

## Executive report

The performance of this year's executive has been similar to that of Joe Clark's brief government; they didn't promise much, and they produced less.

Overall, this year's executive has been characterized by a lack of cohesion and sense of purpose. It has certainly been more peaceful than last year, but at times that peace has verged on the boring. To analyse the reasons for this singular lack of initiative from the executive, it is necessary to consider them individually.

A good deal of the problem lies at the door of President Dean Olmstead. Unfortunately for the Students' Union, leadership is not his strong point. He says he prefers to run the executive by using a team approach. That would be a wonderful idea if the team had been assembled from a group of people who were committed to a common sense of purpose for the SU. When the team consists of anyone who could be rounded up to defeat the "progressive" Fenna slate, it could only lead to aimless meandering.

As an individual councillor, Olmstead has a reasonable track record — he is honest and open-minded in his approach to most issues. Were these the only qualities required in a president, Olmstead would have been well above average.

VP finance and administration Willie Gruber hasn't had much time to show his capabilities in the area of finance and administration. His performance in council is unimpressive; he is emotional and often unprepared to deal with issues as they arise.

VP internal affairs (no, nothing to do with gynecology) Sharon Bell has been the most competent executive member. She has taken care of the day to day administration of the SU efficiently and with a minimum of sturm and drang. She deserves kudos for the work of the long-range planning committee, something predecessor Kaysi Eastlick talked about a lot, and left it at that. A minor quibble — what about the food (?) in RATT and Fridays?

VP academic affairs Chancel Bhattacharya has been a tremendous disappointment. People who knew him last year were impressed with his knowledge of General Faculties Council, and his enthusiasm for issues facing students in the academic arena. Bhattacharya has frittered away his time and energy in petty politicking over trivia. Some solid hard work and organization could have allowed him to leave us this year with a Student Bill of Rights and a Course Guide, both loudly avowed priorities. Instead, he is content to deal with things as they arise, mostly from the initiative of other people. He has also been inaccessible, since his office hours simply are not kept.

A sad waste of a lot of ability.

VP external affairs Tema Frank has been an unmitigated disaster. She has consistently refused to take stands on issues which affect students, and has taken refuge in politically safe PR stunts. Frank refused to recommend a stand on the Convention Centre, is doing nothing about proposed fee hikes, and can think of no more effective ways to deal with a government which is castrating the university financially than to invite them to dinner.

These are all issues which directly affect the lives of every student on this campus, and they have a right to look to their Students' Union for leadership. Instead, what have we got from Frank? The SU is sponsoring a hockey team so the Garneau Community will think we're nice kids.

The sponsorship of the Vietnamese family is the only thing Frank can point to as an accomplishment, and that was almost entirely the work of Ed Bell, chairman of the fund raising committee.

With student leaders of Frank's calibre, the Students' Union is useless as a political voice for students.

About all that can be said for this year's executive is they didn't lock out their employees.

Let's hope the Thorkelson slate, or the Astley slate, or some combination of both, can provide more inspiring leadership.

Alison Thomson

# the Gateway

If it happens on campus...it's news to us.

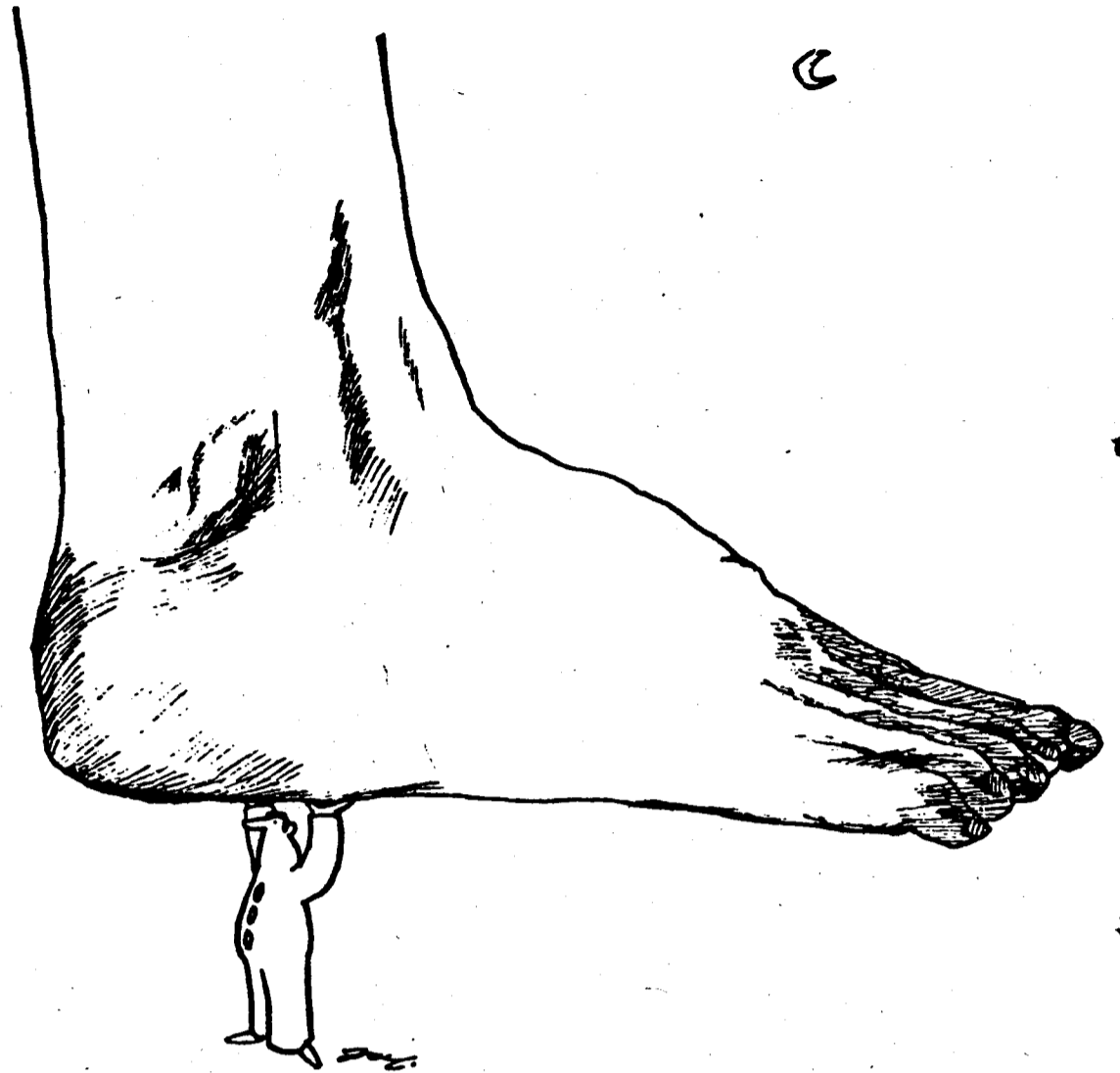
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## Paranoia strikes Farley

One is tempted to conclude that Charles Farley's "Solutions to World Problems" is a quaint Engineering Week prank that the Gateway couldn't squeeze in until the week following. A prank of the "we'll show 'em

what Alberta right-wing is really all about" variety. Assuming, however, that an Engineer would have signed an Agriculture student's name, I'm concerned that one of the country's future business types holds such simplistic and poorly grounded political views.

First, Mr. Farley asserts that the existence of spies in the American embassy is a "ludicrous" suggestion is completely off base. Every American embassy in the world has a number of CIA agents attached to it. They vary in number depending upon how "sensitive" America perceives the situation in a particular state, but their existence (confirmed via documents obtained under the U.S.'s own Freedom Of Information Act), is undeniable. The only "ludicrous" suggestion is to assert that the CIA had no agents attached to the embassy. The American intelligence community may be bungling but surely the obvious still occurs to them.

Ignoring Mr. Farley's quaint National Socialist solutions to our defence and unemployment problems one comes to his "profound" comments on our own federal election. Even members of the Independent Alberta movement don't believe Trudeau is a socialist anymore. Cynical politician perhaps, but after Nixon went to Peking what's in a label? Electing Mr. Broadbent is tantamount to asking the Russians to take over? C'mon Farley, the NDP is on a radical par with Europe's Christian Democrats who have held power in Western Europe for most of the post-war era. But wait, does this mean those nasty foreigners have been

consorting with the Commies for the last thirty years. Is the West German mail express to Moscow merely the tip of the iceberg? Perhaps its time to take-up Randy Newman's "Political

Science" rallying cry, you know, "Boom goes London/boom Paris..." Paranoia strikes deep Charles.

Gary McGowan  
Arts IV

## God damns us

One girl had the right idea: "what's nine months compared to a whole life" — but the wrong reason. Well, not exactly wrong; I know that's what I told Moses. But after all, you can't be too wordy when you've got to write it on a god-damn rock. Twenty-five words or less. Don't kill; a fine principle, even if I was misquoted. What I really said was: It's MY world, so don't you mess with it! You can't kill your neighbor because you don't own him — I do. That goes for you, too. Don't mess with your body — it's mine too. No abortions, no

nothing. That's right, if you get cancer it's your own damn fault and you'll just have to live with it. Cancer is alive and human after all, no doubt about that. (My lawyers say I shouldn't rant so, some bullshit about my image.) Anyway, it's my game and those are the rules. If you don't like them, you don't have to play the game, but if I have to read one god-damn more letter about abortion, I think I'd just croak.

God  
P.S. Keep your bloody hands off the birds and beasts, too.

## Poem Giveaway

To protest against racist W5 we were united, we were organized, and supported by all!

Peacefully, gently, yet cogently we chanted:  
"W5 distorts facts;  
W5 equals racism;  
CTV colored T.V.;  
CTV repent."  
Etcetera.

To love your neighbour next-door treat him honestly  
For innuendo and fabrication are un-convincing arguments.  
So, so, so, racist duk-be-u five!

To love your neighbour next-door do him no libel  
For knowingly or negligently injuring him are equally irresponsible acts.  
So, so, so, insinuating duk-be-u five!

United we stood, one air we breathed for the sake of justice we demanded:  
A CTV public apology!

Well, well, well, did protesters!

Samuel DC Wan