

# The Gateway

Member of the Canadian University Press

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## The 'Elastic Curtain'

Nothing so offends the masculine sensibility as the "elastic curtain," that solid bastion which surrounds the derrieres of the campus delectables.

Down with girdles, we say. Down with Playtex, Saron, and all the wraparound repressors which bind and fetter our females more firmly than those condemned shoes worn by the women of China in days of yore.

Is there anything more ridiculous, we ask, than the sight of a trim, well-formed, energetic young body crammed, jammed and slammed into an elasticized cocoon? It used to be, "there is a destiny that shaped our ends." Now we cannot be sure.

If campus females were prone to sag and drag, weather and wear and tear, then we might be sympathetic; but we know that these ailments of the ancients are not afflicted upon the young of body, at least to the extent that every female must fortify and reconstruct herself each morning after her libations.

Those campus queens who must always be seen sharp and set for the kill, hair backcombed with the greatest of skill, do, perhaps, find it necessary to conceal every virtue that is theirs naturally. Artifice and camouflage are their greatest weapons. They let no cheek go unturned.

But those of the feminine species

who prefer to work with what is theirs by birth are doing themselves a disservice by putting their wares into supermarket status, wrapping each morsel in sanitary Saran wrap. It doesn't become attractive, girls, merely sterile; and the sooner you discover that, the better it will be.

Men have suffered through the whims of women from the days of the cave. But never has Woman so set herself to suffering so much as in these days of the skin-tight chastity belt. When we say we are offended by the gentler sex's proclivity to set itself to endure a more inhumane torture than the Inquisition ever devised, we are offended not by the garment but by the type of tyranny it represents.

For it should be patently clear that the girdle is a fascist undergarment. It is never designed, in spite of what the advertisers may say, to give freedom, but rather to restrict movement, both physiological and mental.

In an environment where the stress is on ideas and liberty, is it not absurd to agonizingly restrict the body?

Girls, we beg of you that you reconsider what you are doing to yourselves when you buttress your behinds. Give yourselves the freedom you need to be free people in today's world. You will be more respected for it.

## A New Cure For An Old Illness

Despite rapid improvement in the calibre of most Western-Canadian intercollegiate sports in recent years, the college game in this part of the country continues to pass unnoticed the majority of amateur sport fans.

The problem can be attributed to two factors, lack of super stars and lack of recognition by the professional news media.

Few suggestions have been made about the former other than instituting the American scholarship system. However, a program initiated by the University of Manitoba this year is noteworthy.

The move at U of M is simple and straightforward. Last fall the athletic board at U of M announced athletes attending that university could not play for other than campus teams without the board's permission. Results of the decision are readily discernible. After many years of dismal performance, U of M's football team finished second in the western league this year and its hockey team appears destined to represent the west in the national finals next month.

There are those who will question a university's moral right to restrict individual freedom in this manner. However, particularly in the case of hockey, universities have for many years been used by teams and organizations that are professional in all but name. Why should universities who are obligated to provide their

students and athletes with intercollegiate competition, provide a student of outstanding athletic ability with a variety of services and facilities without receiving the benefit of his talents?

For many years the Golden Bear hockey team has been on or near a par with the Edmonton Oil King junior club. During this time a number of the latter team's best players have been U of A students. This year, while the Golden Bears were finishing a dismal third in the western college league, at least two Oil King stalwarts were attending this university.

It is certainly not our intent to criticize a third place finish by our hockey team. But would university athletics on this campus, the western league and perhaps all of Canada, not have been improved if the Golden Bears had been blessed with the services of players like world hockey competitor Roger Bourbonnais?

Students on this campus and others throughout Canada pay a great amount of money to support intercollegiate athletics. Surely they deserve the best their money can possibly provide.

The action by U of M is harsh. However, at the same time, Manitoba is to be congratulated for maintaining strong competition in the western league. Alberta and other universities might do well to study the experiment closely.

## In Loco Parentis

### Winter Of Our Discontent

By Roger Ebert

for Canadian University Press  
Collegiate Press Service

This is the winter of our discontent.

This is the winter, when, suddenly, we begin to see ourselves as student-citizens, and to have the imagination to act in that role.

We are no longer content to be boos and hicks in the constituency of our university. We are not used to this treatment, and although we have been quiet in the past, now we are beginning to stir. For we are angry, and there is a point beyond which we will not be pushed.

The university speaks of problems of student "adjustment," but what it does not see is that adjustment to the conditions of the university is likely to make a student a less healthy creative person. The student who can "adjust" to the thought of kissing his girl in a brightly-lighted dormitory lounge, surrounded by 40 people, has made an "adjustment" that will cheapen his life and love and ways of thought. Where are Organization Men stamped from the mould? Look about you.

These are things we are coming to realize this winter. We are groping toward an understanding of what is being done to us, in our name, for our "good." We hope that by joining in the decisions which affect our lives as students, we can make our own futures more relevant because they will be more our own.

It is hard for us to express the thoughts which push at last to the surface of our minds. Those who disagree with us think it is a very simple matter, but they fail to understand that the real issue, the issue which could open up untold individual possibilities for the students of this campus, is the issue of the participation in an institution by its members.

If there, someday, are not enough citizens to stand back and examine the total civilization its parts will rush blindly to their specialized ends and then to the destruction of the human beings who are

the unwitting passengers.

Because we must start somewhere, we start with the university. It is, you know, a whole institution, an organic creation with parts that were all intended to function together. But, today some of the parts do not function. The student body has almost ceased to be a factor in university decisions, and the faculty is slowly growing aware that its committees, as well, are guided by administrative "instructions" which indicate the desired answers to the questions under study.

Yet, it is difficult to define these issues and present them meaningfully. Too many students are filled with a surly resentment against anyone who tries to tell them they are being cheated. There is a great sullen apathy here. A sickening number of us will swallow anything the university asks us to submit to, rather than cause "trouble" and, by questioning the process, lose our diploma-reward.

And so, in the end, it is the university's responsibility to move against what seems to be its own best interests. It is up to the university to slow its own well-oiled machine so that students can benefit and grow by understanding it.

There is, you know, nothing really wrong with the idea of "in loco parentis." What a wonderful place this would be if the university acted in the place of a GOOD parent, concerned with the growth and potential of its children. But too often the university's parental role is repressive. It has not learned the lesson that children who share in family councils grow into well-oriented adults, but that children who are arbitrarily ordered and punished are likely to rebel or sink into a shell of passive resentment.

We must ask what sort of children the university has in its student body. Are they well-oriented, with love and respect for this institution? Or are they rebellious and resentful, manifesting their maltreatment in ugly water riots? Having asked these painful questions, we must turn to the parent, the university, and ask where it has so dismally failed. That must be the result of this our winter of discontent.

Bruce Ferrier

## Reactionary Medieval Irrationalism

On Social Credit

Much credit should be given to organizers of Model Parliament this year, for their exemplary work in producing a workable model. The actual outcome of the election, however, left much to be desired.

It is discouraging to find that supposedly intelligent people could find reason to vote in nine representatives of Social Credit.

A philosophy best described as reactionary medieval irrationalism has no place on this campus; what is it doing in our Model Parliament?

How university students can support a party whose members produce statements like "Let them go back to the countries from whence they came," and "The university produces filth worse than anything on the newsstand," is a mystery deeper than the Velocity of Circulation Theory.

This campus has been bombarded with proof that Social Credit has no place in Alberta, let alone in the university. Professor Mathews and others have pointed out that proper legal procedure and Social Credit government are not equatable; a case in point is the dismissal of Raymond Hertzog, and subsequent hedging by the Minister of Education.

Perhaps not enough people realize to what extent Social Credit has legislated its distorted ideas into law. An early example was a press control act, fortunately declared *ultra vires*.

Still on the books is an act providing for sterilization of mental defectives. Hitler

had the same idea, but I suppose he was just too far ahead of his times. And consider the ironic contrast between Premier Manning's "There is no discrimination in Alberta" and his government's Communal Properties Act, a blatantly discriminatory piece of legislation against the Hutterites of this province.

Even more disturbing is Social Credit's tendency to force its theological views on the people of Alberta. Mixing of religion and politics, while underhanded, is admissible so long as there is no attempt to mix religion and law. We have in Alberta a quasi-medieval theocracy dedicated to executing the latter proposition.

The rather ridiculous Sunday Blue Laws and liquor legislation are to say the least inconvenient, and a direct negation of the rights of citizens. What about people who do not observe Sunday as their holy day? And when it is necessary for a social scientist to forcefully call to our attention that drinking is supposed to be *fun*, something is very wrong.

Social Credit's fundamentalist morality blew up in the government's collective face with the *Tom Jones* affair. People finally woke up to the fact that it is a travesty of justice to allow a puritanical group of self-righteous moral reactionaries to impose their odd ideas of propriety on the rest of the populace.

Yet, knowing all this, some students still felt it justifiable to vote Social Credit.

But there is still hope. I asked a friend if she had any smart thought about Social Credit, for use in this column. Here answer: "How can anyone have smart thoughts about Social Credit?"

## The Papermakers

STAFF THIS ISSUE—What a boring weekend I spent people-watching in the office. But Sunday night some familiar faces appeared and the weekend was saved. Among them were: Al Bromling, Sue Hill, Helene Chomlak, Irene McRae (short shorts editor), Neil Driscoll, Stacey Jarvin, Gord Cumming, Brian O'Neill, Gary Kiernan, Dave Henshaw, Larry Duignan, John Bach, Malcolm Fast, Ginger Bradley Ellwood Purdy, Jon Whyte, and yours truly, Regina Rat (natch!).