

# The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

editor-in-chief ..... Al Scarth

managing editor ..... Ginny Bax      sports editor ..... Bob Anderson

news editors ..... Sid Stephen,      layout editor ..... Joe Czajkowski

Peggi Selby      photo editor ..... Dave Hebditch

short shorts editor ..... Beth Nilsen      page forum five ..... Jim Carter

**STAFF THIS ISSUE**—Considering that Orchestis managed to imprison us in the office by rehearsing in our hallway, we finished in double-dance time—nine o'clock. Two-stepping it out with deskman Joe Czajkowski were Elaine Verbicky, Ron Dutton, Irene Harvie, Barry Carter, Ellen Nygaard, Allan Swift, Don Waters ton, Pat Hamil ton, the big Fitz, Darrell Call yer and Bob Blair about Res visiting. So it's off to res for this old snake in the grass, Harvey G. Thomgirt.

The Gateway is published tri-weekly by the students' union of the University of Alberta. The editor-in-chief is responsible for all material published herein. Final copy deadline for Tuesday edition—6 p.m. Monday, Advertising—noon Thursday prior; for Thursday edition—6 p.m. Wednesday, Advertising noon Monday prior; for Friday edition—6 p.m. Thursday, Advertising—noon Tuesday prior; Casserole—copy deadline 6 p.m. Monday, Advertising—noon Friday prior. Short Shorts deadline, 3 p.m. day prior to publication. Advertising manager Percy Wickman, 432-4241. Office phones 432-5168, 432-5178. Circulation 13,000. Circulation manager Wayne Box.

Printed by The University of Alberta Printing Services.

PAGE FOUR      FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1970

## Council doesn't count

by Dan Carroll

Been down in the dumps lately?

Bored?

Not laughing as much as you used to?

Try a students' council meeting. You can find this entertaining, stimulating 36-ring circus in GFC chambers (the surroundings are lushly comfortable, like the top of the socio-economic pyramid anywhere).

The 36 rings, at times more but mostly many less, are in constant motion. See the petty, irrelevant and irresponsible councillors play their "political" games. You can sure tell an election is coming up.

Yes, these are games complete with rules (Roberts' Rules of Order, no less), cheating and winners: they get re-elected (if they're petty and irrelevant enough to re-run). Why, there is even a circus master—they call him the speaker.

The circus is petty—at this week's meeting only a quarter of the agenda was considered and more than an hour was spent hassling procedure. Believe it or not, it was even proposed to auction the executive positions to the highest bidder and donate the proceeds to the Native People's Defense Fund.

I think that even if this were extended to the whole council, a more irresponsible body could not be found and NPDF needs the cash.

The councillors are not responsible to their electorate and are not responsible to the needs of the electorate. Many councillors are of the opinion that they do not have any responsibilities to their voters after they are elected.

Instead, these councillors have openly admitted that they represent only themselves.

Unfortunately, they can't even take the time to either inform themselves of the issues at hand or research the topics under consideration. Believe it or not, during many of the votes taken on motions at Monday's meeting, a large proportion of the councillors did not even know what the motion was, and yet they voted.

It has been said by many people (and many councillors!) that students' council is irrelevant and it is.

For example, council appears to have no place in its priorities for concern about the rising drop-out rate and mounting alienation as illustrated by the ever-growing number of student counselling clients.

Nor is any emphasis put on revamping classroom and learning structures. All that happens at council happens in its own little pushed out vacuum chamber. It has not yet even realized its own sheer ineffectiveness on university governing committees.

Let's face it boys and girls. You are not doing your job. There has been no noticeable improvement in the lot of the student and that means you are wasting our time.

THIS  
S  
FORUM  
I  
V  
PAGE



# Yes

## Society have another drink

## Five martini hippy-crits

by Barry G. Nicholson

At times one can get really up-tight, even completely disgusted with the establishment (society), which seems to think that just because it doesn't particularly like something, that something is wrong.

Who are they to judge? Isn't it up to one individual to decide what is wrong for himself (that is if he has a mind of his own)?

It is quite all right for these people to go to a party (or should I say, Social Gathering), drink themselves into a drunken stupor, then drive home-endangering both the lives of those who are with them and of the poor Joes who happen to be in their way as they drive down the sidewalk. They piously sit in their seat of judgement, claiming with righteous indignation that society is being decayed by longhairs and marijuana. These people say that marijuana tends to lead one into the criminal folds of our "just" society.

Marry, sir, nose painting, sleep and urine. Lechery, sire, it provokes and unprovokes; it provokes the desire, but takes away the performance." Need I say more.

Marijuana gives one a depth of sensation but does not give one such a loss of faculties. Being stoned does not involve a great loss of sight, balance, and speech clarity. Sound and colour seem to become more accentuated and one seems to become very much a part of what one is hearing or seeing. As for its being a sexual stimulant, I tend to disagree with the claims that many young girls and women lose their virtue and innocence due to the drug. Marijuana does not change the basic personality structure of the individual and it does not evoke responses which would otherwise be totally alien to him. If, however, one felt like engaging in promiscuous activities, his ability to do so would not be impaired, and the end result would be much more satisfactory than if he were straight.

brought in the most revenue. Ever up to the early parts of World War II, the U.S. Government encouraged the cultivation of hemp (Marijuana). Until this time marijuana was easily obtained and relatively cheap.

In 1930, the Federal Bureau of Narcotics was established in the U.S., and largely by the persistent efforts, legislation was passed in 1937 against marijuana without any genuine inquiry into the facts. By 1951, marijuana was customarily lumped with other drugs such as heroin, morphine, and cocaine, and the penalties attached to its use were made more severe along with others. In Canada, our big-wig jumped on the band wagon and passed laws against marijuana in 1923, with less information about it than had the Americans.

The laws against marijuana are unfair as they put it in the same class as addictive drugs. Marijuana has been proven to cause no physical addiction, but there could be a continuing psychological desire for a short period of time. Alcohol can be addictive, but see no laws saying that I can drink if I'm over the magical age of 21.

An individual caught in possession of marijuana can get up to seven years in jail, although they usually receive only two years or two years probation on first offence. For trafficking one can get life. Right here, in Edmonton the Separate School Board refused to let any student back to classes if he is picked up on a marijuana charge, whether convicted or not, until he can prove he will not be a detriment to the other students. Denying an individual a right to an education is getting a little severe.

Just before the marijuana act was passed in 1937 (US), a noted gangster, when asking about the coming act, remarked, "marijuana is the coming thing. Law are now being passed and soon there will be a ban on it. The price will then go up, and that will make it profitable for us to handle". For something less harmful to an individual than alcohol isn't it a shame that we are filling the pockets of syndicates, for actually no other reason than society's reluctance to accept facts?

In summing up, I think marijuana should be legalized for all of the above reasons. I will admit though, that a lot of young people smoke it not for the pleasure but for the kicks of doing something they shouldn't be doing. If you remember correctly, before we turned 21, the idea of going to the bar was fun. Why? Because we were doing something against the law. Now that we have reached that magical age it isn't quite the same feeling as it was before. This, in my opinion, is what will happen if they legalize marijuana but of course there are exceptions to every rule. Bye for now. See you all at the CORONA.



There is no proof that smoking marijuana will lead one to delinquency, although sometimes the two are associated. May I remind these people that when they were young and under the influence of CORN LIQUOR, they used to engage in quite a few delinquent activities; for example, the dumping-of-the-old-out-house trick, and many others which are now punishable offences under our present criminal code.

Alcohol tends to make one lose one's inhibitions as well as sight—balance—speech—sexual coordination. As to its not being illusionary, some alcoholics claim to have seen pink elephants, ghosts and many other weird things. Now to the question of sexual arousalment. It is greatly increased while one is under the influence of alcohol. At least in part, one can play the role of the great lover, but when it comes down to the nitty-gritties, he may have the stimulation to start but rarely to finish. Shakespeare said this beautifully in *Macbeth*. "Macduff: What three things does drink especially provoke. Porter:

Marijuana is not an hallucinatory drug, it brings out that which is most latent in his thoughts and emotions, but still keeps his mind quite open and alert.

Just what is marijuana? It consists of the dried and crumbled stems, leaves, and seed pods of a plant know as Indian hemp or "Cannabis sativa". Its existence has been known since about 2735 BC, when the Emperor Shen Jung, of China, wrote a pharmacy book, which includes the use of marijuana for medical purposes. Although hemp preparations may have been used by the ancient to produce anesthesia, these drugs were not introduced generally into medicine until about 1840. Among the miscellaneous conditions for which it (marijuana) has been used and recommended are cough, fatigue, rheumatism, rheumatic neuralgia, asthma, and delirium tremens.

In the United States, during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it was the second most important crop in the southern states. Next to cotton it