## **HUB Mall evicts Technocracy**

By Mark Roppel

Technocracy Inc. will be evicted from HUB mall at the end of this month.

The mall has not renewed Technocracy's lease," said J.C. Malone, manager of the University Bookstore.

It's not that the Technocrat's are bad tenants, it just that they don't sell anything.

HUB Commercialhas adopted a new policy for leasing in the mall. According to Technocracy's eviction notice dated June 29 "Space is no longer being leased for purposes other than retail and services."

Technocracy is a non-profit membership organization "devoted to education and reasearch," says Walt Fryers, treasurer of the Edmonton chapter.

'I can sympathize with and even approve of this policy in a forward sense for new tenants but I object to it being made retroactive," says Fryers. "We've been here six and one half years and I would say we've invested close to \$100,000 in anticipation of future interest and participation . .

we're in the early part of an accelerating growth curve; we're being denied a chance to collect

The policy is an effort to return the mall to its original conception as a commercial retail and services outlet," says Malone. Fryers thinks it might have

something to do with the fact that HUB Commercial collects a percentage of the gross from the businesses in the mall.

We went to the manager of Hub, then Gail Brown (the Director of Housing and Food Services),

then the Vice-President of Facilities 'and Services," said Fryers, "they all confirmed our eviction notice."

On July 27, Technocracy submitted an appeal to the Board of Governers. But the Board's Administrative Director merely

take the matter directly to Univer- not reviewed by the Board." But sity President Myer Horowitz.

On August 29, Fryers wrote a letter to Horowitz asking him to ensure that the Board Governers heard the case.

Horowitz wrote back the next

Technocracy then decided to day: "Administrative decisions are on August 31, he wrote another letter promising to "examine carefully the file." Horowitz said he has just written a third letter, but he had "no furthercomment today.

In the meantime, Fryers has

been lobbying faculty members, 'about half a dozen will support us." But he is not overly onus." But he is not overly optimistic, "I expect we will lose this battle."

"I'm seventy years old," says ryers, "if we're kicked out of here I don't think I'll set up anywhere

### Technocracy: Is the dream workable?

by Mark Roppel H.G. Wells said Technocracy was "a soundly scientific effort to restate economics on a purely physical basis.

The Oxford Dictionary defines it as an "organization and management of a country's industrial resources by technical experts for the good of the whole communi-

According to the Technocrats themselves, it is the only alternative to the collapse of society

and - or a nuclear war. In the winter of 1918-1919, an engineer named Howard Scott recruited a group of other engineers and scientists to form a research organization called the Technical Alliance.

By 1930 the group had become known as Technocracy. In 1933 it was incorporated as a non-profit, non-political, nonsectarian membership organiza-

After much research, Technocracy concluded that North American society is becoming progressively more unstable as a result of increasingly efficient high technology.

The technocrats believe that makes the wheels go round.

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in Canada and the US we have the potential to produce more than we can possibly use.

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"There has developed a potential for abundant goods and services," says Walt Fryers, treasurer of the Edmonton chapter of Technocracy. Fryer cites marketing boards which impose quotas on farmers and factories which operate well below capacity as evidence.

The price system and the worth ethic under which our economy presently operates are designed for scarcity and are totally inappropriate to an economy of abundance.

"Scarcity societies have to work hard," says Fryer. "In our society it is mechanical energy that

Technocracy estimates that people would only have to work sixteen hours a week with 78 days of holiday each year.

Our present system of monetary reward does nothing but guarantee that inefficiency (men doing things that machines could do better) and inequality (there won't be enough for everyone) will flourish.

"Abundance destroys value,"

says Fryers, "money is more of a stick than a carrot.

Technocracy proposes that everyone be allocated an equal amount of energy each month. For accounting purposes, everyonewould have a debit card, much like Visa or Mastercard.

Unlike moneý, the value of an

energy debit would not be subject to fluctuation. Furthermore, you can't steal, lose or hoard an energy debit: no one could become richer than anyone else.

Fryer maintains, "The amount of energy is known." Its distribution could be controlled centrally. There would be no real government, only technicians who would be promoted much the way industry promotes technicians to-

In a technocratic society there would be no crime, poverty or war. These things are spawned by the price system.

Unfortunately, this Brave New World can not be global. Only North America has reached the stage where it could sustain an economy of abundance. But even here, it will take time.

"It is a long-term thing," says Fryers. "We are not trying to implement it, we are just

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