

the Gateway

EDITORIAL

Tell Lougheed

The message was clear: the middle-aged gentleman Friday night stopped to tell one of the 40 students picketing outside Allan MacEachen's hotel that they had better picket Peter Lougheed too.

MacEachen was inside saying essentially the same thing. It's not the fault of the federal government if students across Canada suffer the single most devastating cutback in the history of under-funded universities — \$1.5 billion cut from federal transfers to the provinces over two years.

He is, of course, correct. The provinces have abused by any standard the spirit of the 1977 Established Programs Financing agreement. Ottawa meant rough percentages of its transfers to go to Medicare, post-secondary education, and social welfare programs. The percentages don't nearly match any of the provincial expenditures. This has all been well-documented, and predictably, the provinces deny everything.

However, the federal government isn't blameless. Liberal finance minister Allan MacEachen desperately needs to cut government expenditures to give credibility to his anti-inflation budget. He shouldn't touch monies owing under the EPF agreement at least until the present agreement expires in April 1982. But MacEachen verified Friday night that between \$500 million and \$1 billion in EPF funds would be cut in the November 12 budget.

There was hope of stopping the cuts after the Breaux Task Force on federal-provincial fiscal arrangements warned MacEachen not to reduce spending, but MacEachen wasn't listening.

Neither is he listening to virulent protest, either in the form of 10,000 students across Ontario or 40 picketers outside his Edmonton hotel. The budget is finished. In any case, were there to be any modifications, short of defeating the government, education spending probably would be a low priority.

So the cuts will come. What now is the question is how the provincial government will respond. It has said any reduction in provincial revenues will prompt a re-evaluation of priorities. Add to that Premier Lougheed's recent remarks that the University of Alberta is too large, and that it had better lower its expectations because next year its budget will be increased only marginally.

It would make sense, then, that students' voices be turned now toward the provincial government. Though not to belittle the efforts of federal-cuts protestors, there is little left to gain in Ottawa. The place to be, if past dealings with the province are any indication, is on the steps of the Legislature.

Peter Michalshyn

Right-wing madness

Word out of Ontario (courtesy of Ontario's national newspaper) is that Bill Davis is a shade too pink. This from disgruntled Ontario P.C.'s who didn't find out about or approve of Davis' Suncor deal until he had already bought 25 per cent of the U.S.-owned oil company.

"Is this the kind of thing a Conservative government should get itself involved in?" asked James Gordon, M.P. P. from Sudbury.

The provincial campus P.C.'s distributed a pamphlet asking "What does social activism (in a piece of controversial new Ontario Human Rights legislation) have to do with a Conservative or Progressive Conservative government?"

"No doubt," says Ontario minister Dr. Robert Elgie, "some people are being influenced by our neighbours to the south." He might have added those across the Atlantic too.

But you don't have to go so far in Canada to find inklings of classical conservatism. Who, for instance, was the last Canadian Prime Minister to try selling our national oil oligopoly, to offer us \$2 billion in tax cuts, to slash government spending, to cut the civil service by 60,000?

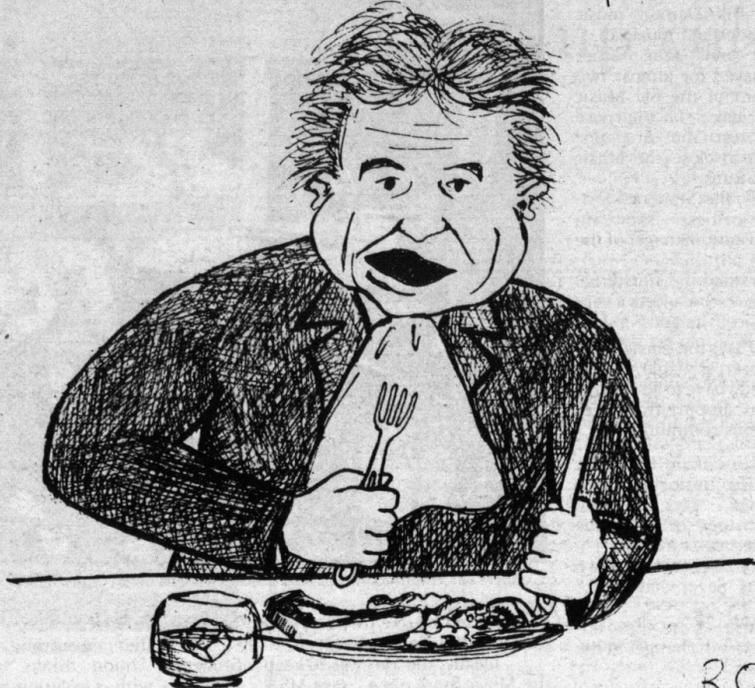
Of course, such moves were not in the best traditions of the Canadian Progressive-Conservative party.

Neither is anything that denies the standard of expediency, dishonesty, and powermongering typical of successful Canadian politicians in the best tradition of Canadian politics.

Neither, perhaps, is Jde Clark.

P.M.

NEWS ITEM: Students march outside of Liberal fundraising dinner. MacEachen is the featured speaker.



"Let them eat cake."
—Marie Antoinette

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Arab student display shut down

Can you tell us whatever happened to freedom of expression in our university?

On Thursday, October 22, 1981 we, the Arab Students Association, were granted permission to display literature the following Monday in HUB Mall by Gail Yago who holds a managerial position in HUB office.

Our display included literature on the Palestinian cause and proved itself a total success due to the great number of interested people. Indeed, our supporters were many.

Although we were approached by highly emotional Zionist individuals, we achieved our goal; to share our views with the rest of our colleagues, to discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict in a constructive manner and to carry out our duties as a fully *bonafide* association.

Surprisingly enough, at 2:00 pm. our booth was shut down in a very bad fashion.

Approaching our table, displaying inexcusable behavior, Gail Yago demanded our immediate removal and began ripping our signs down without any warning whatsoever. This was done on the assumption that our literature is politically oriented. Since it is a common practice that other university student organizations duly carry their activities both in HUB and SUB with no such sound and fury, we are left with this question: what motivated Gail Yago to take this uncalled for action towards *our* association?

One has no other choice but to construe this action in either of

two ways, none of which is rational: a) either Gail Yago has abused her position or b) she reacted emotionally.

In the same context that Emile Zola defended a much-maligned Jew in the 19th century by a series entitled, "J'accuse". We borrow Zola's title in defending the much-maligned Arabs in the 20th century by saying to Gail Yago, "J'accuse!"

Our Association has the right to demand from Gail Yago a justification for her actions. We will not stand idly by while the rights of Arabs in particular and all students in general are threatened.

We are waiting Mrs. Yago.
Oscar Ammar
Jamal Khalil
Hussman Ghader
Arab Student Association

Help end world hunger

In a weeks time the lapel poppies will be in full bloom and time will be allotted from an otherwise busy day for momentary thoughtfulness. When that time comes, perhaps a brief insight will stir. Just imagine that if at that time our collective thoughts escaped momentarily from the regrettable losses of life in the past and were redirected constructively to deal with the present unnecessary condition of world poverty and hunger. This could begin the creation of the consciousness and will necessary to end world hunger.

More people have died as a consequence of hunger in the past five years than have been killed in all the wars, revolutions and murders of the past 150 years (National Academy of Sciences). That hunger *cannot* be ended, is a myth, and to accept that myth is simply to pave a road to more remembrance days and regrets in the future.

To end world hunger is a concept who's time has come.

Wear your poppies with respect but direct your thoughts to those nameless faces — the 28 a minute who die needlessly from hunger. Every three days for them is a Hiroshima.

For more information on the movement to end world hunger visit the Hunger Project information desk in HUB Nov. 3-6 or call Sam at 475-7263. A film will be shown Nov. 12.

Yours in a
Hungry World,
Anneli Tolvanan
(For Hunger Project)

Gateway staff meeting

all staff welcome
Thursday at 4 pm
Room 282 SUB

EDITOR - Peter Michalshyn
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NEWS - Wes Oginski and Greg Harris
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ARTS - Jens Andersen
SPORTS - Andrew Watts
PHOTO - Ray Giguere
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