



...cont'd.

gallows) condemning the protesters. They were quick to write an editorial (Nov. 6, '86) defending a university employee's right to hang a nude drawing in his office, against the opposition of another employee.

However, when Harry Kopyto lost his livelihood for speaking the "truth", I didn't find the incident reported in the *Edmonton Journal* let alone an editorial. Kopyto's is a real case where democracy and freedom of expression are seriously at stake. This is a law which threatens the charter of rights. For the same reasons, this is a case where public opinion and debate are important (hopefully to get rid of the outdated law). And the *Edmonton Journal* editors are totally mute.

All these events make me question whether the *Edmonton Journal* is truly trying to defend the freedom of expression and democracy or something else.

"Mr. Harry Kopyto was convicted on Oct. 17 of scandalizing the court — a form of contempt of court for saying that the courts in Canada are "in favour of protecting the police". The possible sentences included a fine and a jail sentence; instead the Ontario supreme court ordered Mr. Kopyto to make an "unequivocal and unreserved" apology to all Ontario judges, in particular the one whose decision he attacked. Until he does so, he will be unable to practice law in any court in Ontario." — (Editorial, *Globe and Mail*, Nov. 7, '86).

In a telephone interview with the CBC, (Nov. 6, '86) Mr. Kopyto explained,

"The RCMP admitted before a number of Royal commissions to having forged the letters. For eight years I tried to get criminal charges or civil damages for my client. I ended up having to go to the supreme court of Canada on two separate occasions . . . After fifty separate court appearances, I finally decided to take the case to the small claims courts and when last December the small claims court judge dismissed my suit against the RCMP on the basis that even if what they were doing was wrong, they were just following orders. At that point I said to a reporter, several weeks after the trial, that the courts in this country were warped in favour of protecting the police and that the RCMP and the courts are stuck so close together that you would think that they were put together with Crazy Glue. And I also expressed the opinion that my client and I have lost faith in the judicial system to render justice. And because I made these public utterances, I ended up with the offence called scandalizing the court. The RCMP admitted that what they did was wrong and they shouldn't have done it. But it wasn't able to get a single court in this country to give him (Kopyto's client) one red cent for what they did to him. The real criminals who should have a day in court, the RCMP, get off scot free, but Harry Kopyto ends up getting charged for scandalizing the court. Justice Montgomery ruled that the fact that what I said might be true was not relevant, he said, truth is not a defence. This judge would not even allow us to argue if we have the right to defence of fair comment."

When asked about the sentence and what he expected, Mr. Kopyto said:

"The effect of the order made by the judge can be only to try and get me to say something I don't mean and I am not an insincere person. I did not think that they would take my means of livelihood away and that the decision that would be made will have the effect of starving me in to getting down on my knees and humiliating myself. They made it impossible for Harry Kopyto to continue representing all kinds of groups that don't get a fair shake within our society in order to try and get them real justice through the judicial system. And they also sent a message that other lawyers who are critical of judicial decisions may end up also losing their means of livelihood."

L. I. Berty

## Humour

Although we students are sometimes unable to see humor in facts, particularly when we forget them during exams, the truth can be a riot. Liven up your next party with these bits of trivia:

— Actress Mariette Hartley, who filmed some popular Polaroid commercials with James Garner, tried to explain to the public that she was not really married to her co-star by having a t-shirt made which read "I am not Mrs. James Garner." Not to be outdone, her actual husband promptly purchased a shirt reading, "I am not James Garner."

— Houseflies have tastebuds in their feet. They are also susceptible to athlete's foot. I'm glad I'm not in charge of discovering things like this.

— Henry Ford forgot to put a reverse gear in his first car. He also had to dismantle his garage to get that car out. Ford was not bothered by minor setbacks.

— Senator William Smith of Michigan made a name for himself during the American inquiry into the sinking of the *Titanic*. Among other questions, he asked: "Why didn't the passengers on the boat go into the watertight compartments and save themselves from drowning?" (Said compartments were the first area on the ship to flood after the famous collision with the iceberg.) Oh, yes, I said he made a name for himself. The name was "Watertight Smith."

— It is illegal to send live mice through the mail in the U.S. (I called to check on the law here, but the post office was closed.)

— Roman Emperor Caligula appointed his horse to the Senate. Modern Canadian politicians have not yet been able to equal this feat.

— Famous criminal Willie Sutton, when asked why he robbed banks, replied: "Because that's where the money is."

— One of the first mechanical clothes-pressing devices was called a mangle. Really. People sent their laundry out to be mangled. On purpose, that is.

— The following grave marker exists. It's in Tombstone, Arizona (naturally).

HERE LIES LESTER MOORE  
FOUR SLUGS FROM A FORTY-FOUR  
NO LES  
NO MOORE

— When the western U.S. was being settled, the saloon in Junction City, Kansas, advertised itself as having "the worst liquor, the poorest cigars, and a miserable billiard table."

— In North America, the word "corn" refers to the grain which is also called maize. In Scotland, "corn" is a synonym for oats. The English use "corn" to talk about wheat. (Can you picture a breakfast cereal called "Shredded Corn"? Or "Maize Flakes"?)

— Never let it be said that the *Titanic* investigation was not thorough. The same Senator Smith, in pursuit of the whole truth, also asked: "What is an iceberg made of?" The answer, as given by the sixth officer of the *Titanic*, was: "Ice." (I swear I'm not making any of this up.)

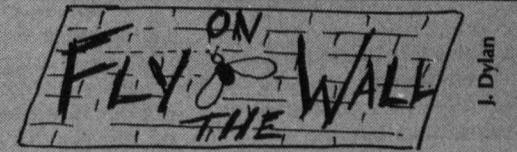
— When cars were new, Tennessee passed a law requiring drivers to notify the public of their intent to drive by placing an ad in the newspaper one week in advance. Since there remain some forests in Tennessee which have not been cut down to make newsprint, one can assume that the law is no longer enforced.

— Switzerland was invited to send its navy to the opening of the Panama Canal. Senator Smith does not appear to have been responsible for this.

— Lastly: The U.S.S.R. did not adopt the modern (Gregorian) calendar until 1917. In 1929, the U.S.S.R. adopted a five day week. In 1932, the week was lengthened to six days. In 1940, they went back to the seven day week.

Have a good weekend.

Greg Whiting



Tension is mounting here in the Rutherford Library. I can see it in the faces of everyone around me and it is not just because of the Grey Cup game today. Finals are just around the corner. The girl beside me looks like she is in real trouble. She must be working on a paper right now because of all the writing and crossing out she is doing. I bet she is working on an English paper. People always do a lot of writing and crossing out on an English paper because if they make a mistake, like dangling a modifier or splicing a sentence with too many commas they'll lose marks, and who wants to lose marks because they accidentally dangled a modifier? So one tends to write a word or two, or a sentence or two, then reads it over and crosses it out and starts all over again. This is what the girl beside me is doing and she is becoming very upset.

She had just tugged her hair one more time and thrown down her pen in disgust when she was called over to the water fountain by a friend. I decided to get up as well and I couldn't help but look at the paper she was working on. It was her Christmas gift list.

## December Graduate

**Hey Mom!**

**I graduated early  
But I got me no degree  
The Dean's Office just game me  
A permanent leave**

**The profs wear funny clothing  
And they pace about and preach  
But despite the distractions  
I still got my hour of sleep**

**My motivation was low  
And lower were my marks  
I've given up on success...  
I should take up throwing darts**

**Finals are a concept that I cannot  
perceive  
This December Graduation just  
Gave me permanent leave.**

Francis Horowitz

## The Gateway needs a Photo Editor

The Photo Editor must:

- a) be a student at the University of Alberta
- b) endeavour to ensure that photographs are available of all matter of concern for publication in *The Gateway*
- c) help train volunteers to take pictures for publication in *The Gateway*
- d) supervise the usage of equipment and accessories in the photo department
- e) ensure photo files are maintained
- f) maintain photo supplies

**Remuneration: \$750.00/month**

**Election will be held on January 8, 1987**  
Interested applicants should see Dean Bennett,  
Editor-in-Chief at *The Gateway* office, Room 282  
Students' Union Building.

