

Editorial

Presumptuous executive advertise non-positions

The advertisement which appears below for the Students' Union is in explicit contravention of the Students' Union By-laws. This ad was submitted by Returning Officer Brunnen at the request of the SU Executive.

Most of the offices listed below do not exist in the Students' Union constitution. The offices below are those proposed by the present Executive in their re-organization document -- a document which has not yet been passed by students' council.

The Executive is obviously attempting to force their re-organization proposal, which has become somewhat unpopular, down the throats of students' council and the students by advertising it as if it had been passed.

Council had given the re-organization proposal first reading but when it came up for second reading at the last council meeting, it was pointed out that the Executive had not put their proposal into proper form according to the SU by-laws.

In the discussion which followed, some members felt the Executive was attempting to circumvent the by-laws, a walk-out ensued, and further discussion of the proposal was killed by a loss of quorum.

By refusing to give the proposal second reading, council effectively negated the first reading. Constitutional changes such as this, have to be passed by a two-thirds majority at three consecutive council meetings.

Council, at that meeting, also tabled a motion that the slate system of elections be abolished. The slate system, whereby candidates run in groups and students have only one vote for all six Executive positions, was introduced last year. It was very unpopular with almost all the candidates for office and Don McKenzie promised to do away with it if elected.

In a frantic, last minute attempt to abolish the slate system and to concentrate power in the hands of the chosen few, the present Executive has completely bungled the whole affair.

As the by-laws presently stand, the

Executive positions open for election are: President, Vice-President (Academic), Vice-President (External), Secretary, Treasurer, and Co-ordinator. As well, candidates must run on a slate composed of one person for each office.

Given the above, the advertisement below is a lie.

This is typical of the attitude of the Executive towards students' council. The present Executive feels that students' council is a necessary waste of time which exists only to rubber-stamp Executive decisions.

They feel that since the Executive is agreed on the positions below it is only a matter of a short time until it becomes law. As Treasurer Frans Slatter said at the last council meeting; three five minute meetings will suffice. The attitude of the present Executive in this instance and others when they have attempted (with surprising success) to railroad through pieces of legislation is intolerable.

The Executive deserves a vote of non-confidence from students' council for their actions in preparing for the upcoming elections.

The Executive's delay in presenting any proposal aimed at re-structuring the elections and abolishing the slate system has resulted in too short a time for students' council to consider the matter at length and has caused unnecessary confusion over the election regulations. The Executive has irresponsibly jeopardized the election itself.

Students' council should, after voting non-confidence in the Executive, abolish the slate system but forget about further re-structuring until after the upcoming elections.

As well, they could postpone the elections to clear up the confusion the Executive has caused.



photo: Malcom Fraser

Some call this proper channels...

...We call it a railroad.

ELECTION NOTICE

The General Election to elect a new Executive Committee for the Students' Union will be held on Friday, Feb. 18, 1972.

Positions open are:

President

Executive Vice-President

Vice-President (Academic)

Vice-President (Services)

Vice-President (Administration)

Nomination forms will be available at the Receptionist's Desk, Students' Union Office, Second Floor SUB beginning on Thurs. January 27, 1972.

Closing date for nominations is Tuesday, February 8, 1972

Paul Brunnen
Returning Officer