

'Training and molding take place here, but unless a student goes into graduate studies he won't get much of an education.'

— Dr. Christian Bay

RESIDENCE STUDENTS

Residence is much like a fraternity, it teaches people to socialize and conform says Colin Stuart, president of St. Joseph's College house committee.

"Rules add to the tendency for social conformity."

"I'd like to call it tribalism."

In St. Joseph's college there are no formal rules, but there is nothing to stop the residents from making rules; it is just that the need never arises, he said. There are unwritten rules based on respect for other students.

"People have a difficult time understanding how a residence can be ran without rules. Funny thing too, it works."

If the residence is full of first year students rules of some sort are needed, hopefully those developed by students.

"A residence can only be ran well if there is a good portion of senior students. Too many freshmen and the residence government would fall apart."

"Foreign students in residence

them for the 24-hour job of living."

There are a lot of graduate students who live in residence for convenience, she said. "They can have ready-made friends when it is time to go for supper."

She said there was not much discrimination just that "people seek their own people."

"A lot of problems encountered by foreign students is that they are away from home, compounded by those they have as students."

She said most people in residence are at the age when they talk about things a lot and here there is a communication problem.

"I feel really sorry for foreign students, like I'd hate to go to school in Bombay."

MARILYN PILKINGTON STUDENT REP ON GFC

"U of A is a wonderful university. There are so many interesting people to meet and opportunities to expand your interests," said Marilyn Pilkington, arts 4.

change in the basic structure of the students' council.

"Under the present system," she said, "the executive runs the council."

She would like to see council members representing particular groups of interest rather than faculties.

DR. MAX WYMAN ACADEMIC VICE-PRESIDENT

Dissension is what university is all about, said academic vice-president Dr. Max Wyman.

"If there isn't turmoil here, it shouldn't be called a university," he said. "Students usually don't agree with each other or with other groups. That's what university is all about."

He said he thinks students are more mature today than they were several years ago. "My kids know more at 20 than I did," he said. "That's because technology enables them to see and hear things which weren't available before."

It is important that students be allowed to do exactly what they want to do, he said.

But, commenting on the recent actions of the engineering students, he said, "I would like to see debates with words. What's the use of toilet paper?"

ARTHUR HOUGH STUDENT COUNSELLING SERVICE

Students go to Student Counselling Service with every kind of problem, said its director Arthur Hough.

"First-year students sometimes come in with just plain old homesickness," he said.

Another common problem is students from small rural communities do not know how to make friends within the large university structure, he said.

"More than 40 per cent of the students come from outside Edmonton, and some of them feel lonely even in the midst of large crowds."

A large number of students who go to counselling service have not developed efficient study habits previous to coming to university.

"The loss of contact with instructors in large classes means some students keep waiting for the instructor to find out they are having trouble," said Mr. Hough. "Of course, the instructor never finds out."

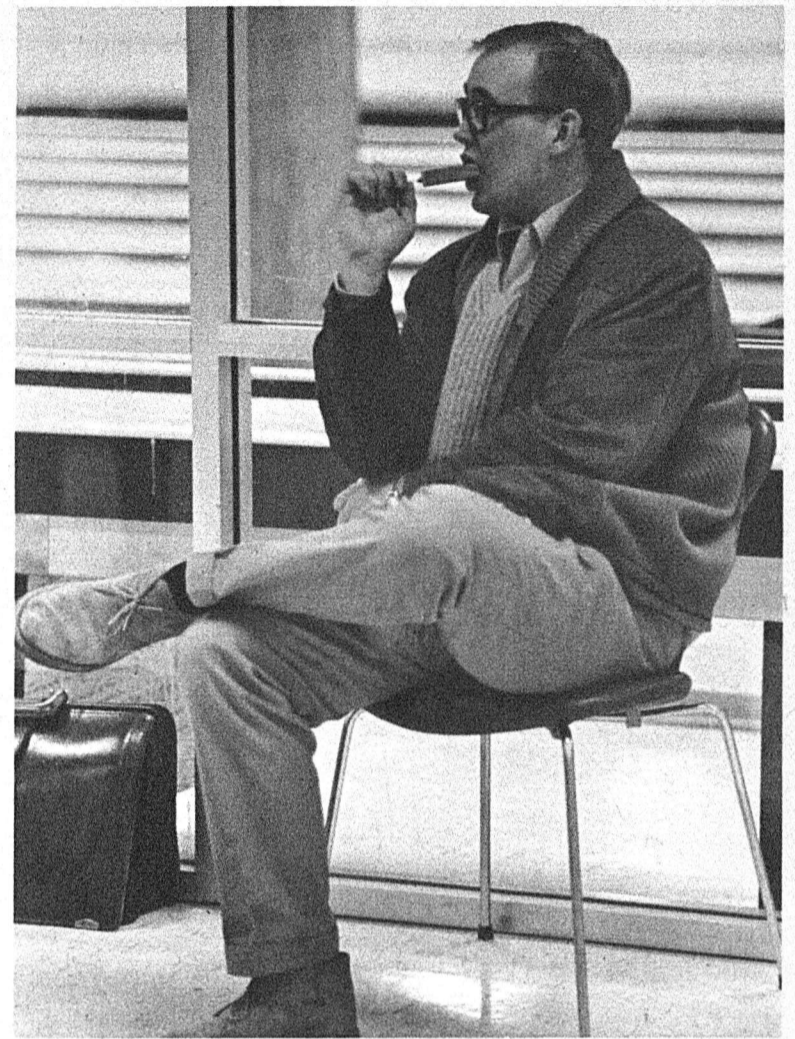
"As a result, the students get the feeling that nobody here cares what happens to them."

The staff at counselling service tries to find positive things for students to do to overcome what is bothering them, said Mr. Hough.

"Often we have to explain the difference between a university professor and a high school teacher," he said. "Most professors are not as unapproachable as it appears as they stand there in front of 300 students."

There were one or two suicides at U of A recently, Mr. Hough told The Gateway. Before that, a period of eight years went by without any known suicides.

"We are not sure of one of the



—Bob Povaschuk photo

A TIME FOR PERSONAL AWARENESS

... a time for lunch

recent cases," he said. "Do you call it suicide when someone plays Russian roulette and loses?"

There are more suicide attempts, but he said it is necessary to distinguish between legitimate attempts and the uses of suicide attempts to achieve affection or attention.

"There shouldn't be student suicides, but on such a large campus, it is impossible to hear all about everyone's problems."

"In dealing with individuals we suspect may be suicidal, we suggest they get psychiatric care."

DR. J. F. ELLIOTT STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

"As the university grows, the personal contact of the student decreases," said Dr. J. F. Elliott, director of student health services.

"Some students feel they are a cog in the wheel. No one notices or cares about them," he said.

"When classes were smaller, more interaction took place between staff and students."

"Classes must be kept small," he said.

"The students that are complete-

ly lost feel a tremendous pressure upon them from their studies. It is partly their fault. They can't seem to make friends.

"It is not entirely university stress," he said. "It is the interaction between the student and the environment. Students have emotional differences and react in different ways."

"Suicide is not a problem at present," said Dr. Elliott, "but we see an increasing number of attempted suicides."

"Most of these attempts were not sincere but a cry for help and attention."

"They don't think anyone cares, that anyone will miss them," said Dr. Elliott. "They come here and find someone does care."

"I heard of one story," said Dr. Elliott, "of a boy who went to the dean to drop out. The dean asked him to write when he found out what he wanted to do. The boy asked, 'Do you really want me to write?' The dean replied yes and the lad said 'Oh well then, I won't leave.'"

"There is a search for identity through the university years," said Dr. Elliott. "Unless steps are taken to have more personal contact for the student, 'there will be a more prevalent problem.'"

DR. R. E. BAIRD POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPT.

We are getting good faculty members and good students, but because of the size of the university, the two are not meshing as well as they could, said Dr. R. E. Baird of the political science department.

The administration is seeking even larger classes and even less student - professor interaction, he said.

"A major problem is with the student of medium interest who is just not too involved," he said. "It is getting harder and harder to touch him."

"Also, the university is going more and more into graduate work; faculty and students are becoming more and more separated by graduate teaching."



IT MAY NOT LOOK MUCH LIKE HOME

... Lister Hall isn't even a house

tend to be far less concerned about student government, but this is understandable because they are here on a transitory basis; it isn't their society.

"Again who's at fault that they are not participating in student politics? I wonder if maybe we don't sometimes brush them off."

Stuart gave a "qualified no" when asked if there was discrimination in residence.

"There is more than discrimination. There is a cultural disparity no one is willing to bridge and this would make it seem like racial discrimination."

Personality differences are also construed as racial differences he said.

"There is a real delusion about university."

"People will toy with other ideas but are unwilling to change their own. They are afraid they will get hurt by having their own ideas examined."

Sally Ringdahl, chairman of the Pembina house committee says residences make the year "easier for students but doesn't prepare

Pilkington is one of three student members appointed to the General Faculty Council. GFC is the senior academic body of the university. It approves courses and examination results, and has general supervision of student affairs.

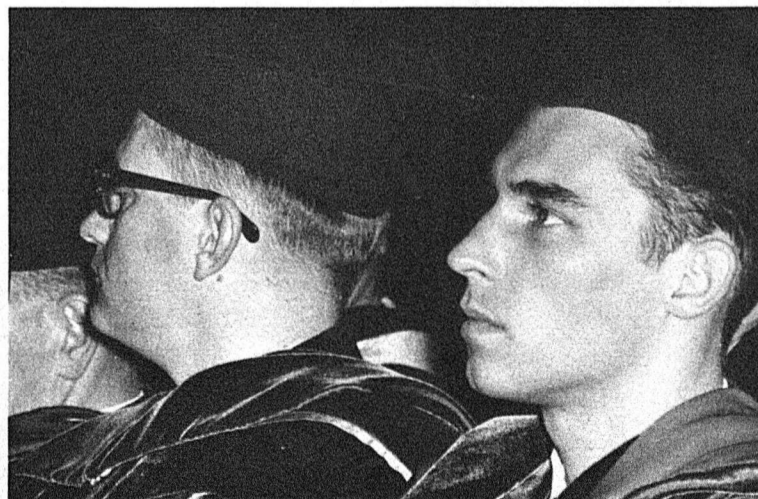
She said student representation on GFC is very effective. Students can present an entirely different point of view to GFC members.

GFC has accepted several resolutions proposed by the three student members, such as the recent resolution opposing the possibility of a rise in tuition fees.

Pilkington said she is pleased with the present system of student representation of GFC. She is not sympathetic with campus radicals who would like to see students running the administration of the university.

"We just don't have the problems that other universities have between the administration and students," she said.

Pilkington is also chairman of the students' union re-organization committee which advocates a



THE END OF THE ASSEMBLY LINE

... a sheepskin and/or an education