

A Christmas story

Students' Union vice-president finance Willie Gruber should win an Oscar this year for his convincing portrayal of Scrooge at the December 11 Council meeting.

Council was being asked to contribute \$1000 to a Cambodian relief fund, a sum of money which is peanuts when one considers that up to \$10,000 will be collected and spent on four Vietnamese refugees this year.

Debate on the idea seemed fairly positive until Gruber amended the proposed motion so that the SU grant would be only \$500. Stating his reasons to be purely financial, Gruber expressed concern about whether the SU could come up with a \$1000 for this cause.

Gruber was also worried that certain councillors would see the donation as an unpleasant "precedent," and that Council would subsequently be swamped with similar requests for similar amounts. Well, as Stephen Stills once said, paranoia strikes deep.

It's easy to appreciate Gruber's concerns, because obviously there is not an infinite amount of money available for charitable causes. But his attempt to scare councillors away from the idea of donations by stating with great certainty that this request was only the beginning is an unforgivable and well-worn tactic of belt-tighteners. A \$1000 is a paltry sum for a dying nation, and I'm sure that the ever-resourceful Students' Union could have dug up an extra \$500 for this most urgent of causes.

Christmas was not a joyous time for Cambodians. Thousands starved to death as North Americans continued to avert their eyes. And here at home, Willie Gruber acted in a manner any bureaucrat can only envy. I for one hope Willie Gruber had a rotten Christmas.

The big project

The Gateway is planning to put together a Seventies supplement to accompany a regular issue sometime in late January. Anyone with ideas or submissions for the supplement should contact the Gateway office. We are interested in retrospective looks at anything to do with the decade just past: items on sports, international events, arts, entertainment and trends are all welcome. It's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it!

Gordon Turtle

the Gateway

If it happens on campus...it's news to us.

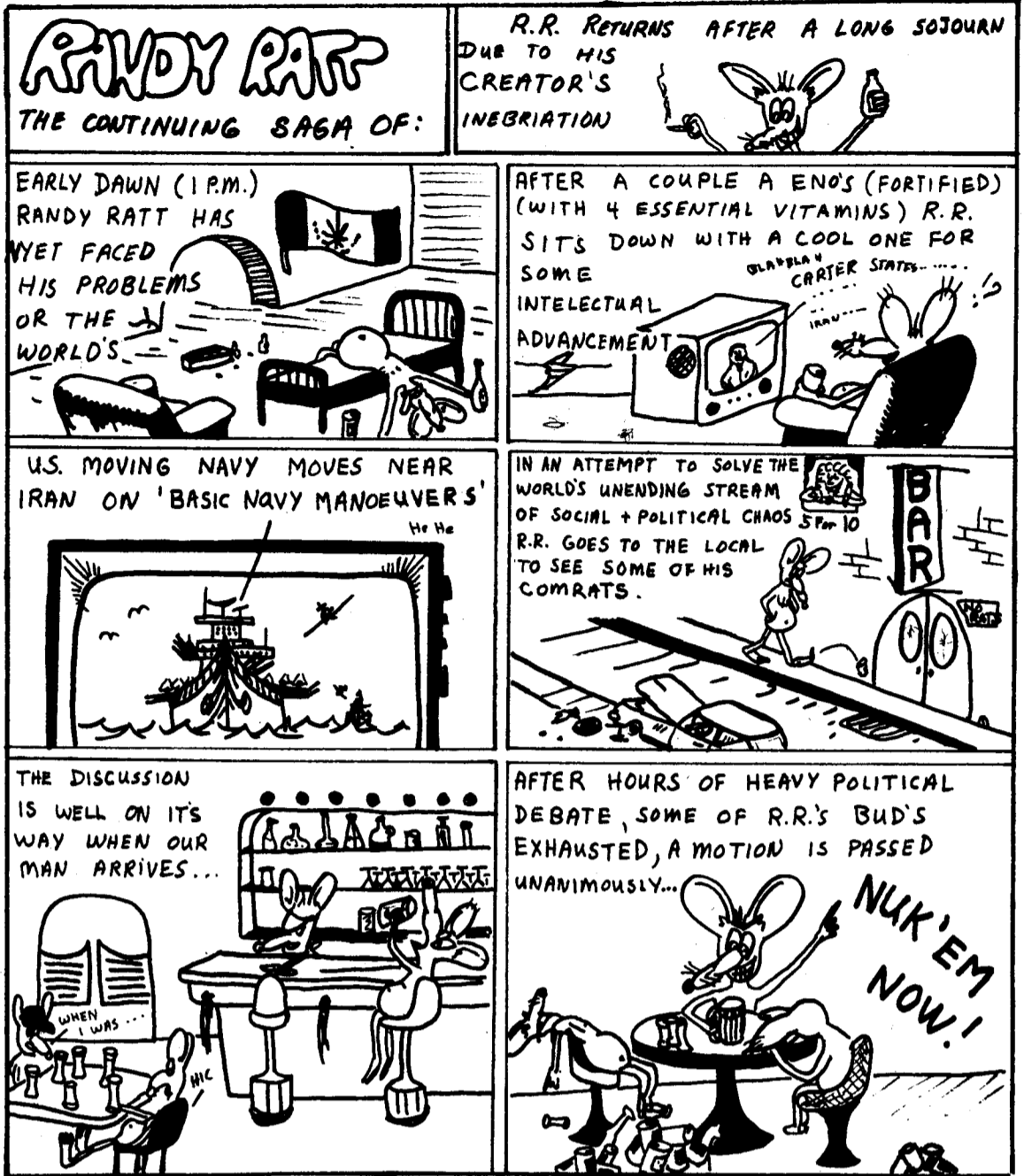
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"Fitzgerald was a homosexual," said JIM McELGUNN, lighting another cigarette. KENT BLINSTON stood up in astonishment, ashamed that such a thing should be said in the presence of HARVEY KING. "That's utter crap!" he exclaimed, as JANICE MICHAUD rolled up the car window. "Walter Gordon knows nothing about the period, so quoting him is irrelevant," added COLIN WONG, but MARNI STANLEY countered that with "relevant, schmalevant. The whole thing comes down to whether you're a Leavisite or a Dickensian scholar. ERNIE LOTZ agreed, noting that Kenneth Clark, too, has been known to be wrong at times. RUSS SAMPSON floored the Alphonso DeCredenza, whistling by SHAUNE IMPEY and REID GLENN, who shouted, "Pound deserved every minute that he spent in prison!" NINA MILLER rose on a point of personal privilege, saying that she was tired of the Eliot/Pound cultishness and RON THOMAS concurred, adding that a little Yeatsian rationality was required. AUSTIN HITCHINS merely laughed at that remark, because he knew full well that DORA JOHNSON was about to bring up the real authorship of Beowulf. "Get well, MAXINE MURPHY," yelled BERT JOHNSON, as the scream of ambulances sounded in his ear. "Where are my sons?", a bed-ridden RICK LAWRENCE groaned, and JIM CONNELL and SUE TECH appeared.

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Common sense advised

With the beginning of the New Year and the return of students to campus, it is an appropriate time to remind our female students and staff to be aware of the potential of sexual assault.

Since Edmonton City has been the locale of many sexual assaults during the past year, and since there is a large number of females on campus, preventive

advice should not be ignored.

Women must be alert to these threats and to avoid dark or isolated areas. Care should be taken to be selective regarding male acquaintances, not to hitchhike nor to accept offers of rides from strangers. Where possible they should arrange to be accompanied by a reliable companion when walking in lonely or dark areas.

If suspicious of being followed, it is recommended they go to a nearby store or house and call the police at 911 or Campus Security at 432-5252.

Campus Security will escort

concerned persons to or from University buildings during silent hours, to car or buses.

A call to 5252 can provide this service.

In addition, Campus Security has for the past several weeks employed students during evening hours to visit libraries, study areas, etc. for the purpose of providing a "presence" and to ensure that assistance is available if needed.

Above all, if all are aware of the potential threat and use good common sense, then the threat will be greatly reduced.

W.F.G. Perry
Director, Campus Security

Cansave

For many years members of the English Dept. have raised funds for the Canadian Save the Children Fund. Since it is mainly people of the University that contribute to our cause, I would be grateful if you would allow me to make our annual Cansave Report through the pages of Gateway.

We raised from "Hunger Lunch"

\$352.60

From the book box, from the AV Centre and from Dr. Whitaker's Xmas play

\$234.00

From sale of Cansave Xmas Cards, conducted by Mrs. Meyers and her gallant crew in the English Dept. office

\$1580.00

Total \$2166.60

We were pleased to make so much, and Cansave was very pleased to receive this sum with which they can do good and useful things. All of us who work for Cansave are heartened by the generosity of many people at our University.

Yours sincerely,
N. Parker-Jervis

Christian shocked

As a Christian, I found myself both shocked and amused by Mr. Marples' comments in the Quixote column of Dec. 4. I suggest that he speak to some people at one of the many Christian organizations around campus. It may help him to understand some of the basic tenets of the Christian faith.

I was interested to read the comments about "instant knowledge." Though conversion will open a person's eyes to many things, the gain of knowledge is by no means "instant." A Christian grows in the Lord and as he/or she does so, more knowledge is revealed. In my walk with Christ, I am constantly seeking new knowledge and better ways to serve Him. Thus, my faith is very dynamic. As a science student, I am always interested in expanding my knowledge but never has it interfered with my faith (which, I

might add, is fundamentalist).

I challenge Mr. Marples to read some books by people who are considered great thinkers and are also Christians. He may find some in the office at the north end of HUB.

Mike Rozel
Science 2

LETTERS

Letters to the Gateway should be a maximum of 250 words on any subject. Letters must be signed and should include faculty, year and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters must be typed (or very neatly written). We reserve the right to edit for label and length.