

The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—The following people stayed late enough to wish the news editor happy birthday: Teri Turner, a (pink rose in our midst), John Thompson, Terry Donnelly, Steve Rybak, Elaine Verbicki (honorary heating editor), Bernie Goedhart, Janie Coull, Isabelle Foord, Wayne Johnson, Charlie Lyall (looks great in a toga), Wayne Burns, Caterina Edwards, Grant Delaney, Al Scarth, Errol Barsky, and yours truly Harvey Thomgirt.

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hot under the collar

Our scientifically minded friends tell us room temperature is 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

Why then, in the name of all that is holy and sacred, is the temperature in many of our buildings much, much higher than this level?

This university is supposed to be a community conducive to thought, among other things.

Have you ever tried to think (pardon the expression) in buildings at a temperature of 80 degrees F?

If you have tried to study in Cameron library recently you have.

The only thing heat does to a person is put him to sleep.

Now, for many of us, a sleeping state is not very different from a thinking state. But there are a few of us who occasionally try to do a bit of studying. And studying, like it or not, involves thinking.

If a person is cold, he can put on

a sweater or a pair of long johns, and thus achieve a more comfortable state.

But if he is too hot, he is not likely to strip down to the bare essentials, as did the young lady pictured on page 1. Can you imagine how much studying would be done if all the young ladies in Cameron library were similarly attired?

Now, if faulty or non-existent air conditioning systems were to blame, as in the case of the Torrid/Tory Building, we could follow in our own glorious footsteps and viciously castigate the administration for inadequate planning, etc., etc.

But we have seen, with our very eyes, thermostats set at various temperatures ranging from 73 to 80 degrees.

Now, would it really be too much to ask to have the thermostats set at the standard, scientific level?

How about it, fellas?

student responsibility

In the last two years, students have jumped into the field of social activism, protesting against tuition fees, asking for student stipends, criticizing the government and condemning the war in Vietnam.

The social activists justify their actions on the grounds that students are privileged analysts of society. This attitude implies that there is something different about a student—that a student is better than other people.

Baloney.

You will find the only basic difference between him and an ordinary citizen is his vocation. Joe Taxpayer works at his choice of jobs and pays taxes on a full year's work. Joe Activist, on the other hand, sometimes works a full four months, and if he has a good job, or works hard, pays maybe \$50 to \$100 in

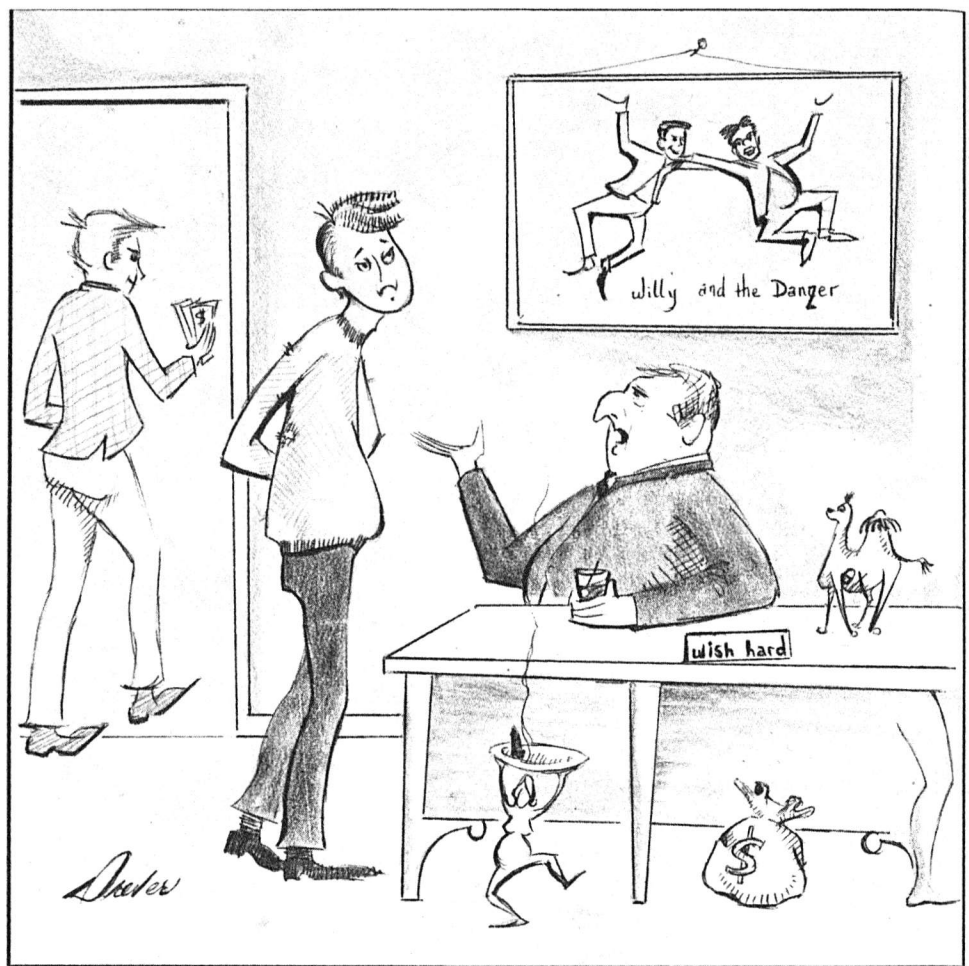
taxes. The rest of the year, he lives in the sheltered university community striking out at everything he dislikes.

His 'better than thou' attitude makes it hard for him to push his ideals. In order for his ideals to be accepted as responsible, Joe Activist must act responsibly. The phony distinction he makes between himself and a citizen is not responsible.

An act of responsibility, such as working on the Blitz campaign for the United Community Fund October 20 and 21, would make the student more acceptable to the public and would make his ideas sound more acceptable too, in light of his unselfish actions.

To get your ideas accepted by the community, you must prove to the community that you are acceptable to them.

Working for Blitz would help.



"what d'you mean — a loan because you didn't make enough money? now if you'd spent the summer in europe for health reasons, like poor smith there . . ."

ralph melnychuk labor problems: reality or illusion

In this age of the emancipated female and color television, labor problems have pre-empted a large portion of the space in our various news media.

The prevalent opinion expressed in the editorial columns of most daily newspapers suggests that labor leaders are not much better than criminals, and that organized labor is, with the possible exception of international communism, one of the greatest threats to western civilization.

Those who raise their voices in support of the common working-man are labeled red, socialist, politically naive, anarchistic, subversive, etc. Those who favor starvation wages for the bulk of our population are termed just, far-seeing, unselfish, prudent, and politically responsible.

But all this name-calling doesn't do much for the ordinary joe trying to eek a living for himself and his family out of a wage which may have been subsistent a decade ago, but certainly isn't now. About the only advantage today's working-man has over yesterday's is that wages today are only 10 years behind the times instead of the former 20 or 30.

Poor Joe is placed in a horrible dilemma. He is not making enough money to live in reasonable comfort in today's society. If he asks for more, he will be told his action will result in a further increase in prices, which will then require a further wage increase, and so on ad infinitum.

Labor unrest reflects one side of our prosperous technocracy — fear. What does our ordinary Joe fear? He is afraid that shortly he will be unable to obtain the basics—not the luxuries, but the basics—of life: food, shelter, and clothing.

Surely not in this day and age, you protest. But certainly. Take one man, add one family, one underpaid job, the

possibility of a wage freeze, the possibility of his job being eliminated through automation, and the certainty that the cost of living is increasing at a much faster rate than Pearson's mythical four per cent, and you have one hell of a worried man.

Labor costs have been traditionally blamed for the increase in the cost of living. But are they the only, or even the major factor? There is strong evidence that big business is making financial hay out of rising costs and taking none of the blame.

There is a strong possibility, nay, a probability that for each five per cent production unit increase in labour costs, management slaps on an additional 10 or 15 cents to feather its own pocket.

Left-wing propaganda you say? Not really. The bulk of statistics done on cost factors are done by those, i.e. big business and government, whose interest it is to prove that labor alone is responsible for price spiralling. The few studies done by such organizations as the Canadian Labor Congress have been either buried or blatantly condemned by the press. This is not surprising, for the news media gain their revenue from business, not the working-man.

Granted, studies done by labor will also be biased, but presumably, between the two biases, some sort of reasonably accurate answer to the problem of inflation can be found.

What really scares me about the current round of labor disputes is the frightening ignorance of university professors and students about the problems of survival which a man making an "average" income faces. University types are looked up to as leaders and future leaders of society—but they won't be for long if they continue to display such striking ignorance of such important problems.