

# The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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**STAFF THIS ISSUE**—Gateway managed to survive the cold spell with the help of Johnny (Special) Walker and we appreciate the "thaw" of student apathy, judging by the 50 per cent turnout for the referendum. Slashing through our tenth last press night were: Judy Samoil, Brian MacDonald, Ina van Nieuwkerk, Andy van Busse (not pronounced like a mode of transportation), Rolf Stengl, Cathy Morris, Ken Bailey, Bob (poison pen) Anderson, Joe Czajkowski, Pete Tyler, Dale Rogers, Phil Lenko (survivor of a road-block) and your boiling bubble of warm reptile blood, Harvey G. Thomgirt.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1969

## Editorial

### The student newspaper gets it in the back — every time

While the squabble between the Students' Union and Board of Governors at the University of Saskatchewan remains unsolved, it appears the student newspaper, *The Carillon*, is being severely reprimanded.

The *Carillon's* attacks on the provincial government and the administration of the university were instrumental in the board's recent decision to dissociate itself from the Students' Union. The board reasoned that they wanted nothing to do with *The Carillon* and hence would not collect Student Union fees, source of *The Carillon's* finances.

In subsequent negotiations, a number of student councillors indicated displeasure with *The Carillon*. So did a large number of students. Charges were that *The Carillon* presented a distorted, biased view of the campus and its various levels of government.

Now, perhaps the most critical attack of all has come from a consulting firm. After interviewing more than 200 people who "influence the community", the firm issued a statement to the faculty stating that "responsible-minded students should clean up the student newspapers, preferably by persuasion but failing that by disciplinary action on the part of the university administration". It also suggested that student newspapers have been widely condemned for irresponsible journalism and that the administration has been too permissive towards student newspapers.

Universities have been in trouble for a long time and they will be in trouble as long as they exist. It has to be that way in a system which attempts to produce free-thinking intellectuals. Freedom to think leads to ideas and ideas lead to controversy.

On one side there are the radical thinkers who view the university as something which big corporations direct. The radicals generally want a free university where there are no classes, no grading system and where everyone goes around thinking all the time. They want to do

away with just about everything they don't like.

On the other hand, there are the conservatives who see the system as basically good but they admit changes could be made. That is, as long as the changes are made through the proper channels and over an extended period of time.

The result of the clash of these extremes is what is happening in the world. Discontent leads to frustration and, unfortunately, to marches and riots.

And the student newspaper reports all of it. The good and the bad, no matter who gets hurt. However, newspapers sometimes tend to draw an invisible wall between themselves and the administration. The newspapers, and *The Carillon* is a prime example, see the administration as the ultimate in evil and dishonesty. The *Carillon* hence spends most of its time tearing away at the structure and, at the same time, expounding the philosophies of some radical thinkers.

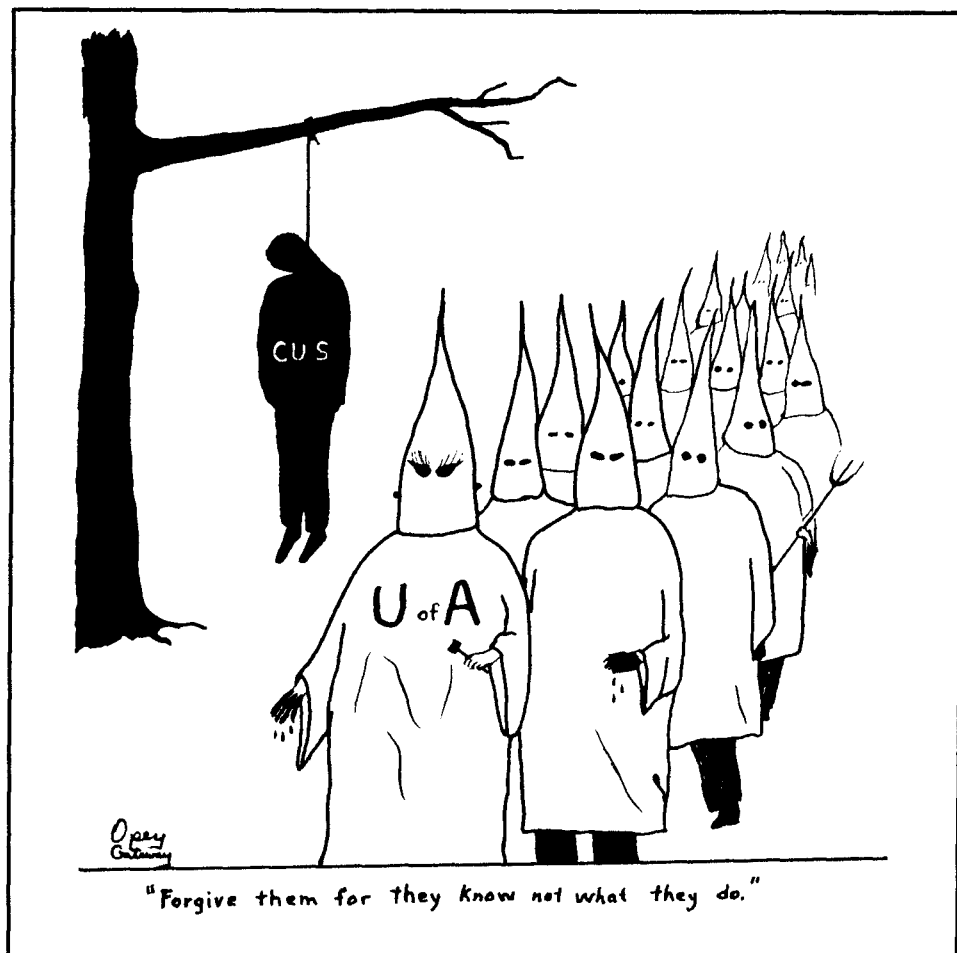
The public becomes upset when the structures are attacked. Maybe they are right—only time will tell.

The point is that in a system which attempts to educate people, why should a student newspaper be attacked for being exactly what the system prides itself accomplishing—free-thinking people?

Is there something inherently wrong in attacking an administration? The federal government is attacked daily by the opposition and the press. Not too many people are upset about it.

So why should a student newspaper be any different? Why should a paper not discuss changes needed in the system? Why should the newspaper not attack the forces it considers to be preventing change?

It is a contradiction to say that the system produces free thinkers and then prevent these thinkers from publishing what they are thinking. If what the administration desires is a personal propaganda sheet that extols the virtues of what they are doing, they should come right out and say so.



## A revolutionary handbook for the resident paranoids

By RICH VIVONE

You have to admit that The University of Alberta is sometimes a pretty gooky place. Sometimes it isn't even nice. Take its alleged leaders, for instance. They have strange ways of letting people know things they think these people ought to know. They never think of telling them to their face.

A few weeks ago, one of the prominent people on second floor SUB took me aside and presented me with a piece of paper that had typewriter marks all over it.

"I'd like you to see this," the person said. "But please don't tell anyone where you got it."

I guess that means the document is supposed to be secret.

The piece was entitled "Revolutionaries! These tactics are proven-use them." I was told that it was an excerpt from the handbook used by Students for a Democratic Society (except that the book seems fairly hard to get).

Anyway, the piece is in seven parts; the two most important are (a) get control of the campus newspaper (now why would anyone want me to read something like that) and (b) get control of student government or destroy it.

Under the first heading, i.e. campus newspaper control, it states "infiltrate and take over the campus newspaper (just like that; it's really easy—rich).

The piece continues "where this is not possible developed a communications apparatus of your own. Recruit sympathizers on school newspapers, the local press, radio and television".

It's that easy. Come up to the office, convince us that if the world is to continue the buildings must go first, then the bad people and then there

will be just you and I and we can start all over again. Great fun for the paranoids.

The section on student government is priceless. Just examine the unique tactics. It is divided into three stages.

Stage One—use the student government to obtain money for publications, teach-ins and other opportunities to project your platform. Use it to obtain open meetings you can dominate.

Stage Two—infiltrate and take over student government as a base for an attack on the establishment.

Stage Three—if this is not possible, discredit student government and its officers. Label them "fascists", "manipulators", and "tools of the capitalist establishment". This campaign must be relentless.

A while back, a friend of mine named Phil Ponting said he too had received a copy of this highly confidential document. And he too had been told not to tell anybody where it had come from. We agreed that we had received it from the same person because the name he and I knew were the same.

The last section—lucky seven—has seven parts to it.

It says: organize in secret; strike at the right time and the right place; disrupt an essential university function; use your influence over or control of the media of communication to distort the news reaching the public; get student and public attention; grind the university to a halt; TAKE OVER.

Hurray!

Now I know who Middle Ground Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are.

Paranoids of the world—UNITE!