchie received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario. He moved to Edmonton in 1950.

Ritchie's three-year term of office is effective September 19, 1979.

"I'm very pleased and very honored with the appointment," Ritchie said Wednesday night. "I hope to be able to do a good job."

"I've had some involvement with the university through my family ... and I'm looking forward to my term in office."

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