

# Study space shortage severe

The molasses-like behavior of Dr. Willard Allen, acting vp Academic for the University combined with gross insensitivity seems to characterize in particular his flippant attitude toward the problems created for quite a number of students by the acute shortage on weekends of study space on campus, especially in South Rutherford Library.

During final exams last spring, S.U. President Dean Olmstead and S.U. vp Academic Chanchal Bhat-tacharya collected with a very few hours over 700 signatures on a petition requesting longer hours and more space for study purposes. The Library people promised to give this serious consideration, and they did — the hours were decreased and study space in South Rutherford was cut in half, with the result that Friday and Saturday nights especially, find the Study Room intolerably crowded. This should really have surprised no one, since the Administration's official position, as articulated by Head Librarian Bruce Peel, is that "the Library is not obligated to provide study space for students ... and any space provided is purely a plus." But was our fine library system built for the books, or created for the people who use the books?

When I questioned Dr. Allen last week about his intentions to resolve the problem, he hemmed about the urgency involved, and hawed about the many complexities that have to be thought through and duly considered. He concluded by promising some compromise by Christmas exam time, and said he would see if Bruce-not-my-responsibility-Peel would be willing to consider some way to soften the upcoming midterm crunch on space.

I find it incredible, to say nothing of inconsistent and hypocritical, that the University administration along with her holiness Gail Brown, spared itself no grief last spring to make a public show of kicking students in the ass over vandalism in Lister Hall, but when students try to make scholarship and academic excellence their priorities, the Guiding Fathers don't seem to give a damn. No doubt the likes of Peel and Allen make good family men and faithful husbands, but they have demonstrated utter ignorance of the awareness and sensitivity to human needs that are indispensable for people in such responsible administrative positions (an outstanding exception is Dr. Horowitz, President, who usually goes the extra mile to promote understanding and goodwill with students in spite of his demanding schedule). Concerned students have presented proposals that would increase study space by at least 60% while requiring no additional funding, but apparently these are too simplistic and obvious.

In conclusion may I suggest that when the conciliatory approach of mutual respect fails, then perhaps one must consider other ways to make the deaf hear. And please pardon me if I sound a little bitter and twisted — the time I've sacrificed to struggle with the bureaucracy (and I'm by no means the only one) and so far to no avail, has made this whole hassle personally very frustrating.

Robert Kirk  
GFC Science rep



# Quixote

by David Marples

Premier Peter Lougheed outlined over the weekend his proposals for increased U.S. investment in Alberta's energy resources. The Provincial Government has also demanded an increase in domestic oil prices in order to benefit the Albertan economy. If the logic of this seems perplexing to the reader, that is only natural. There is none. For neither Lougheed nor the provincial government are in any position of control over our resources. The wealth of our province, like that of the nation, lies firmly in the hands of multi-national corporations, the vast majority of which are based in the United States.

Lest there should be any doubt about this, the following figures give ample corroboration. In 1970, a government minister reported that 99.9 per cent of Canada's oil refining, 82.6 per cent of the oil and gas wells industry and 84.9 per cent of primary metal smelting and refining were foreign-owned. The figures have not decreased over the past decade. When the Premier speaks of raising gasoline prices, he neglects to mention that the net consequence of this will be to increase the profits of giant corporations such as Imperial Oil, which, in turn, are re-invested in petroleum, further increasing foreign control.

One might ask, what is wrong with foreign control if it leads to the development of Canadian resources? Yet critics, in particular the Reports of the Watkins, Gray and Wahn investigations of 1968 to 1970, have demonstrated that these foreign-owned companies rarely operate in the best interests of Canada. The aim is for short-term profits and the bulk of their personnel are frequently from the parent country. Canada's non-renewable resources are disappearing before our very eyes, as

## Farley strikes again

Last week, David Marples, while recognizing that the majority of students have finally come to their senses after a decade of "hippie mentality," also demonstrates that he himself remains firmly in the grips of irrational lib-left dogma. It should be quite obvious that the new "sensible mentality" of students rules out any foolhardy notions like keeping Petro-Can in the public sector, protecting a wasteful Medicare system, or making Canada independent of outside influences. To suggest that students indulge in such folly, Mr. Marples, is the height of stupidity.

Students have finally come to recognize their own mediocrity and this is a laudable accomplishment. The result of this epiphany is a support of Joe Clark and the Conservatives who are members of a small elite which has the capability of putting Canada back on the right

track. The Conservatives recognize that Petro-Can must be dismantled so it can be placed in private hands which are unfettered by red tape. Undoubtedly, they will follow their logic through so that medical care will be able to shed the inefficient moving parts of bureaucracy, and become a streamlined and well-oiled machine. Any attempt to make Canada more independent, the Tories recognize, is contrary to the principles of laissez-faire, the main spring of free-enterprise.

Students, like the majority of Canadians, have found their proper place in Canadian society. They have entrusted those institutions which have allowed them to do so to a capable and intelligent elite. With this accomplished, students are free to better themselves in this marvellous country.

Charles Farley  
Commerce II

natural gas and petroleum supplies make their way southward at an ever-increasing rate.

The logic behind U.S. exploitation of Canada's resources is contained in the old theory of "continentalism." The present Canadian adherence to this concept rests on the naive belief that the U.S. and Canada can act as equal partners on the North American continent. In reality, Canada has become a hinterland, a quasi-colonial dependency for the expansion of U.S. multi-national corporations. An illustration of this is that in return for exporting oil reserves to the U.S., Canada is obliged to import an enormous quantity of industrial and manufactured goods from American factories. Yet Canada could quite easily produce these goods herself, and could reduce unemployment by doing so.

This subservience of Ottawa, and Edmonton, to the boardroom decisions of New York and Washington has resulted in the lopsided development of Canada, to suit American interests. It is notable, that despite Canada's immense natural resources, only Toronto and Montreal have developed into truly industrialized cities. It is only a question of time before American economic control of Canadian development is supplemented by corresponding political control. U.S. firms have benefitted from the fact that Canada's historical background has traditionally been one of dependence upon a parent state, formerly Britain, currently America.

Although U.S. economic sovereignty is the principal problem facing any advocate of an independent Canada, the first hurdle to be crossed is that of the Americanization of Canadian culture and media output. It is disconcerting that everything from TV serials to the National Hockey League is geared to American rather than Canadian interests. In terms of news coverage, Washington receives as much coverage on Canadian networks as does Ottawa, if not more so. Foreign news services for all Canadian stations with the exception of the CBC, arrive, courtesy of American counterparts.

What chance has Canada to develop in her own right, to utilize her own wealth, when even the sources of media information are becoming offshoots of the southern neighbour? This dilemma of Americanization is not new. It is intricately bound up with Canada's crisis of identity. Those of us who would wish Canada to remain a sovereign state and would support a move to regain control of the natural resources of the country should recognize that the Provincial government of Alberta has taken the opposite route. To reiterate: Premier Lougheed proposes increased U.S. investment in Alberta. Whom will this benefit? Rest assured dear reader, it will not be you or I.

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