

...nixed by dean Democracy overruled

What happens when a substantial majority of the students in a class; and their professor; have one point of view on grading the members of the class and the dean of the faculty has a contrary point of view? Obviously, the dean's point of view prevails, of course.

One Tuesday assistant professor Dave Tucker informed his Education Curriculum and Instruction 301 class of Faculty of Education Dean Coutts' final verdict on their request for a pass-fail grading system for their course. The Dean had said NO.

The scenario began several weeks ago when Tucker informed his class that pass-fail would be a suitable alternative grading, if the class so desired.

He also mentioned that the General Faculties Council Committee to Investigate Teaching had been mandated by GFC to conduct an investigation into the pass-fail system of grading, and was not requesting classes to attempt pass-fail grading as an experiment. It was apparent to most members of the class that since Ed CI 301 (the course in question) was also concerned with innovations in teaching (more particularly, "Individualizing of Curriculum in the Elementary school"), it was the duty of this class to aid anyone doing research.

The Committee had however advised several restrictions for pass-fail including:

- 1) Student participation must be voluntary, and
- 2) Faculty participation must be voluntary.

It was also noted that the formal approval of the Dean concerned was necessary, but (and this was NOT stated by the Committee) since GFC had approved the study of pass-fail grading there should be no difficulty in gaining approval, the class thought.

The class took two votes on the matter. The first showed a majority in favour of pass-fail, but since it was not unanimous a second vote was taken. This time it was agreed that each individual could decide how he would be graded--pass - fail or stanine. Almost three-quarters of the class opted for pass - fail.

As directed by his class, Tucker then requested permission from Dean Coutts for part of the class to be graded on pass-fail and part on the stanine system. A complicated exchange of letters resulted and, when the paper settled down, the result was:

- 1) Dean Coutts did not think the Committee to Investigate Teaching had any right to interfere in the Faculty of Education, and
- 2) Dean Coutts would not allow Ed. CI 301 to experiment with the pass-fail system.

When he finished giving Dean Coutts reply to the class Mr. Tucker stated, "I am going to have to let it go. I have no time to get involved in all this bureaucratic bullshit."

By Ronald Yakimchuk

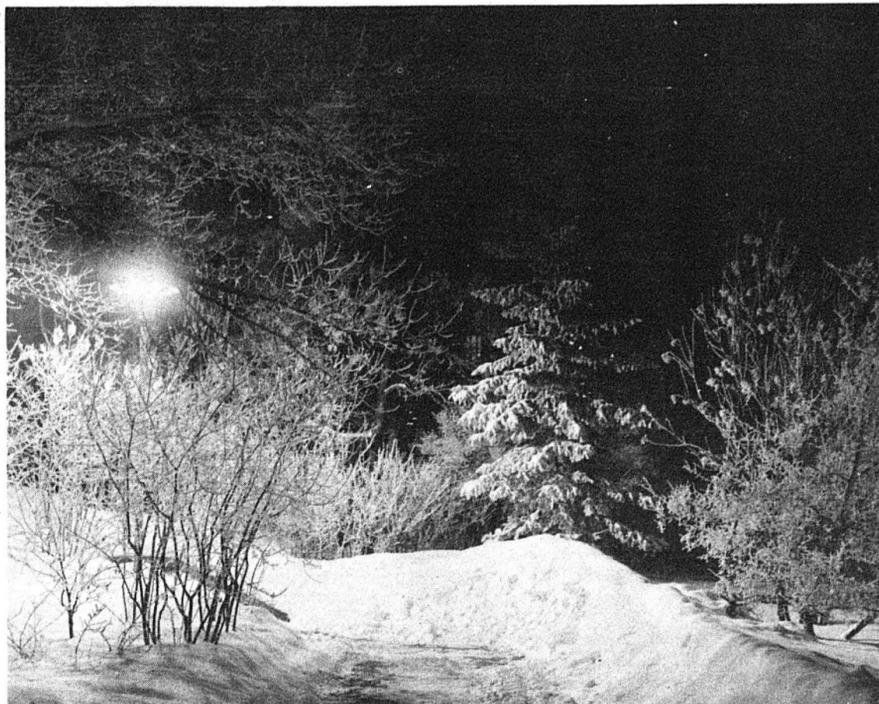


Photo Malcolm Fraser

There are times when it is healthy, perhaps, to forget ones self circles, worlds seen through a single eye, and realize that all

things are complete in themselves. To the extent that winter, blight of nature and bane of man that it is, also contains a solitude and tranquillity peculiar to itself.

Women not to be judged by male standards

by Louise Horstman

Everything pertaining to the improvement of woman's status gets tagged "woman's lib" and hooted off. This was the

consensus of the night's panel, which obviously was chosen to represent the views of the left, right and centre. The only trouble was, their views on the status of women in Canada converged, to a frightening degree. Making presentations were Lola Lange, member of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women; Dr. Charlotte Ziebarth, from the Dept. of Psychology, U of Calgary; Sharon Stevenson, the organizer of a Women's Course at UBC; Mrs. Elizabeth Pederson, President of Women of Unifarm; and Dean Chambers of the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration, U of A.

Mrs. Lange elaborated on some of the recommendations made by the Commission's report, granting that little implementation of them has yet occurred. The wide distribution of birth control devices and the abolition of the hospital board decision in abortion cases, to be substituted by normal patient-doctor decision, were recommendations of the Report. The married woman should be deemed a legal partner and upon the death of the husband or the breakup of the marriage should receive half the property, according to the Commission recommendation; presently, a husband can will all of his property to others. One of the examples of the absurd inequities the Commission encountered is that upon marriage, a woman must forfeit her own credit rating and acquire that of her husband.

Dr. Ziebarth had some less

conventional things to say. She is pregnant, which, she says, her colleagues think is funny as though by being a member of Women's Lib she was trying to be more like a man. "What female wants to lower herself that much?" she asked, while Dean Chambers disappeared into his chair. Dr. Ziebarth's contention is that everybody - men, women, even clinical psychologists - assume (unconsciously) that male skills and male values are the right, or the only, way to do things. Why, oh why, should women be viewed as deviant men?

One might have expected Dean Chambers to trot out the usual jokes of the sole male at such conferences, but he was above it. Instead he pulled out some statistics: in Britain 25 per cent of the M.D.'s are women; in Canada, 12 per cent; in France 22 per cent of the dentists are women; in Canada, 12 per cent in France 53 per cent of the pharmacists are women; in Canada 15 per cent. Why are Canadian women so scarce in professional and managerial positions? Why is Canada hurting itself by neglecting some of its best brainpower?

The answer, he feels, is that a self-regenerating cycle is operating. Women are employed in "female occupations" now because of their own childhood role conditioning and because of employer discrimination, but the very fact that they are in these jobs now leads to further discrimination in employment

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YS to campaign for responsible council in people's university

The U of A Young Socialists will be fielding a full slate of candidates in the upcoming Students' Union Executive elections, the organization announced Wednesday.

The slate will include: Mark Priegart for President, Don Wiley for Treasurer, Linda Goboury for Academic Vice-President, Chris Bearchell for External Vice-President, Henry Malta for Secretary and Larry Paynch for Co-ordinator.

They claim the students' union should be involved in political activism rather than being simply service oriented. The Young Socialists are "for a university which throws its facilities open to trade unions and farm groups for research, offices, meeting halls."

The students' union should take a strong stand against the war in Viet Nam and Canada's complicity in it and in favor of Women's Liberation. They would, if elected, press for an end to the war and for the repeal of Canada's abortion laws through actions such as last fall's Amchitka demonstrations.

The group feels that students, faculty, and staff should be in

control of the university. To this end they will establish worker/student control of SUB by forming joint committees of students' council and the SUB CUPE local to manage the building eliminating the managers presently employed by the S.U.

The Young Socialists are strongly opposed to the present Executive's proposal for a

re-structuring of the students' union. They feel "it centralizes too much power in the hands of the Executive and the managers."

They feel that many of the present Executive are involved in student politics to promote their future careers and are not really interested in acting for the students. "We will represent people," they say, "not private interests."



Photo Osep Cheladyn

Henry Malta, Mark Priegert and Larry Paynch