

Ross is a horse's ass club

In response to Colin Ross's attack on the article 'David Suzuki: Sorcerer's Apprentice', I propose one question: can a scientist, or any individual successfully present his (or her) ideas to others, be they humanitarian or mercenary, if he has not had at least minimal exposure to the arts?

In considering this I suggest that the single arts course alluded to by Suzuki is the minimal requirement.

In observing how science progresses it becomes obvious that without a means of communication, science could not proceed. Considering that culture is only preserved by the existing generations suggests the importance of this premise.

I would like to suppose that Mr. Ross was only able to write his letter on the basis that he had the proper background knowledge. He was exposed to the arts, to the degree whereby the thoughts he had could be shared with others. To deprive the potential scientist of the capability to communicate deprives others of his potential research.

Roger Patterson
Science II

I have been reading your newspaper regularly and have had the displeasure of reading several articles by Colin Ross, the fellow "with the native wife from the North-West Territories." The latest article, "Northern land claims: just another Yggdrasil" (February 12, 1976 issue) has made me want to be violently ill.

First, I am one of the University of Alberta's fortunate-to-be-in-your-system, super duper, token native student. I am here mainly for one reason, the old cliché "if you can't beat em, join em."

Second, why have the Indian and Inuit always been such a problem to the whites? Could it be because the whites have attempted to take a primitive society and turn it into a modern white culture and asked the crazy people in that society to be grateful for the change?

It reminds me of the story of the old Inuit lady for whom the whites built the lovely modern house, bringing her out of the savage wilds - she tore the toilet bowl out of her bathroom and brought it into her living room to use as a chair as it was very

comfortable, and her bathroom was too small to sit in. You may call her ignorant but I say the whites were more ignorant to think the old lady understood the so-called civilized way of life.

Now, Colin Ross, could you tell me why the mortality rate for babies is so high among Inuit and Indian of the North - could it be because all our polluted watersheds of the south eventually empty in the north? Why does human female milk along with that of polar bears and seals have such a high level of lead and mercury? Could liquor have a violent reaction with these poisons?

After all the resources are extracted out of the North and it is polluted enough that is a hazard to inhabit the place, Colin Ross, where are you going to live? You can bet your - you are not going to take all the Inuit and Indians with you with you when you pull up stakes and leave.

It appears to me that the screwed up mess the whites have made of the south would give you a fair idea of what the natives don't want in the north. These natives don't want

money, they want to live as good a life as you do, Colin Ross. What will these people receive for all the resources and other goodies the whites are taking out of the north - a heritage fund and more beer parlors? Most of the whites that live in the North are not there because they love the place, they are there to make a quick buck and then get the hell out of that God-forsaken place.

Yes, I think the natives deserve something better for the destruction the whites have wrought upon their culture. Gee - if they had their own land they could then demand their own schools and they wouldn't have to ship their children to Yellowknife and Whitehorse for seven months of the year. Maybe then someone would stop, listen and try to understand what these people really need. Right now we need bureaucratic Indians to get across to the bureaucratic whites.

Sorry, Colin Ross, for wearing funny mukluks but they are warmer than \$55.00 boots and they are easy and cheap to make.

Margaret Cook
Zoology

Stolen identity

While I was sitting in CAB the other day, enjoying a coffee and discussing relevant issues in business administration with a fellow B.Comm., some sneaking thief made off with my \$69.95 Wilson Stationery deluxe attache case.

I certainly would have noticed the culprit, except that there were twenty other Wilson deluxes beside mine, all tan in colour and all belonging to Commerce students drinking coffee and discussing business administration.

As a matter of fact, it took me half an hour to find that none in the pile were mine, because all had Novus Financier calculators, a brown bag lunch, aviator sunglasses, Colony Men's Wear sales slips, and a list of phone numbers of guys with notes from last day's class.

I am of the opinion that it was some engineer who got tired of carrying his Hewlett-Packard on his belt, and saw a chance to look a little like a B. Comm.

If anyone comes up with any clues, I'm usually drinking coffee in CAB with my buddies. You won't have any trouble recognizing me - I'll either have a tan leather overcoat or a flaming orange ski jacket on.

Joe Flogg
B.Comm.

Engineering to be elite

A proposal from the Engineering faculty is currently making the rounds of the various policy committees on campus. Apparently upping the tuition was not enough to guarantee what quality of education we have - we are now

considering controlling the number of engineers we allow aboard!

On what basis is this decision being made? On the basis of a report of course. This particular report is intriguing. It contains members which postulate that demand in Alberta for U of A graduating engineers will be three times greater than supply in 1976 levelling off to 1.7 times greater in 1980. These figures are based on the university meeting student demand.

Both the quota systems proposed by the engineering faculty make these shortages more severe. Dr. Quon who helped write the report, denied these demand figures claiming that industry had inflated them. Dean Ford, on the other hand feels these market figures are a conservative estimate. Industry pointed out that the numbers are virtually meaningless unless broken down into type of engineering, which the report fails to do.

There is no academic plan at this time showing where engineering sits in the overall picture of the U of A - where anything sits for that matter. There is a plan however in the embryonic stages. Are we going to make it fit independent decisions like this one?

Quota proposals appear to be the latest fad at U of A - business and commerce, engineering, special education. Who's next?

The public - the taxpayer - is opposed. This was the finding of the senate task force on the quota problem.

Is there projected unemployment of highly qualified manpower in this province? Quite the reverse. Even if there was it wouldn't bother me. Educated people in a wealthy province will be innovative enough to execute their own jobs.

But only if we allow them to be educated!

Quotas have far reaching implications. Sure they affect supply and demand of labour, but they also affect culture,

immigration, the disadvantaged, welfare, and some of the attitudes of your populace.

Maybe you should be asking your university administration just what the plan is. They seem to consider the university to be something quite distinct from the student - a business to be run in the most economical way possible.

Maybe we should again try to point out that the university offers a service - education.

Would you like to see the availability of this service cut back? Just how would you vote?

Beth Atkinson
GSA executive

Improving with age

First off, I would like to say that service I received at the University Hospital Intensive Care Ward was excellent during my recent visit. Many thanks to all the staff there (especially Louella).

My trip there was prompted by an earlier visit to the CAB Cafeteria, where I ate, with great amounts of relish, a hamburger

and fries. After returning from the hospital, I decided to try carbon-dating the food in the cafeteria, to determine its age.

I was unsuccessful, however, due to the fact that the carbon-dating is only effective with material up to 50,000 years old.

I therefore resolved to attempt a new method in dating the CABurger and the remaining french fries (47 were left at this point).

Well, after 2 days of non-stop research using the Potassium-Argon dating method, I came to the conclusion that the bun was approximately 45,000,000 years old, and the meat approached 100,000,000 years in age. Amazingly enough, the ketchup and mustard could not be dated using this method. Since Potassium-Argon dating is ineffective below 10,000,000 years, I came to the conclusion that they were relatively fresh, say 2,000,000 years old.

I hope these results will prompt the Food Services Administration to update the food materials it purchases - preferably purchasing foodstuff originating no later than the Middle Cambrian period.

Horst Schist
Geol II

**Bigger than a Conservative Convention!
Better than Miss Canada Pageant!
More fun than a Students' Union election!**

Next year's Gateway Editor will be chosen following a public interview of all candidates in room 104 SUB commencing 5:00 p.m. today.

The Publications Board will hold a preliminary meeting same place at 4:30.

Gateway

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Opinions expressed in the Gateway are those of the writer, and are not necessarily those of the Gateway.

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