

VIEWPOINT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1965 PAGE THREE

Fee Hike

To The Editor:

Regarding proposed increases in fees and proposed solutions along with varying comments. It appears to me the solution advocated by the Toronto brief, of matching every dollar earned by the student over summer with \$1.50 is an excellent idea. This should give students the added impetus to seek and accept jobs over the summer months. Holding a job and earning money is a unique experience which certainly adds to one's character and financial sense.

University fees are a monstrous thing, particularly so to the student who is financing his own way through University. I advocate complete extirpation of all tuition fees upon these grounds;

1. The Alberta Government reports a surplus from its oil revenues, what better investment is there than that of helping today's students become tomorrow's tax paying citizens, by financing their education today?

2. Most university students will undoubtedly hold good jobs upon leaving university, is our government not aware of the fact that these very people by virtue of their higher income will in turn pay more heavily into the government by means of income tax? Over the years these sums add up to a considerable amount. To all reasoning the university graduate is worth more to his country than a non-graduate.

3. Assumedly over a period of four years a student will pay roughly a sum \$1,600 in fees, after the student starts work he will pay into the government funds as direct income tax more than that amount in four years. Disputants may consult the latest tax rates and verify this.

Even if a student should fail, it is still to the benefit of his country that he did attend university. One merely has to observe settlers in pioneer districts to verify this, the more educated person is able to cope more readily with his environment. He is the one that makes the better farmer and the better business man and she the better housewife. And simply because of these factors these people also pay higher income taxes.

Ever since Russia has given its students free University education its gross national income has been increasing steadily at about 8%, similarly our increase is approximately 4%. Rather interesting comparison isn't it? For the sake of many things; preservation of our way of life, enlightenment of the human race, evolution of the human mind and more immediate benefits, fees should be abolished completely and immediately.

Yours truly,
Martin Iftody
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VV '65 A Flop

To The Editor:

After the tremendous publicity The Gateway gave Varsity Varieties, after seeing the supposedly suggestive posters advertising same, I went to the Varsity Varieties presentation Saturday expecting a very enjoyable evening. I was disappointed.

Varsity Varieties '65 was a good attempt, but it left much to be desired. It was definitely not up to last year's presentation.

It might have been improved had the "musical comedy" had a lead who could sing. It might

have been improved had the play had a plot. It might have been improved had the players made themselves understood to a majority of the audience.

Lest I seem unduly critical, Mr. Editor, let me say that I found the comic relief of "A.D." and "M.D." a feature which saved the entire production. Also, one must give credit to Mr. Somers for a good musical score—although I found the orchestra played the score too loudly. As well, the sets of Bob Game deserve some praise.

However, on the whole, the production was not exactly memorable (and in places, suspiciously similar to material contained in past issues of Esquire).

So, Mr. Editor, in future years I hope The Gateway will be less generous in its praise and advertising of unseen productions so that sometimes gullible people like me will be spared a bitter disappointment.

Disappointed '65

Not Anti-Winship

To The Editor:

My dear fellow, (please forgive me if the preceding reference has in some way cleared up the mystery of your sex, i.e. that you are indeed a male), this letter is an answer to your reply in today's Gateway which you erroneously titled "Anti-Winship et al." I say erroneously because:

- (1) I am not "obviously anti-Social Credit"
- (2) I am not "obviously anti-NDP"
- (3) I am not "obviously anti-Winship"
- (4) I am not obviously wrong about you printing my letter
- (5) I am not "obviously anti-Conservative"

To make myself clear, I only disagreed with what the Social Credit campus party said about basic incomes as human rights. Did I say that I was against Social Credit? (Granted, Social Credit is getting to run the province in a dictatorial fashion, is cutting off more and more human rights, is getting progressively corrupt internally, but it is still managing to keep the province out of debt.) I won't say that I am anti-Social Credit for doing so would close the door to all logical thinking about the whole subject of politics.

The same idea of not being "anti" applies to all the other

Today Viewpoint Writers Take A Run At Bruce Ferrier, The Editor, Varsity Varieties; Some however, offer praise

parties. I believe that it is wrong to vote for the same party time after time, or to say consistently that I am in favor of any party, or to join any party permanently.

Since people are the basis of any political party, and since people die and new persons come in to replace them, parties are constantly changing. That is why, for the Model Parliament I based my vote on the ideas that pleased me most from the columns of The Gateway. It so happens that this time I thought that the Social Credit and NDP parties stank. Liberals and Conservatives had platforms practically of the same value. The only reason that the Liberals were superior was their view on Red China. I may think differently next week. Have I explained myself fully?

You poor, poor boy! Do you really think that because I inferred (1) that the political policy of the paper was anti-Social Credit and (2) that you have unfortunately fitted yourself into a mold that is not completely you, I am against you? I assure you I am not. (Do you, when someone disagrees with their parents, assume that that person is anti-parents?)

When I wrote the letter, I knew that you wouldn't print it unless you had to. (You are human.) So I put the P.S. in, knowing then full well that my letter would appear in Friday's paper. And you know, it worked.

Now, draw your own conclusions, but be careful.

Still questioning

Sophomoric Suggestions

To The Editor:

While placing a fresh supply of absorbent material under an animal cage my attention was caught by a Dec. 18 Gateway editorial retort to an arts sophomore. It seems a Mr. Melnychuk was suggesting that it would be nice if non-science majors could be exposed to less-than-lethal doses of required science courses.

I have mixed reactions to the idea of watering down a regimen of study. Even being an arts major should not suffice for an excuse to be a conscientious objector to education in depth, not to mention breadth. Unfortunately for hopeful dilettantes, the stuff of science is not too amenable to half-hearted absorption efforts.

However, I was particularly intrigued by the editorial reply. Since when is "practicality" the criterion for reading a book? Any book. Upon what do you

base your statement to the effect that you see "little practical value in anyone reading Dr. Royce's 'Encapsulated Man'?"

If you are going to trample sophomoric suggestions, it would seem to me that you, at least, should feel obliged to be more than sophomoric during the process.

J. R. Wozny
graduate studies

Editor's Note—I made the statement "I see little practical value in anyone reading Dr. Royce's 'The Encapsulated Man' in reference to Mr. Melnychuk's conclusion that "the people who organize our courses might "realize their responsibilities more fully" by reading Dr. Royce's book. I agree that 'practicality' should not be the criterion for reading any book. Can you deny, however, that for the majority of students on campus 'practicality' is the only criterion? I use the word 'practicality' is reference to the passing of exams, completion of term papers, assignments, et al.

Ferrier Doubted

To The Editor:

To begin with, I cannot agree Mr. Ferrier's statements in a previous Gateway on "Struggling Students."

Firstly, although a student may have applied for several jobs, all do not contact the student informing him of a confirmed position. In a very good many cases, the student must take the first job which comes along.

I don't know what Mr. Ferrier's position is on job-seeking, but I think he should know that a good number of jobs do not pay \$200 a month, and this applies even to many of the civil service jobs.

It was stated that even if the student did make \$200 a month in the five month recess, he would be able to accumulate \$1,000 in that time. I am wondering what the student is supposed to live on in this period. Even if he did not go on any spending sprees or vacation, he is going to have to spend some of this previous \$1,000 on bus fare, clothes, and other essentials.

Now assuming that the average student does have \$1,000 available by the end of the five month period, in how many cases will the person be able to receive another \$1,000 through loans, grants or bursaries? I doubt, from what I've heard from other students, that there is a very high percentage. I'll tell you now, if I had

\$2,000 at the beginning of a term, I'd be the happiest guy around.

I also contest the fact that the family will be able to provide financial support. I know of a good many cases where the family will not or cannot provide this support.

And lastly, Mr. Ferrier has seemed to forget or perhaps does not think it important enough to include the new incoming university student. I know from experience that it was hard enough to raise money before, in the short season separating the termination of grade 12 and the beginning of the university term, than it will be if the proposed fee increase goes through.

I believe, Mr. Ferrier, that it takes one who knows the score on some of the financial problems that a student has, to be able to talk about them, and I don't believe you are qualified.

R. Wilson
arts 2

High Cost of Learning

Through The Editor to Mr. Ferrier:

In reply to your article in the Feb. 8 Gateway regarding raising fees, I would like to clarify your somewhat confused point of view.

Fees at present being \$384.50 to \$484.50 (including \$34.50 Student's Union fees) are one of the minor expenses of going to university. Presently, they are not in the major percentage of your \$1,000 per year. Also, if you live in our glorious residences, your room and board bill for the seven months should approach \$640. Now, if one were able to exist in a sweat-shirt and blue-jeans, the clothing bill would be negligible. However, there is a rule in residence that you come more "properly" attired. Please add this clothing and dry-cleaning bill on to your \$1,000 for the year.

Perhaps you are able to get through the year by begging, borrowing, or stealing textbooks, but if you add \$70-\$100 (excluding instruments and stationery) on to these other figures for buying textbooks, your student will not be able to breeze through on \$1,000. Of course, out-of-town students don't NEED to go home for any holidays; a student never NEEDS to take a bus anywhere—he can walk (besides, you suggest he has a car at his disposal); nor does the student ever NEED any recreation.

These figures have been chosen arbitrarily. I have not chosen the higher cost faculties such as Dentistry and Medicine. There is also a considerable difference between male and female wage rates. How wonderful that you can earn \$200 plus per month clear. You don't need to spend any money over the summer, so this \$200 is all profit. Of course, we all have our income tax rebates to fall back on—that was initially deducted from the \$200 plus per month you earned—which is returned in the spring AFTER all our fees are due. Also, some of the faculties such as engineering and medicine do not have the entire five months free. And what about the student that attends summer school?

You mention that loans are within reach of the student in need. You sound like a finance ad—loans need to be paid back, you know. If you are one of the students that owns a car, you are not eligible for a loan.

Costs may be rising and the university has to meet them, but if it does so by raising the fees, I would like to know where the student is to acquire the extra money as his costs are also rising.

Sympathetically yours
zoology 3

Claims Gateway Helped

Time Correspondent Hayter 'Reinstated'

To The Editor:

I want to thank Gateway for its interest in preserving freedom of the press.

Your paper performed a worthwhile service by publishing details of my recent "banning" from the premier's press conferences over an article in Time Magazine. (Or, as Russell Sheppard, the premier's executive secretary, told a Journal reporter: "He wasn't banned; He just won't be invited to any future conferences.")

The Journal's attitude throughout this issue was nothing to commend. However, I should point out that Legislative Reporter Dave Laundry did write a story, but The Journal decided to hold off after Publisher Basil Dean

talked to the premier's office. The GFJ (Great Family Journal), I am told, decided to wait and see whether I would be ejected at the next conference.

So much for The Journal's crusading spirit. . . .

I am happy to report that I attended the premier's last press conference and experienced no difficulty, and today I was invited by the premier's office to attend the swearing-in of Alberta's new minister of lands and forests.

I am certain that the article in Gateway and subsequent discussion were instrumental in changing the attitude of Premier Manning and his executive secretary. Freedom of the press has triumphed again.

As a professional newsmen of considerable experience, I agree that the press has a responsibility to be accurate and fair. I also know of many instances where the press has been unjustly accused of distorting facts or misquoting statements, especially when politicians are involved. . . . a politician makes a rash statement that he regrets when it's reported in print. So, he takes the easy way out by screaming "misquote."

I might add that Premier Manning and his cabinet ministers (with a few exceptions) are not above using these tactics, as other city newsmen will testify.

Ron Hayter
Correspondent for
Time and Toronto Star