

FOURUM FIVE



Registration pains

Anyone who is successful registering the first day at our University should immediately receive credit for the year's work. He should then commence studying.

What aggravation; one must have the patience of a thousand Specialized teachers and a good book, to complete Registration and still be sane. Just to think - I could fill in the forms, send them in and then on Registration Day come and make any necessary improvisations and have my pix taken.

In this day of great automation, you wouldn't think one would still have to stand in long lines.

Then, one so-called Deputy Registrar gave me the wrong instructions. I lost another half hour running back and forth from one room to another. Luckily, I soon detected who made the error of not giving me a Course Card when I rightly deserved one! This running back and forth between buildings is

ridiculous - in order of sequence number - that's what they say! If it's possible for some students to pre-register then everyone should be granted that right.

I can imagine some optimistic frosh, full of smiles on his first day on our Campus. But after our registration procedure, he is literally destroyed. His faith in the essence of higher learning is suddenly shattered.

I was going to recommend that if this system of Registration must continue, it should at least be spread over a longer period of time - perhaps

two weeks. More could be accomplished through the mail as well. Then, I read in the *Gateway* of Sept. 4th that Med. and Law students were allowed to register by mail this year. It was also implied that next year all registration will take place in the same manner. It figures - I'll have graduated by then!

Cindie Lister

A FIW beers too many?

Dear FIW Committee,

Thank you for the marvellous opportunity to drink and revel on campus this week. Everywhere, beer was as accessible as water. It made us forget all our worries and really helped us ignore all the issues you also avoided during FIW this year.

We know your attitudes have likely been influenced by the SU executive's attempt to ban important political activities in SUB this summer. They refused to allow political groups (including even Kraft Boycotters) to use SUB facilities to inform students of the real issues. You continue that glorious tradition of the Pepsi Generation's lifetime adolescence.

And maybe you've also been affected by the incredible rate of rising prices and other horrors of inflation that have lately become so out of hand. So maybe you consequently just couldn't afford to sponsor any of these pure-investment-no-monetary-return forums that last year's FIW sponsored (e.g. the panel on Quebec and

Separatism, FIW, 1972).

But really, "Students' Union, FUN and GAMES" (see p. 42, "Handbook") is driving the point a little too far. Is that all the Students' Union is to be this year? No politics, no issues, no outside world? Closed campus? No problems as long as the keg is wet?

Hey, kids! The U. of A. is also an academic machine. People think here, too! And people daily face problems that need solutions! There really is a world outside those executive offices. And it isn't all fun and games for most students.

Won't the Students' Union represent any student interests (beyond beer) this year? The FIW Committee certainly hasn't.

FIW was a pitifully memorable week this year. No issues, no problems, no controversies, no discussion! No! it won't soon be forgotten -- only for that!

Keep smiling, kids! While you can! Life is full of rude awakenings!

Yours idyllically,
The Angela Davis Club

NORTH GARNEAU

A point well taken at last Thursday's public meeting to discuss the future of North Garneau was how rigid the university's "flexible" approach to the community really is.

What is meant by "flexible" is that the university shouldn't lock itself into definite plans for North Garneau until its future requirements are more evident.

In the meantime, this uncertainty removes the impetus for either the university or residents of North Garneau to maintain the houses. Unsure of its plans for the area, the university won't sink money into North Garneau. Residents, on the other hand, are reluctant to do the same because they are refused long-term leases.

The result is that houses still worth saving are deteriorating.

William Neal, vice-president planning and development, wants to demolish substandard housing. Part of this has to do with public

image, so important when the university is fighting decreases in enrolment and in government grants.

Just as important is the genuine concern that a serious accident might occur in one of the dilapidated houses. In short, there must be a change in the status quo.

What reason does the university have for retaining this flexibility? It appears the university is trying to learn from its past mistakes.

A decline in enrolment, similar to the present one, hit this campus after the Second World War. The university reacted prematurely and sold the land it owned west of 118th Street. Once builders moved into the area, it was too late for the university to renegotiate.

This action, probably more than anything else, has contributed to the crowded campus after the construction boom of the late 1960's.

Now that we are facing another period of decline you can't blame the planners for looking before they leap. They want to hold on to the area, yet they allow the houses to deteriorate. The uncertainty about the university's future needs remain.

Enrolment is expected to rise slowly to 20,000 by the 1980's, but even this is uncertain. With changes in entrance requirements and a university president determined to sell the public on the importance of a strong university, conceivably, enrolment could exceed expectations. On the other hand, the emergence of community colleges, tighter money and a falling out with the public could mean a further decline.

The dark cloud over Garneau gets even darker when you consider plans for a rapid transit line terminal at 87th Avenue and 112th Street. Although the city reiterated at the Garneau meeting that it had no immediate plans for the area, it seems difficult to imagine that commercial development could be excluded from a hub of activity such as a transit terminal.

It's easy to see why the university can't establish a firm policy.

This leads to the residents' opposition to expansion into Garneau. The university can't prove it needs land in North Garneau. And several studies, including one by the Senate task force and another by the North Garneau Tenants' Association, knocked holes in the administration report's claim that it would be cheaper to tear down the houses than to renovate them.

Faced with these flimsy arguments, residents of North Garneau are indignant. They see destruction of their distinctive life-style as inevitable. They point to an administration report that ignores public opinion.

Maybe both sides are too far apart for the advisory committee suggested by the task force to work.

Yet, judging from the discussion that took place at the meeting, a compromise is possible. One sensible proposal came from Diamond and Meyers, the consulting firm originally hired in 1967 to plan development of North Garneau. They have now redrawn their plan, based on an enrolment of 20,000 by 1980. Their proposals include redeveloping housing between 110th and 111th Streets, off streets and lanes for pedestrian traffic.

It seems that at an institution besieged with committees, one that has an opportunity to actually accomplish something would be welcome.

Brian Tucker

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA WELCOMES

Nominations For Chancellor

To serve four years commencing July 1, 1974

The Chancellor is elected from the general public by the University Senate and acts as:

1. Chairman of the Senate
2. Member, Board of Governors
3. Representative of the University at Ceremonial Occasions
4. Member of University Associations and Foundations

There are no conditions on nominations although nominees should possess a strong interest in university-community affairs and time adequate to apply to the considerable duties involved. Expenses associated with the Chancellorship are provided.

We encourage nominations by October 10, 1973 or enquiries, addressed to:

The Joint Nomination Committee for the Chancellor
The Senate
The University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2E1
Telephone: 432-1268



Barker critical of public relations office

Burke Barker, member of the board of governors, has criticized the output of the university's public relations office.

Reorganization of the public relations, publications, fund development and alumni offices under one body has been recommended by Lorne Leitch, vice-president finance and administration.

But Barker told a meeting of the board Friday that it needs "to know much more about what these offices are doing now than it does."

A decision on the proposal was deferred until the offices are

studied by a committee appointed by the board.

"I want to discuss what the University is getting for its money now from these offices and their staffs, and am not interested at the moment in what the university might get if it spent even more money," said Barker.

The four offices will receive \$291,745 for operation in 1973-74.

Barker had collected press releases from the public relations from July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973 and found that one writer produced about a quarter page - double-spaced 8½-by-11 inch

size - a week.

Other writers, besides the other functions they perform, produced from one to three pages a week.

However, as reported in the *Journal*, U of A President Max Wyman defended the office by saying he had contacted people in the media and they appeared satisfied with the operation of the public relations office.

President Wyman said he felt Barker was being "extremely critical of the office and when do we start asking professors how many lectures they attend from July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973."

The Gateway

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. It is published by the Students Union twice weekly during the winter session on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contents are the responsibility of the editor, opinions are those of the person expressing them. Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome, but must be signed. Please keep them short, letters should not exceed 200 words. Deadlines for submitting copy are 2 P.M. Mondays and Wednesdays.

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