

# GATEWAY features

# WUS: Works For Students Around The World

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It's World University Service Fund Drive time again—only this year it's Share Campaign. Startling posters, eager collectors, and milk bottles around the campus proclaim this annual event. But WUS does more than collect money—it uses it too.

By Lynne Greason

The World University Service pops up everywhere—in Bechuanaland, in Chile, in Algeria, in South Africa.

Associated with UNESCO, WUS works for students throughout the world who need its help; it provides medical services, student housing, lecture rooms, and libraries, complete with books, in countries that are meeting difficulties travelling the road to higher education.

WUS traces its beginnings from 1920, when, as the European Student Relief it helped students and professors through hardships following the First World War. The students ran soup kitchens; they turned barracks and unused jails into living space. Women mended clothes, men cobbled. Industries were started; their products were sold.

By 1926 the most urgent relief needs had been met; but under the new name of International Student Service world-wide contact was maintained through seminars, study tours, and academic exchanges.

The organization met emergencies—floods, earthquakes, hurricanes—with international help. It worked its way through the Second World War from neutral Switzerland sending textbooks and emergency aid to students in prisoner of war camps. In 1950 it became the World University Service.

As Asia and Africa came into world focus, WUS invested an interest in these areas. Now WUS activities are being consolidated in another new area—Latin America—as the university needs make themselves felt there.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

For many students each year, WUS means something special. For them, it's the organization that helped bring them from their native land to a western European or north American university for graduate studies. More than 800 WUS scholars think of Canada as their second home, two come to U of A annually. They come on scholarships provided by the universities, handled through WUS.

The two WUS scholars



Student volunteers in Basutoland dig the foundation for a WUS dispensary to be constructed at the University of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, and Swaziland Protectorate. Health problems of students in Basutoland are severe, and until the new WUS health service commenced recently, no medical exams, no TB X-rays, no inoculations, no diagnosis or treatment of mental health problems, no dental service, and no medical insurance existed for these students. WUS hopes to obtain supplies and equipment for the dispensary as gifts from other countries.

this year at U of A are from African countries; Felix Mnthali, from Malawi, is in graduate studies in English, as is Samuel Mothupi, of Swaziland.

### DOLLARS TO SHARE

This year the fund-raising campaign for WUS is Share. Marvellous things happen to one dollar given to Share—it does more than one dollar should be able to do.

It provides two students with a medical check-up and X-ray in the anti-tuberculosis campaign conducted in Thailand.

It buys one square foot of a student residence in Nepal.

It buys two textbooks for a student in Hong Kong.

This dollar is a "starter dollar;" the university students and the government of the recipient nation match the contributions with money, labor and materials.

International exchange rates help the dollar expand in value—it's worth as much as six times it's Canadian buying power in underdeveloped countries.

### GENERAL CAMPAIGN

WUS campaigns have been headed Fund Drive in previous years, the money

going to one specific project. This year, the policy change to a general campaign—Share—came about because of the time elapse between collection and distribution of funds.

The funds now go to Geneva, Switzerland, to meet needs as they arise; they also are assigned for specific projects.

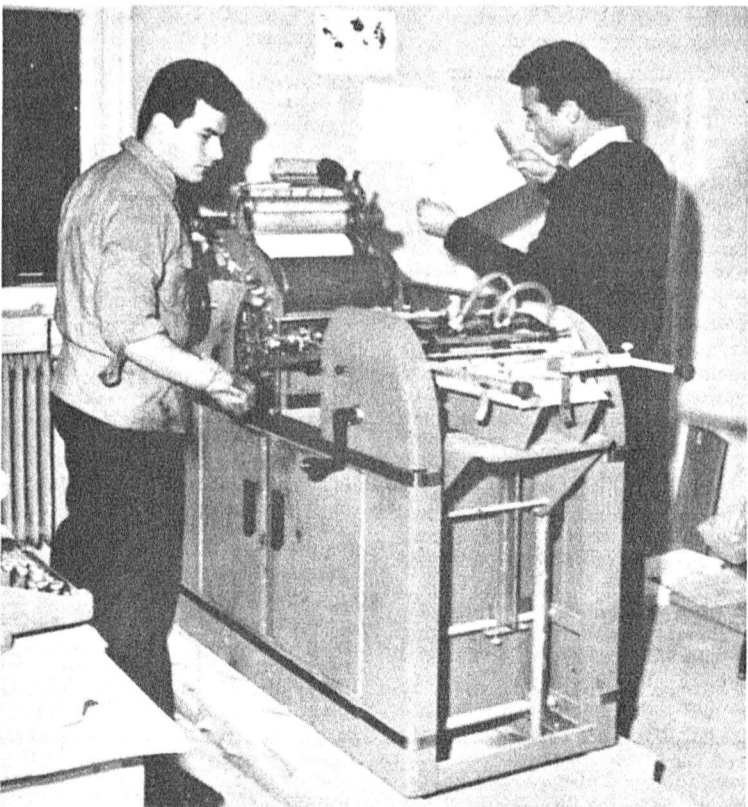
Share dollars will help build a WUS center at the University of Madras in India. Of the student population of 58,000, 18,000 find themselves homeless annually—the WUS center, health center and accom-

modation, will change this picture. The "starter dollar" principle means WUS will absorb 23 per cent, or \$20,000.

### TREASURE VAN

One of the most active events of WUS in Canada is Treasure Van, bringing exotic items to campuses across the country. The van rolls into Edmonton annually in late November; its incense, wine-skins, and carvings find ready homes in the city.

This is WUS; these are some of its activities. Look for it on campus.



The WUS Printing House in Salonika, Greece has now produced ten textbooks, including five ordered by individual professors or by laboratories. Twenty sets of lecture notes have been produced. The student magazine of the Polytechnic faculty is being printed by the WUS Printing House, as are constitutions of student clubs and similar documents.

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The Faculty of Education building of the University of Nicaragua shows the desperate material needs of the university. The Mangua branch has no campus, but exists in rented buildings in the downtown area. The Nicaragua WUS committee is undertaking a "One Million For Education" campaign for funds for the campus; international assistance will help provide lab equipment for the Medical and Engineering faculties, and will help build an infirmary for faculty and students.