

# THE GATEWAY

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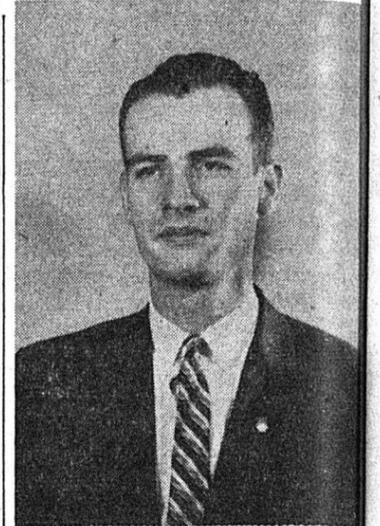
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## Guest Weekend Official Greetings



Dr. Walter H. Johns



Alex McCalla

## High School Education?

Life is short enough. When you consider the tremendous amount of work to be done (and our high standard of living often makes it difficult to realize the sheer vastness of need in this world), when you consider how much there is to do, a lifetime seems very short indeed. Living 'for the time being', living in preparation for some future work, then appear a necessary evil. Anything to shorten that time is good.

You, the prospective freshman of this University, have already wasted a year. You will spend about a year's work here catching up on work you could have done in high school. You are not stupid. Your teachers are well qualified. You could be much better prepared than you are.

There are two factors that loom large in the pattern of circumstances that resulted in your poor preparation for University. The first is your laziness. The second fact is the weak curriculum taught you.

Many people, including apparently our department of Education, think that everyone should have a grade twelve education. A laudable ideal, but a holdover from the pioneer idea that one man was as good as another. It is not feasible for the simple reason that some people are stupider than others, some are lazier, and some just don't want to study. Nevertheless, the ideal must be made true. So: lower the standards, water down the curriculum, pass pupils by age instead of achievement. And soon we'll have Utopia: a society of educated morons.

It is clear, of course, that most of the faults of Alberta's education system are due to the booming growth of this province. They were unavoidable. They are part of the price we pay for forcing a civilization onto a wilderness. But we can't afford to let the faults continue; by attempting to transplant frontier ideals into our present day culture we pervert them, And we run the risk of perverting our culture also.

## University Education?

Over the past few years, the concept of an expanding University has been an underlying theme of Varsity Guest Weekend. Not without reason has this year's program been centered around the slogan "Out with the old—In with the new," as the physical facilities described elsewhere in this paper will attest.

The University of Alberta, like the province, from which it derived its name, is a fledgling in relation to its counterparts in Europe and on the Eastern seaboard.

As does a child the University is constantly "growing out of shoes meant to last for at least another year." As a child it is in a constant mental turmoil as to its aspirations and future plans; wanting one day to be a plumber, the next day a poet. Finally as a child it has often ignored the experience and lessons learned by its Eastern elders choosing to plot out its own course, profiting from its own mistakes.

To the prospective student and to the interested parent upon whom the major expense of a University education must invariably fall the choice of an undergraduate course and indeed the University in which to enroll is a matter requiring long thoughtful consideration.

The undergraduate program certainly is an integral part of the services provided by a University. Originally Universities were groupings of academic minds searching for and classifying truths. Teaching of this knowledge came later and remains the less important of a University's two functions.

In modern society the role of the University

as a knowledge seeker is of even greater importance. The magnitude of most research projects in respect to cost and equipment have fossilized the lone reasearchist. While corporations are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of research, they for the most part tend to stress the immediate practicality of the project and it is only in an academic environment where value of the work is not measured on dollar and cents considerations, that basic theoretical research in arts as well as science can hope to flourish.

New buildings and proposed buildings on the campus are highly geared to future expansion in the field of graduate studies. In most of the sciences and a goodly number of the arts courses graduate programs are now available to a limited number of students. The completion of the new math-physics-chemistry building allows greater facilities for research, and installation of the required equipment and personnel will be a prodigious step towards furthering the aim of the University as a contributor to science.

Our University is not yet a "graduate school" nor is it particularly a mecca attracting good minds. Rather it is still in large, a vocationally oriented training ground stressing the practicalities necessary to land a job in industry. Only when the physical facilities and, more important, the attitude of the public as to why the University of Alberta was founded have become biased toward a graduate program, can the motto, "Whatever things are true," become a reality.

The face of the campus has undergone many changes in the past, but none as great as are evident this year. To those familiar with the campus in previous years, the biggest change will be the disappearance of the old Varsity Rink and the former Air Force Drill Hall, which served as the University Gymnasium prior to the opening of the new Physical Education and Recreation Building.

New buildings which will be of particular interest to visitors are the Physical Education Building, the Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics Building, and the addition to the Medical Building with new facilities for the Faculty of Medicine and other faculties and departments.

Perhaps more significant still are the evidences of activity in the classrooms and laboratories which you will see on your tours. Most of the work for these exhibits has been done by students, and I hope you will find them interesting and informative.

We are happy to have you as our guests this weekend and hope you enjoy yourself thoroughly and learn a great deal about your University.

Yours sincerely,  
Walter H. Johns  
President.

For nearly a decade the University of Alberta students and staff have joined their talents together to show the University in all its varied aspects to guests, and especially to prospective University students during this short period of "open house" at this institution.

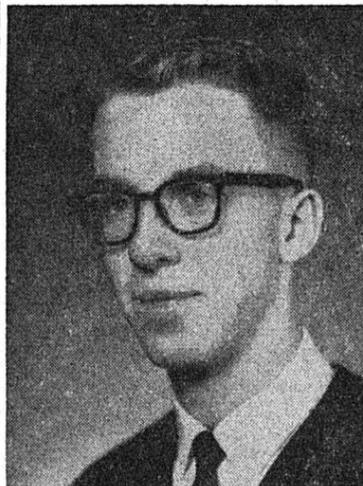
This year the focus will be on the rapidly expanding and changing campus here in Edmonton. In the past few years we have seen vast physical changes in this University. We have seen the development of a first class Physical Education building. We have seen additions to many existing buildings and entirely new buildings. The construction phase is not yet completed.

Physical education is not the only area that is growing,—student numbers have increased vastly, and will continue to do so. We are seeing a period of rapid expansion in all areas.

We are happy that you are considering, and we hope that you will avail yourself of this opportunity to see our fast growing institutions and we sincerely hope that the effort expended by all people in this Weekend will be of benefit to you.

Alex F. McCalla  
President  
The Students' Union

It is a sincere pleasure to extend a message of welcome to



Peter S. Hyndman

you in a year when Varsity Guest Weekend offers so much of interest, entertainment and value.

During these past twelve months, the physical structure of the campus has undergone tremendous change: two familiar landmarks have disappeared, and four new ones have arisen. It is for this reason that we consider Varsity Guest Weekend 1961 of particular interest.

To our returning guests I express a warm "welcome back"; to our new guests, I sincerely say "enjoy your visit and do return".

Peter S. Hyndman  
Director  
Varsity Guest Weekend