

THE GATEWAY

Member of the Canadian University Press

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A Welcome And A Warning

We welcome you, Freshman, to the University of Alberta.

But we also warn you.

Each year, hundreds of freshmen come onto the campus—happy and excited at the threshold of a new phase of life. You arrive for the most part innocent and unsuspecting. In a word, you are gullible.

Accordingly, various interested parties prepare each year for you, and they will entertain you with requests. In the main, they will ask you to buy and to join.

It is here that you must proceed with caution. When someone asks you to buy—whether it be a jacket, second-hand books, or (the outstanding example) tickets of diverse kinds—consider carefully before parting with your money. Ask yourself, for example, whether you will be able—or want—to use all those tickets. Quite probably, the answer will be in the negative. Many students find out too late that they have bought much more than they need.

Similarly, Freshman, you will be asked to join a good many organizations—religious, social, political and what have you. It is indeed desirable that you take part in some campus activity, because extracur-

riculars (next, of course, to your studies) are an important part of your education.

But you must use discretion in joining. Determine where your interests lie and then become a member. It may well be that you will be active in more than one area. Consider, though, that by associating yourself with too many organizations it's likely you will tend to be only superficially loyal to any one group. In turn, you will reap little benefit from shallow membership.

If you later find yourself a member of a group which doesn't live up to your expectations, withdraw quickly and painlessly.

Above all this, you must remember that your main reason for being here is academic study. You should establish for your activities a system of priorities, and the top bracket is exclusively for studies. Too many of you will forget this; as a consequence, you won't be here next fall.

The ideal solution is to establish a healthy balance between academics and extracurriculars. If, however, you find that one side must be heavier, put the extra weight in your studies.

Good luck.

Council In Action

It appears (on the surface) that we have a very efficient Students' Council this year. At least the executive found it unnecessary to call regular meetings over the summer.

The last council meeting was held

on August 2.

Freshmen and upperclassmen alike might like to attend tomorrow night's meeting to see how efficient the council really is. Perhaps even the Students' Union president will be there this time.

National Student Unity

The idea of national student unity is rarely understood, much abused, and most frequently ignored by the majority of university students. Yet the local Students' Union, as 39 others, is a member of the unity-orientated National Federation of Canadian University Students.

This year the annual NFCUS Congress will be hosted by the University of Alberta. Congress dates are September 29 to October 5.

Students here will have an excel-

lent opportunity to find out what NFCUS accomplishes, whether it is in fact a useful organization, and whether it is merely a luxury for a few, as some individuals have contended in the past.

The viewpoints and policies adopted by NFCUS should be of concern to all university students—they are paying for the organization. And if students disagree with NFCUS objectives and actions, they should be prepared to inquire, to comment and to change.



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University President Welcomes Freshmen

On behalf of the many people who make up that complex community that is the University of Alberta, I welcome all of you who are coming to our campus as students for the first time. You will, no doubt, find it a bewildering place for the first few days, but we hope you will soon feel at home here and begin for yourselves that search for truth which is the chief purpose in life for most of those with whom you will come in contact.

You will not all graduate, but we hope that most of you will demonstrate those intellectual and moral qualities which will enable you to complete your programs of study successfully. Canada and the world will need your talents and your energies in the years ahead, for the problems of society are becoming so complex and diverse that only those with a high level of education can serve its needs to the full.

Many of you who register this week will receive your degrees in 1967, a few weeks before we Canadians celebrate our first century of nationhood. The political leaders of one hundred years ago had the courage and the vision to plan and work for the establishment of a nation which would stretch "from sea unto sea", and over the years this



PRESIDENT JOHNS

dream has come close to reality. Today, however, we have cause to wonder whether we are to survive as one nation. This is but one of the problems you may help to solve.

You will certainly not lack challenges nor opportunities for service in the years ahead. We hope that here at the University you will learn something of the nature of the world around you and of how you may help make it better as a dwelling place for man.

W. H. Johns
President
University of Alberta

Comments by the Editors

If it's significant, we want to hear about it.

This is a newspaper serving the students—and if something is going on that conflicts with student interests, we want to hear about it.

We're not interested in hearing about your personal grudges. We don't intend to become a medium for cheap publicity stunts, nor a sounding board for the propaganda of special-interest groups—political or otherwise.

We don't promise to print anything; we want to hear what you say first, and then we'll conduct an independent investigation. If it's just amusing or entertaining, we'll make use of it.

We're not trying to be spectacular. We're only trying to air student grievances—if they are legitimate.

If you pause to ponder, you will perhaps agree that The Gateway is really the only virile representative you have on campus. It's the only agent that can get things done for you. Without it, you could bicker or gripe but little would be done. We attempt to focus and publicize your problems.