

gateway

Thursday, March 22, 1984

The spirit of this country...

...is totally adverse to a large military force.

Thomas Jefferson

SU presidents battle after failed general meeting

by Ken Lenz

A heated argument between SU president Robert Greenhill and president-elect Floyd Hodgins followed yesterday's failed general meeting.

Only 238 students showed up for the noon-hour meeting in

which a ballot was to be cast to decide whether another Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) referendum would be held this year.

But the attendance fell short of the 1204 quorum mark, so the

meeting was promptly cancelled at 12:30.

Hodgins referred to the meeting as a "farce" and blamed the SUs poor advertising, poor leadership and neglect in getting classes cancelled for the meeting's failure.

Greenhill said, there wasn't as much advertising as there should have been," but added, "Floyd (Hodgins) had the completed petition for two weeks and didn't hand it in to us."

The president is referring to the 500 signatures, collected by Hodgins, which are needed to call a general meeting.

He continued, "I think Floyd hoped we would simply not go through with it. He thought we would say the petition was technically wrong, which it was but the intent was there."

Hodgins countered, "Greenhill knew about the petition three weeks ago - he could have made an effort himself to do something."

"I didn't know the petition was complete until he passed it to me at students' council on Tuesday (March 13) night," says Greenhill.

Consequently, the \$800 spent on advertising the meeting was all spent during the week preceding the meeting and Greenhill says, "We did the best we could with such short notice."

Hodgins also charged the SU with "not making a real effort with the posters."

"Instead of black and white everyone would be able to read they used green and yellow," he said.

But Greenhill says colored paper was used to attract attention and that 500 posters were printed when normally only 300 would be.

Hodgins adds, "I've never seen a poster without block letters until now."

Says Greenhill, "What we did was just blow up the letter to the students...we never had time to design a proper poster."

"As far as cancelling classes goes," says Greenhill, "that has to be passed at a General Faculties Council (GFC) Executive meeting - then at GFC."

"There wasn't a GFC Executive meeting in the past week."

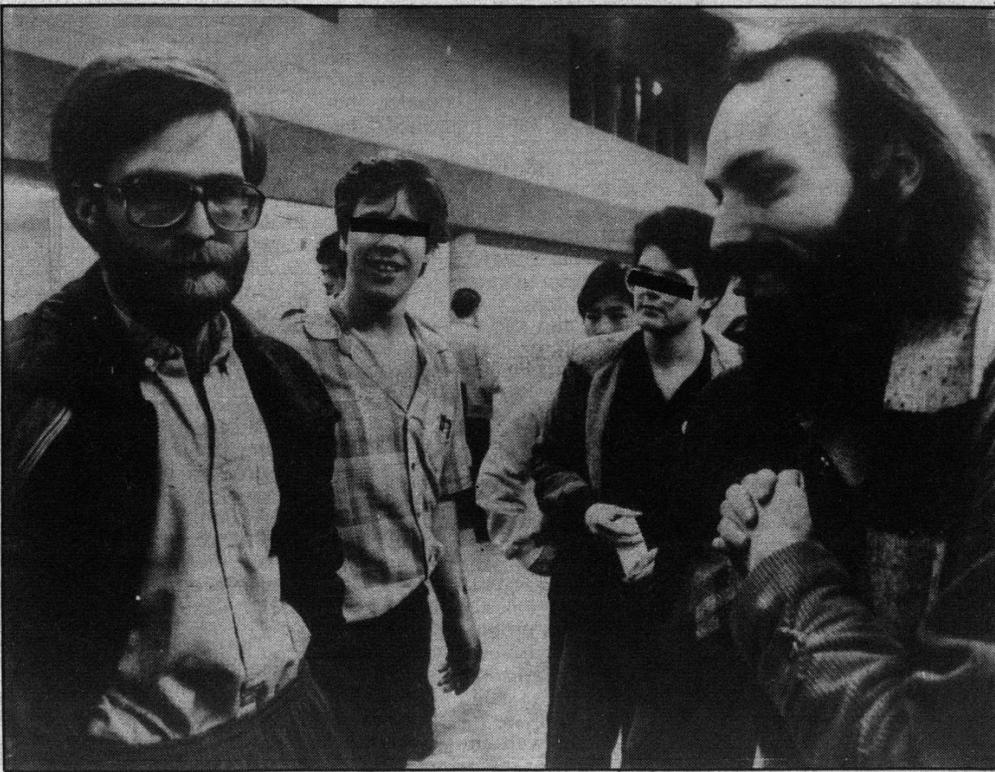
Hodgins says, "the meeting's failure is pretty symptomatic of the trouble with the SU this year."

Greenhill counters, "I knew the meeting didn't have a snowball's chance in hell of succeeding. I think he (Hodgins) is just going to have to realize that his first political play cost students \$1,500."

"He is the president-elect. If he had time to get 500 people to sign a petition, he alone should be able to get those people out to the meeting."

Interestingly enough, it was only a pro-CFS group that distributed pamphlets encouraging students to show up at the meeting. Popular opinion on this campus is presently quite anti-CFS and most people interviewed speculated, if the general meeting had been successful, a referendum would have been called and CFS would be defeated.

The bottom line is that there will not be a CFS referendum this year; there will undoubtedly be one in the next academic year - the absence of a nuclear war permitting.



Students' Union President Robert Greenhill battles SU President-elect Floyd Hodgins while a pair of trendy spectators wearing bars over their eyes look on.

Youth Minister fails to impress students

by Gilbert Bouchard

Celine Payette, Federal Minister of Youth, revealed no new policy and did little to clarify old policy in a meeting with University of Alberta representatives last Tuesday afternoon at the Westin Inn.

"It was a farce," said Students' Union Vice-president Academic Barb Donaldson.

Payette explained how her new ministry had "little administrative structure," and shares much of its staff and responsibilities with the Secretary of State and the Department of Manpower.

The ministry is in charge of an international student exchange, the summer Canada job creation program, and special projects for the International Year of the Youth (1985).

Payette says her ministry will "express the voice of the 4.3 million youth in Canada in the federal cabinet." Youth is defined by Payette as people aged 15-25.

The ministry is appointing a 25 member Council of Youth to advise Payette. The council is comprised of youth from all sectors of Canadian society. There will be youths from all the regions, both official languages, both sexes and diverse ethnic groups.

Donaldson branded the council "another appendage of the government - a council of Liberals appointed by Liberals. It's not going to be very far reaching."

"We have concerns about the way the advisory council is being formed," says Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) representative Don Millar. "We supported the creation of the ministry but we had certain stipulations, mainly that an independent council be struck and that existing programs not be transferred. As it is the council being proposed is not independent and programs like Summer Canada have been transferred."

Millar says CFS representatives will be meeting with Payette today.

Donaldson says "it seems highly irregular that the ministry's first priority is to organize youth while at the same time it refuses to recognize all ready organized youths such as CFS."

Donaldson doubts the ministry will be able to create many jobs for youth. "I'm not sure that they are creating jobs. She (Payette) said there is \$150 million for job creation, will I'd like to see a breakdown of the 150 million."

"The Summer Canada program needs massive revision, and the proposed young entrepreneur program is a scam," says Donaldson. "In BC what the program entailed was lending students capital to start their own business for the summer. The students had to pay back the capital in September."

"The bureaucracy for this was ridiculous. Instead of wasting so much money on the administration of a program like this would need, they would be much better off simply using the funds to create jobs."

Donaldson also had harsh words for both the student exchange program and the United Nations of Youth.

"The exchange program is not addressing the major problems of youth today. What will this program do for the 20 per cent of unemployed youth with skills and training?" asks Donaldson. Students participating in the program will be mainly business, finance and engineering students. The exchange will not help the youth who need the most governmental assistance at this time.

As for the United Nations of Youth, Donaldson says, "It is probably not going to benefit more than the individuals involved. Money spent on this would be better spent on jobs."

Donaldson sees the ministry as "as high priced placebo. This ministry is meant to placate the youth of today while glossing over socially significant problems."

Staff Meeting
Thursday
4:00 PM
Room 282
SUB

CONTENTS

In the News...

In the Letters

In Entertainment...

In the Sports...

In the Features...

...beer commercials

...complainin' and bitchin'

...poetic fluff

...crossroads

...space

The Gateway is hitting its stride! Today, at 4:00 Pm in Room 282 SUB, we present the Globe and Mail's Edmonton correspondent. Coffee and doughnuts will be available. Tomorrow, it's the deadline for 1984-85 staff applications. Get those forms in now!