

BRIGHTER JOB PROSPECTS FOR GRADS

Prospects for university graduates finding jobs this year are much brighter, according to the director of the campus manpower office.

Particularly in such fields as engineering, education and commerce, there appears to be a "real upsurge" in demand, says Ernie Block, based on the number of enquiries at the office.

It is expected, however, that arts and general science graduates will continue to have

difficulty finding employment.

Block reports that more than 120 companies have conducted interviews at the office which is considerably higher than last year.

Firms that have skipped this campus for several years are coming back for applications, Block says. In addition, more eastern Canadian employers are using the centre.

"I don't really know the reason but it seems that many companies are planning

expansion," he says.

Jobs seem to be generated in a cyclical pattern, tied to trends in the economy. They have been relatively scarce in several areas in the past few years because of cutbacks in spending.

Despite the much publicized energy shortage, real or imagined, oil and mining companies are two of the biggest markets for labour this year. For engineers, this is welcome news, since their prospects have been slim in recent years.

"Syncrude might have had an effect, though there seems to be a shortage of engineers across the board in Alberta," he says.

In fact, there could be a shortage of graduates in other faculties as well, he predicted.

The freeze in job opportunities for teachers seems to have thawed somewhat, as there is a marked increase in both urban and rural school boards interviewing through manpower.

The most promising areas in

education continue to be in special fields, such as industrial arts, French language training, home economics and early childhood education.

Other promising fields include agriculture and business administration, especially for accountants.

Probably the most important, and less obvious function of the centre is to sell

continued to page 3

I'd rather look around me
and compose a better song

The Gateway

for that's the honest
measure of my worth

----Ian Anderson

VOL. XLIV. NO.31 THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, EDMONTON, CANADA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1974. TWELVE PAGES



photo by Doug Moore

Forum panel (l. to r.) John Schlosser, Isabel Munroe, George Mantor, Linda Spencer, Walter Neal.

A.I.M. leader predicts change

by John Kenney

"It's just a matter of time before the things you'll see in the movie happen up here."

So believes Robert Free, a member of the American Indian Movement (A.I.M.) who spoke to a small group in SUB Monday.

Free was active in the Wounded Knee occupation and he appeared as a pseudo-spokesman under the banner "Radical Indian Politics".

The film referred to was a product of the German media at the time of Wounded Knee.

It was essentially a catalogue of the sufferings and hardships of the American Indian which contributed to the occupation.

Free supplied the narrative as it was heard over German television.

A touch of secrecy was added when Free interrupted a photographer amidst a flurry of flashes.

"Excuse me are you taking pictures?" he asked. "Uh, what I'm doing here is illegal."

He elaborated with, "You see, there's about eight RCMP that follow activists like me."

The short talk and questions

that followed dealt mainly with the actions of the Indians in the U.S.

Free was convinced that the Wounded Knee episode, as with other actions of its kinds, "the so-called militants are taking all the risks" while their more passive brothers are reaping the economic benefits (eg. increased grants).

He was by no means sure that the concessions granted were anything more than "token gestures".

Free said, "The Indians in the States fought every inch of the way...and that's why they have such a strong spirit today." He was implying that the docile history of the Canadian Indian had set a disastrous precedent for the people in terms of their present fight for equality.

Despite this he predicted that for Indians in Canada (Free recognizes no political boundaries) "First they're going to politely ask, then demand, and then kick ass to get what they want."

His clarification of "they" resulted in "the people in control, the rednecks, the John Birchers, and the people who share this consciousness."

Pembina forum lively

by Satya Das

An emotion-charged audience of 65 made Friday's SUB forum on the fate of Pembina and other historical campus buildings a spirited debate on U of A building policy.

The speakers' platform featured Isabel Munroe, dean of women, Walter Neal, vice-president, planning and development, John Schlosser, Building Committee Chairman, Pembina Hall president Linda Spencer, and George Mantor, Student Union president.

There was a brief discussion period among the speakers, with Mantor asking questions of the participants.

Responding to a question on the fate of Pembina, Neal said that the building will be closed in April for possible renovations which would cost \$450,000.

He added, "You would get a darn good building out of it."

The university has no intention of destroying Athabasca, Pembina and Assiniboia, implied Neal, as "they hang together as an historical package."

Munroe stated that Pembina contained a "pleasant mixture of students from all over the world, particularly from other parts of Canada."

Spencer expanded by saying that mostly older students use the Pembina facility, and appreciate the quiet atmosphere and single room type of accommodation. The central campus location was very convenient for foreign students experiencing their first winter, she added.

Schlosser commented that the building committee's function was to determine the

best use for old buildings on campus.

Speaking on the present use of the buildings, Neal said that Athabasca Hall was almost completely vacant, housing the Post Office and the departments of Entomology and Art and Design in "unsatisfactory" conditions.

Assiniboia Hall has 130 of its 160 offices filled, mainly with graduate students and administrative offices.

Neal said that it would be more costly to renovate Athabasca and Assiniboia as they would have to be gutted completely, and new buildings constructed inside the shell.

"Economic feasibility would have to be assessed," Neal continued. "Part of Athabasca could be used for health services, and the offices of dean of men and dean of women after renovation."

"If student demand justifies it, housing would be brought back," he concluded.

After the clarification of what was to be done with the buildings, the topic turned to what would happen to the present residents of Pembina after the closure of the building.

Munroe said that feelers were being sent out to the community to try to find housing for residents, with priority being given to handicapped students.

The forum was thrown open to general discussion at this point, and a question from the audience about foreign students who come to campus next year without a place to stay went largely unanswered. Speaking from the audience, Major Hooper, dean of men, said that in the past the problem was solved by Pembina, now the

university would have to look for other places.

Neal added that there was no other building on campus which could be used as a residence.

Audience comments on the closure of Pembina due to fire safety regulations claimed that the fire marshal may have been acting under pressure, as the residents found fire regulations quite adequate.

Neal refuted the statement by saying that the fire marshal had found improper exits. Also, the university had nothing to gain from the closure of the buildings.

Richard Baird, political science professor, charged from the audience that the university followed a policy of going ahead with new construction and then wondering what to do with old buildings.

In response to a question from Baird about the status of the old buildings around the faculty club, Neal said that they were in very great demand.

A GFC rep suggested that perhaps the handicapped could be moved into the guest suites on 6th floor of SUB.

Mantor said these were unsuitable for long term accommodation.

Neal replied to an audience member seeking the consultation of Pembina residents on renovations that there was a questionnaire being sent out to those involved, and that eventually, discussion groups may be formed.

Other suggestions from the audience included saving the buildings under the Heritage Act.

Pembina Hall houses 100 people.

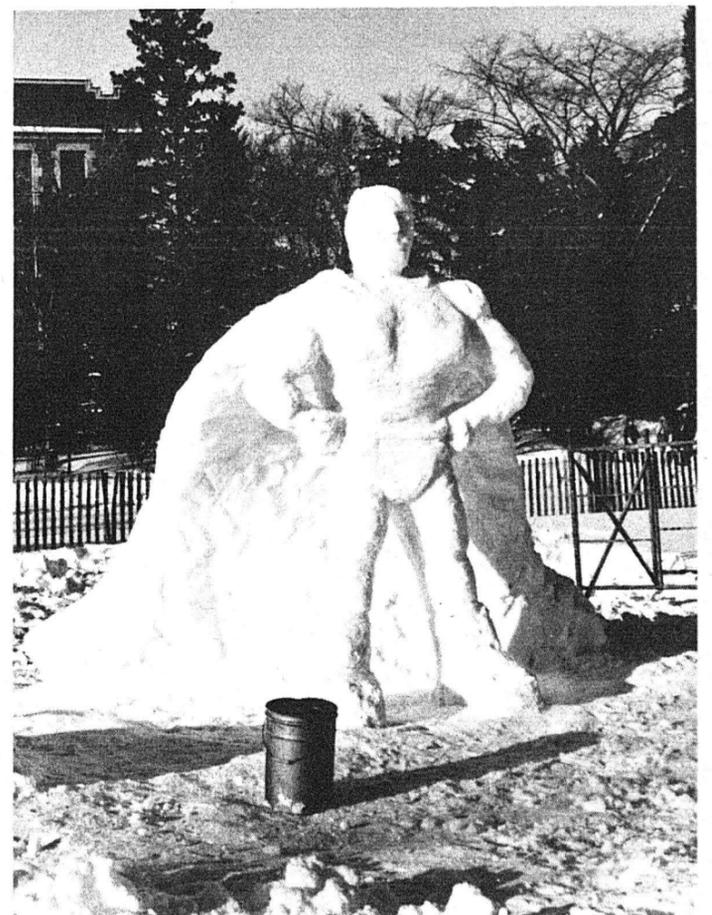


photo by Doug Moore

A sample of the artwork to be found in the Quad this week.