

## Native education

### Native Awareness Day

Each year the U of A Native Students' Club hosts an event to highlight issues of concern to Native people and to foster cultural awareness.

This year's Native Awareness Day with the theme "Higher Education for Native People" will be held on Friday, March 23rd, 1984.

The day will begin with pre-arranged tours for prospective Native students.

A Forum will be held from 1-4 pm. in the Kiva Room, 2nd Floor, Education Building South.

Guest speakers addressing the issues of Educational Opportunities and Funding Availability will be JoAnn Daniels of the Metis Association of Alberta, Sheila Carstewart of the Department of Indian Affairs, Reanna Sayers-Frasmus of the Alberta Native

Education Foundation and Clifford Freeman of the Indian Association of Alberta.

Representatives from the Office of the Advisor on Native Affairs and the Native Students' Club Executive will outline the services available to Native students at the U of A. A former student, Brian Fayant, will relate his personal experiences in the academic field.

The Forum will be followed by a Social in the Heritage Room of Athabasca Hall between 4 and 7 pm.

A Traditional Pow Wow will be held at Sacred Heart School (9624 - 108 Ave.) on Saturday, March 24th from 4 - 10 pm.

All activities except the pre-arranged tours are open to the general public and are free of charge. If further information is desired phone 432-5677.

## Questionnaires miss the mark

by Gilbert Bouchard

A U of A psychology professor has cast doubts on the ethical ramifications of the Returning Office's practice of handing out questionnaires simultaneously with the ballots.

Department of Psychology professor, Dr. Ted Wright, said "I would be very careful when taking surveys simultaneously with the voting process."

Wright felt that while this particular questionnaire was fair and relatively harmless, "seeming innocuous questions can have a surprising impact on attitudes."

Wright mentioned studies done by Elizabeth Loflus who showed subjects a film of a car crash. Half the group was told to estimate how fast car A was going

when it hit car B. The second half were asked to estimate how fast car A *smashed* into car B. The group that was asked how fast the cars *smashed* produced higher estimates of the cars' speed. Thus the change in a single word was enough to alter the results of the test.

Questionnaires can also be biased by the options given, added Wright. For example, asking people if they absolutely hate Reagan's guts, really hate Reagan, tolerate Reagan, or think Reagan is an okay guy would be leading the subjects to answer the way the interviewer wants them to answer.

Wright feels that "leading questions are more of a concern than the lay person would think." "A lot of these notions con-

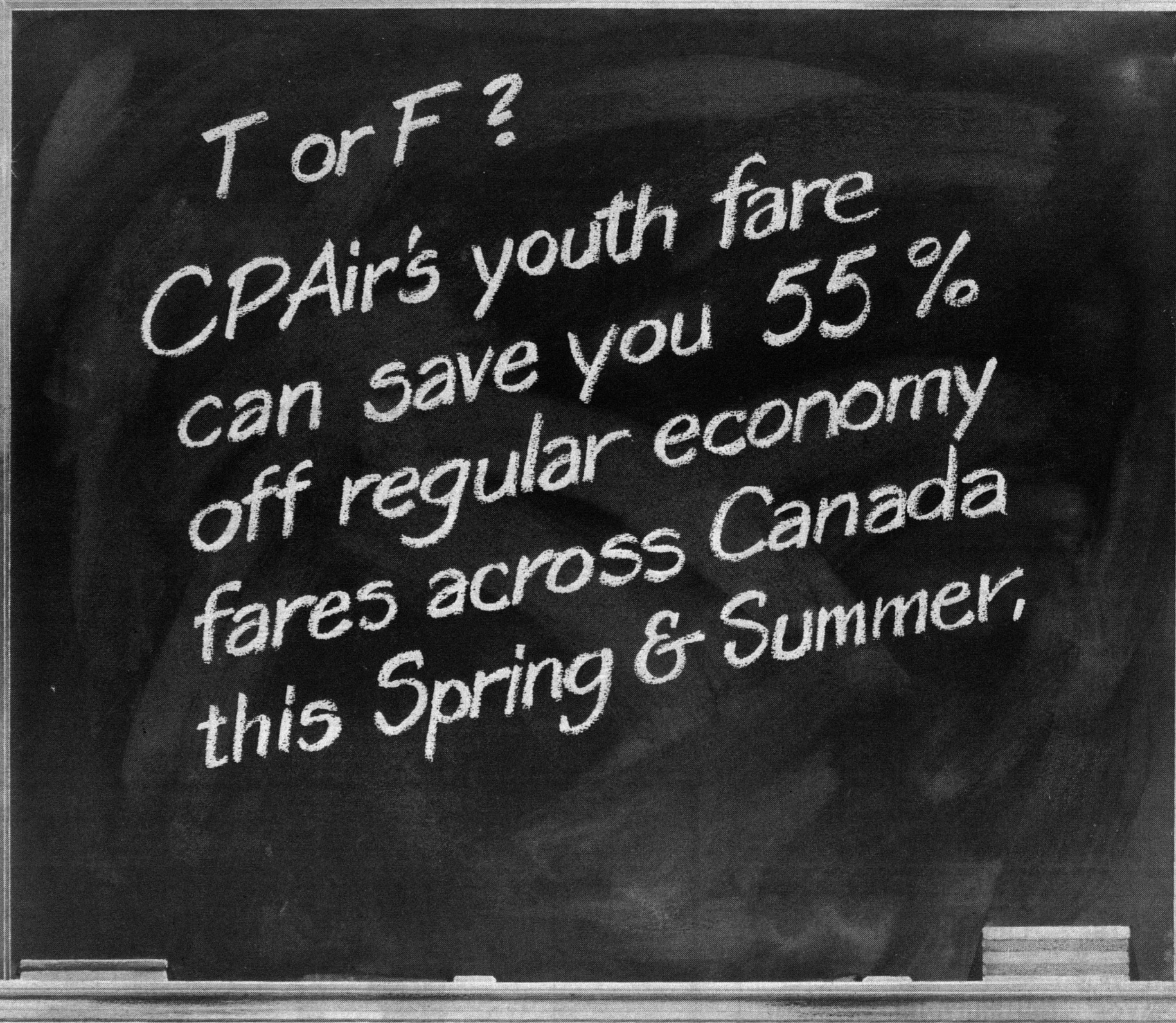
cerning questionnaires were published as recently as 1981, even the experts were doing things that were biasing their subjects' responses," said Wright.

"I would say that if this were to be done in the future that steps be taken to insure that the questionnaire be given after the voters have handed in their ballots," concluded Wright.

The Gateway speaker series in Room 282 SUB.

**Robert Sheppard**  
Edmonton correspondent  
*Globe and Mail*  
Thursday, March 22

Drop by our offices,  
Rm. 282 SUB, at 4:00 PM  
for these speakers.





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