

To avoid a parking ticket...

The Gateway

put your windshield wipers on.

LXVI, NO. 16. THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, EDMONTON, CANADA.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1975. SIXTEEN PAGES.

FAS attacks crucial issues

A conference of the newly-founded Federation of Alberta Students, held last weekend at Mount Royal College in Calgary, has been deemed "a very good working conference" by Terry Parrott, vp (services) and member of the FAS executive.

Twelve students' associations and students' unions representing about 54,000 students, met for workshops and to make resolutions concerning affordability, housing, student finance, daycare, the Adult Education Act and the provincial 11% grant increase ceiling. One of the major priorities of FAS is the 11% ceiling. The federation wishes to make it known to the Alberta government that they consider the ceiling to be "academic regression" and will demand that all information on the ceiling be made public.

"We're worried that the quality of education is going to decrease," said Sharon, expressing concern over the possibilities of larger classes and increased tuition fees to

make up for the freeze.

Housing was considered another priority by FAS and many resolutions resulted from this discussion. The feeling at the conference was that housing is a problem faced by all Albertans and not just students. After Housing Minister Bill Yurko's recent announcement that students would be eligible for low cost housing, the organisation felt the best strategy would be to ask for more public housing.

FAS also recommended to the provincial government that it set up rent review boards with the power to review and roll back unjustified rents and rent increases. A tenant bill of rights was endorsed which would include:

1. No eviction without cause.
2. A guaranteed level of maintenance
3. Landlord-tenants grievance procedure
4. Tenants participating in the making of apartment regulations
5. Preventing discrimination by

occupation (ie, being a student).

Students finance was another area of concern to conference delegates. They felt the Alberta government working with FAS should re-evaluate the needs and expenses of students in Alberta and adjust the allowable living expenses.

The group delineated several areas of potential improvement in student loan policy. FAS will ask for increased remissions for large loans and that remissions be finalized after each academic year rather than after graduation. As well, they want repayment to be made more flexible so students who don't yet have jobs after the six month limit do not have to begin repayment.

Flexibility to personal needs when processing loans and the lowering of the age of independence to eighteen were other demands of FAS as well as a request to be included in student aid decision-making.

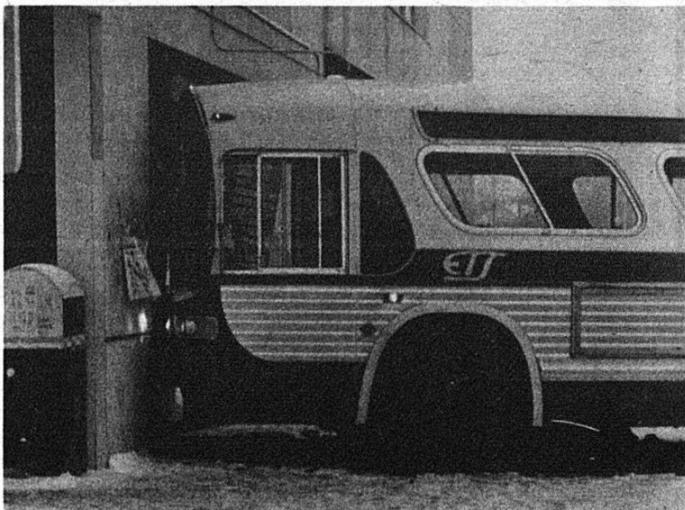
"Right now is a pretty crucial time for the organisation," said Gene Borys, FAS treasurer. "now we have to set up the direction and momentum."

The federation will be operating on a 25¢ per student grant from each organisation until the FAS conference in the

spring, at which time they hope to have made solid gains which they can present to students.

Says Sharon, "the issues facing students are fantastically important so FAS is going to have to react to them."

Bus bumps HUB



It takes a little getting used to, the snow and all, and this bus driver didn't. But it's okay, he only ran into HUB. Too bad he didn't back up and take another run. Photos by Greg Connolly

Legal action against Syncrude?

The Alberta Government may face legal action. In a 2,500 word letter delivered to Environment Minister Russell Oct. 23, S.T.O.P. (Alberta's Environmental Lobby) told the government that Syncrude's Sulphur Dioxide (SO2) emissions were not statistically reduced, legal

proceedings may be initiated.

SO2 is dangerous. S.T.O.P. Research Director Mr. Lucien Royer said that a Civil Service report in 1974 informed the Minister that Sulphuric Acid produced by SO2 reacting to water molecules in the air could pose dangers to Fort McMurray residents as severe as those in

the 1852 London Killer fog. Mr. Royer went on to say that within two days up to 4,000 people had died during the London incident and 8,000 more perished a short time after, bringing the toll to 12,000 deaths.

"The Minister of Environment has ignored these and other warnings given to him about SO2 dangers," he said.

Syncrude will now be allowed to emit 287 long tons of SO2 gas in the air every day. This amount of SO2 will fill 2,647 railroad tank cars each day Syncrude will operate. If such a load was to be shipped across the country, a train 17 miles long would be required every day. "Fort McMurray residents have something to worry about."

The S.T.O.P. Letter stressed the minister has failed to consider matters relevant to the Syncrude SO2 limits. These are:

1. The Clean Air Act: Syncrude will violate the provincial ambient air regulations.
2. Public and Environmental costs: S.T.O.P. has evidence to show that these costs may be extreme.
3. Warnings from Provincial Civil Servants: Some of these

SYNCRUDE see page 13

Postal talks resume

OTTAWA (CUP) - Postmaster General Bryce Mackasey has withdrawn the ultimatum on wages that caused the non-wide shutdown of the postal system last week, and both sides have agreed to resume bargaining.

"It's about time," chief negotiator Jean-Claude Parrott said October 27. "There was no need for the talks to break down the way they did. Now that the ultimatum is withdrawn, perhaps we can proceed with normal bargaining."

Parrott specified, however, that there was no question of postal workers ending their strike at this time.

"Now that Mr. Mackasey forced us out," said Parrott, "the strike will not end until the

members vote to go back. That will take a good contract offer."

The decision to return to negotiations follows a round of correspondence beginning Thursday, October 23 when the CUPW, representing 22 thousand striking mail sorters and clerks, told Mackasey they were "prepared to resume negotiations with representatives of the employer on two hours notice" providing "that all outstanding issues be negotiated without any rigid limitations on the order."

Mackasey's final letter to the CUPW, delivered on Sunday October 26, said the government had "prepared a package of outstanding items" and conceded these can be discussed in any order desired.

see also page 12

Alternatives for Ed Students

Before the end of the week announcements will be made concerning alternatives for students who were registered in extended practicum courses in education faculty.

All extended practicum courses, which involve student teaching for a full semester, have been cancelled for this year after it was found that teachers who participated in in-school program would receive release time to work with the student teachers.

The Alberta Teachers' Association agreed to let stu-

dent teachers participate in their classrooms if this participation was only on the basis of other, less time consuming, practicum courses.

Within a few days the faculty team working on the problems will be informing students of times and places at which they may meet with faculty consultants and the procedures for changing registration.

Three alternatives are being offered to students.

An integrated teaching

skills program will be offered with limited enrollment. It consists of a four week continuous school experience plus the equivalent of four half courses. Emphasis in on-campus courses will be on video taped laboratory practice sessions with individual feedback.

The second alternative is for an individually selected academic program consisting of four half courses drawn from the faculties of arts and sciences. Students choosing this alternative must insure they

provide adequate time for scheduling the student teaching component.

The last alternative is an individually selected academic program consisting of four half courses from the faculties of education, arts, and sciences. As in alternative two, students must provide for adequate timetabling for student teaching.

Students will have the opportunity to discuss these changes which will probably occur in November.

FAS slams Adult Ed Act too

Disagreement with the provincial government's proposed draft of the Adult Education Act was expressed in a formal reply to the government by the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS).

Occupying the new organisation's top priority by a vote at its conference last weekend at Mount Royal College, FAS decided the draft contains fundamental errors in both structure and intent, and has joined with some university bodies in asking for a redraft.

"The draft perceives the students as a product rather than as an individual," says the reply. "Education should be a process oriented to the development of individuals who will be well-equipped, in a broad sense, to deal with a changing world. It should never be solely oriented to the production of 'manpower' for a society."

Delegates to the conference felt, according to the reply, that the proposed legislation implies academic councils and senates of functionally unworkable sizes. As well, the

FAS see page 13