

Letiters

***** UNIVERSITY PRIMER *****

Dear Sir,

Well the cover's nice.

And that is about all the good I can say about "The University Primer," which is obviously another product of this year's Students' Union, and is therefore also expensive, incompetent, and in poor taste.

Most of us who have come here to benefit from man's 6000 years of culture will be able to dismiss this little "handbook" at once, i.e., as soon as the bad spelling, the misuse of language, the incredibly bad imitations of poetry, the costly photographs of somebody's kids, and the general egocentricity of its makers accosts the eye. Nevertheless I should like to point out some of the faults of this "litle boke", a) so that its publishers may educate themselves to a small degree, and b) so that the general student populace may file away in its collective mind yet another complaint against the power-trippers we so foolishly elected last spring as our "representatives".

A cursory examination of the "Primer" yields the following:
a) Ten pictures of two toddlers in various postures of inanity, lending charming "home-movie" quality to the publication.

b) Two collections of words (p.25 and p. 32) which at first glance resemble poems (Don't miss the lovely quatrain on Love's Labour's Lost at the end of "Loneliness", with its hidden rhythmic allusion to the famous:

"Roses are red
Violets are blue
I'm a clown
How about you?")

By coincidence these creations were penned by an "I. Z"----- surely not the same person who played editor?

c) Two other "poems" (p.29 and p.31) very slightly better than the first two but not particularly suited to the subject of the book.

d) A bouquet of boo-boos every few pages. For example, p.17 reads "HASSELS for 'HASSLES'", p.18 reads "departamental" and "industrial" for "departmental" and "Industrial", p.19 misspells "Anti-Bolshevik" and "B'nai B'rith", and you can find innumerable incorrect word-hyphenations at the end of lines.

e) Forty percent of the book devoted to -- the flourishing arts? daily student life? No, you guessed it -- to the wonderful world of sports, which involves at least 3500 of us (40%), doesn't it? No?

Never mind, there is information here you could never find in the Gateway. Did you know, for example, that a student using an assumed name in Men's Intramural Activities shall be barred for the rest of the

year? It's hard to get through university without such bits of common knowledge.

f) Under "N", for "Newspapers", a quote which is nothing more than a moralising gibe at the Gateway.
g) No mention of a Faculty Rep or a GFC Rep for Grad Studies-- if we don't have one you could at least say so; and conspicuous absence of the Grad. Students' Assoc., Guild for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Chamber Music Society and the University Singers or whatever they're called, merely to mention those groups that touch on my small world. Who knows how many possibilities for "involvement" have been left out of this list either through carelessness or by design? Come to think of it, it does seem odd that the only political groups for which no contact-name is provided are the Young Communists and the Youth For Freedom and Equality.

Well, that's all. folks-- our first and last glance at "The University Primer". A big hand and a thank-you to Don McKenzie for yet another fine act in his Circus for the Seventies!
E.Van Loon Grad Studies.

**** ALONE ****

Dear Alone,

I want to reply to your plea. I want to reach out to you. We've never met but I care about you. Hold on. Don't take that two millimeter trip. You're a beautiful girl who deserves happiness not emptiness. As long as someone is concerned you're not alone. I am concerned.

You believe that we all turn away from one another, afraid to help. I'm not afraid. I won't turn away.

"For me to care is to give myself freely and without reservation.

If you are lonely and need me, I will be there.

If in that loneliness you need to talk, I will listen.

If you need to listen, I will talk.

If you need your heart to be touched I will try to touch it."

Please, please, let me show you that I mean these words. Please contact Elsie Ross at the Gateway. She will tell you how to contact me.

I want to reach out to you.

* HELPFUL HINTS *

Dear Alone,

I read your letter in Tuesday's Gateway and felt your frustration and loneliness. I can't say: you can love and trust me, that I will stand by you or that I will share your joys and sorrows and that you can share mine. To be able to do this we must find some common ground for compatibility, something we can never find if you are going to stay locked up in your little world. You are only alone

because you are more afraid of being hurt than you are of being alone.

Get out and get involved. On a campus of this size there is a potential of better than 18,000 friendships, but you must get out and take the initiative. A friend is potentially as close as the first "hi" as you sit anywhere on campus. A friend is as close as the first club you join or the fraternity you rush. I can't walk up to you and say "hi, I'm going to be your friend." You must have some interests, exploit them, and through them you will find friendship. This campus is only as cold and unfriendly as you want it to be. If you need help to take the first step phone me at 433-1284. I do promise that I will be honest and that I will try to help you help yourself.

Love,

Thomas R. Mann

** AGAIN ALONE **

Dear sir:

If possible I would like to answer the person who signed herself "Alone", in the Tues Oct. 26 issue of the Gateway.

There are many of us out here who would like to answer you, but we can't. I wish we could, I wish I could but somehow it is very difficult for me to do so.

I live in res. and all my life I believed if there was more than 1 person at one time, neither would be alone. But I am here at close quarters with 2000 other people and I am very alone and lonely.

But what do we do? The impersonal, machine-like way things are done around here scares me. People have walls built around them so thick that no feeling can do more than scratch the surface. Why do they do this?

If you talk to a person you don't know, they either are scared away or they treat you like an outcast and shun you like an old coat.

Too many people here are like me and you and why they are afraid to admit it is beyond me.

"Alone" I would like to help you so much but how do I reach you? How do we reach others like us?

Signed Alone Also

*** AND AGAIN ***

Dear Lonely,

As you obviously know, you are not alone in your condition, but probably more sensitive to emptiness and loneliness than many, and less satisfied with only superficial friends than others.

There are counsellors in this institution, whose services are free to you as a student, you only need an appointment. In my experience, at least, they are people willing to talk, listen, try to understand, and try to help, yet more than a wall to bounce your thoughts off of.

However, more important than dwelling on your

unhappiness, you need to form relationships with people whom you will make happy, just by being yourself and enjoying yourself, and who will do the same for you. Although it is easy to be alone in this immense mass of people, happily, a multitude of organizations exist to get people together over many interests. These are not available in any other society so easily or cheaply. Possibly there is no need for them in some societies, but that is not where you are now. If you can afford it, try a fraternity whose very name is brotherhood. Join a sports group, you needn't be good as long as you enjoy yourself. Join the Gateway, or the Apathy Club, but I urge you to join. There are good people everywhere, and many opportunities to develop and apply or just enjoy your abilities.

Love,
Lonely, too

AND ***** AGAIN ALREADY

To "ALONE"

I realize that your letter has more involved ramifications and, perhaps, calls for a rethinking of human expressionism. However, in the absence of any resolution, may I offer the company of three culturally, linguistically and nationally diversified people to rap with? Please drop in any time at our pad. We'll be real pleased.

Govind/Frank/Spencer
8416 - 104 Street
Tel: 439 2102

SEE

YOU'RE NOT ALONE

CHUCKIE..... WHERE ARE YOU?

Sir,

Just where is Chuck Lyall campaigning for signatures for his petition? No-one I know or have contact with has even been

approached. Could it be that we are too radical looking (i.e. Social Credit)?

Mr. Lyall complains that the Gateway is not representative. If this is the case, I would expect that a petition against it would also be representative. But perhaps I'm too idealistic (gasp)....

So where are you, Chuckie? Let's get someone else besides right wingers amongst those alleged 1000 signatures.

Rahb McDougall,
Arts 1

VERY GOOD

Dear Sir,

Your Casserole on Indians had a haunting power that shook me. The concern, the open-ness, and the objectiveness of the complete supplement helped to add background to the Indian conditions and the particular struggle in North Eastern Alberta

The supplement was loaded with the motivational power to strike the campus in the face. I would hope that the time has come when students' concern will develop into positive actions and I feel the casserole will have been a valuable catalyst.
Doug Black

*** PISS POOR ***

Sir:

I take strong exception to your newspaper and your editorial policy in particular. Though I have only been on this campus for a few months I have ravishly devoured that abomination you call the Gateway. And, dear sir, it has been with considerable trepidation that I continue to consume it.

Since I have been on academic scenes for a good many years I have had the experience of encountering many and various student papers but yours is, without a trace of doubt, the worst since I left Calcutta.

I hereby beseech you to produce a more consumable paper.

Respectfully yours,
Dr. Thomas F. Dibdin
Professor Emeritus

The Gateway

member of Canadian University Press

Departments: editor-in-chief - Bob Beal (432-5178), news - Elsie Ross (432-5168), sports - Ron Ternoway (432-4329), advertising - Percy Wickman (432-4241), production - Bud Joberg and Ron Yakimchuk, Photo - Barry Headrick and Don Bruce (432-4355), arts - Ross Harvey, and last but not least, publisher - Harvey G. Thomgirt (432-5168).

STAFF THIS ISSUE

Yo ho ho! and the pumpkins went mad! Quickly they grew into orange monsters up to 10 feet in diameter devouring everything in their path! Nothing could withstand the onslaught of the crazed monster pumpkins! Nothing except, possibly, maybe, the staff. Hurting themselves into the task of saving Western Civilization as we know it were Fiona Campbell on lead guitar, Elke Siebels in the breach, Heroic Rick Grant, Bob ("Orange! Everywhere I see orange!") Blair, Elsie Ross of the Bonny-ile Ross's, Henri ("Hallowe'en is a Judeo-Christian Commie plot to make me share the wealth") Pallard, Bob ("I can't communicate with those pumpkins anymore") Beal, Beth ("Pumpkins...pumpkins...do they ferment?") Nilsen, Bud Joberg who wasn't warned in time to think of a dirty pumpkin joke, Ron Yakimchuk who left too early to hear what Bud might have eventually come up with, Barbara and Bev on the huge bank of destructo-ray computers, John (whose last name might or might not be spelled Paissin), Ross ("Pumpkins are merely another form of inevitable destruction") Harvey and your terrified battered orange snake-in-the-pulp) Harvey G. for gremlin: I dig the fins) Thomgirt.

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