

Is it possible to antagonize and influence

# The Gateway

...at the same time?

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## Presto! Watch ceiling raise the roof

by Kim St. Clair

University students in Alberta will eventually be 25% of the total cost of their education, amounting to over 700 dollars, if the suggestions of a government report are followed.

Although the 11% ceiling on university funding, seen as the cause of the university's expected tuition fee increase, is officially declared as an inflation curbing measure recent reports indicate otherwise.

Speaking for the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) Terry Sharon, vp (services) revealed this information after receiving the report which, among other things, suggests that students pay more of the cost of their education. Sharon expressed fear that the provincial government's implementation of the 11% ceiling on expenditures is going to act as a stepping stone to achieving the aims set out in the report, aims possibly envisaged as early as 1972 when the report was made.

Sharon refused Gateway access to the report pending public disclosure of it Monday, though he did reveal its basic content.

The expected 25% increase in U of A tuition fees is seen as a direct result of the 11% ceiling, says Sharon. In other words, students are going to have to bear the added financial responsibility, one which he says the government has shirked by cutting back on university funding.

University cutbacks were officially endorsed in order to under inflation, but Sharon argues that revenue gained

from the move amounts to only two and a half million dollars, hardly enough to cripple the economy.

This conviction is reinforced by Provincial Treasurer Merv Leitch's statement appearing in a recent issue of the *Albertan*. "It is well recognized," he said, "that the causes of inflation are primarily international and national and that a provincial government is only capable of taking very limited action to counter the forces and effects of inflation."

Sharon said FAS is strongly opposed to the Lougheed government's attitude to university financing. FAS intends to combat the 11% ceiling by launching Monday what may be one of the largest campaigns to hit this campus in five years, in which it will lobby towards lowering the 11% restriction.

**IMPORTANT STAFF MEETING Friday at 2 Rm 282 SUB**

## Students 'privileged' - Yurko

"The government attitude that there is no student housing crisis must be changed before any steps are taken to alleviate the present housing crisis."

So says Terry Sharon, vp (services) and executive member of the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS).

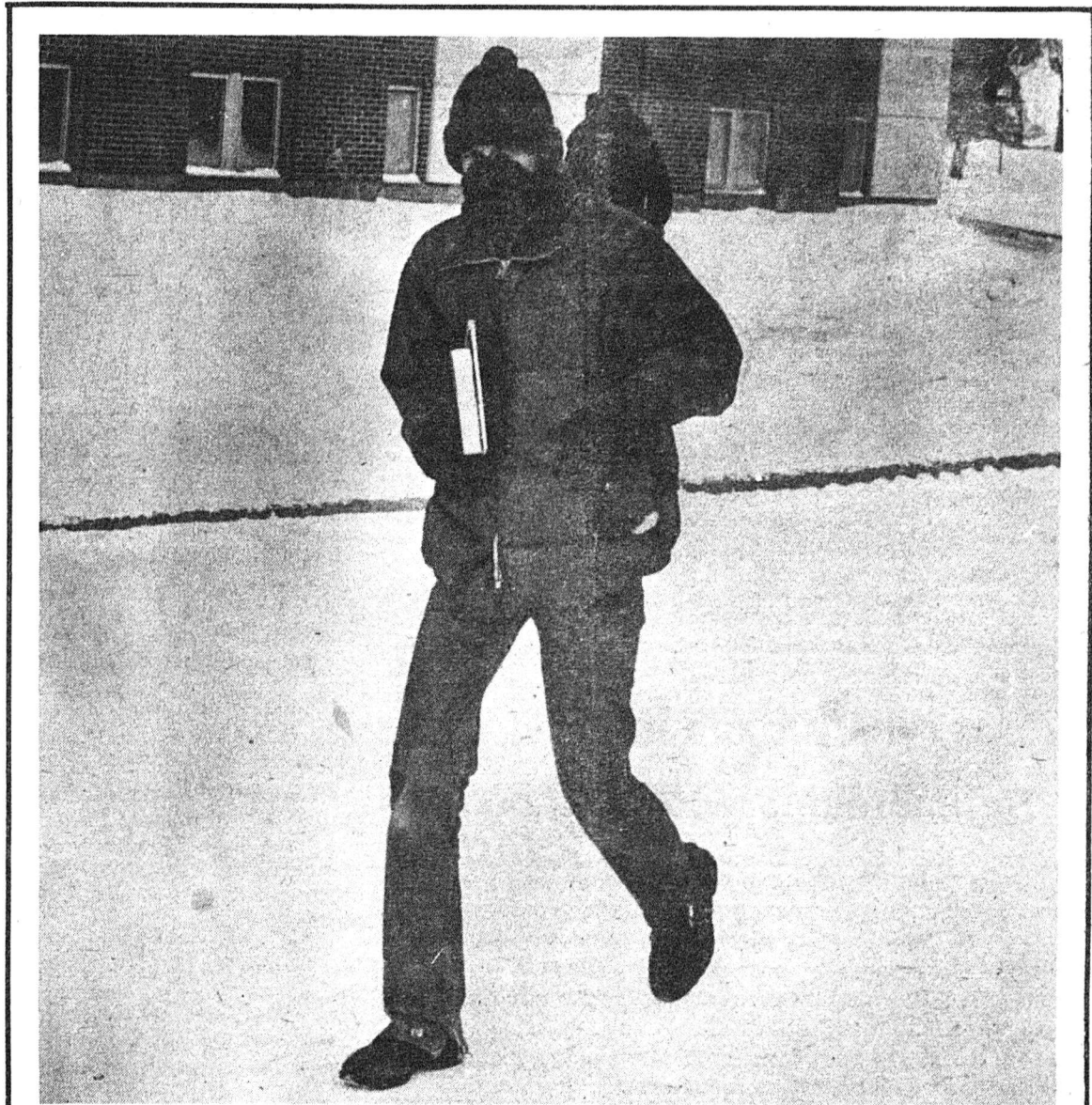
Government lack of activity in the matter ignores the findings of a preliminary student housing survey by the government which, claims Sharon, clearly shows that there is a housing crisis. The government's attitude is further expressed by remarks made by Housing Minister Bill Yurko to Graeme Leadbeater, to the effect that 'students are a privileged class.' The implication, says Sharon, is that students are not justified in receiving special housing consideration.

Sharon explained that although students are now recognized by the government as being eligible for low income public housing, there is no low income housing to be had.

FAS is taking a stand for more public housing and improved tenant rights for students. It also is striving to have greater say in determining housing policy in the future.

"At this time", said Sharon, "the provincial government is doing a study on student housing at all post-secondary institutions in Alberta. FAS objects very strenuously to the fact that students are not being consulted in this housing study and is asking the provincial government to allow student groups to present their views on student housing in Alberta."

Another point in dispute is the recent housing legislation which allows for a 19% rent



## The anonymity of winter

After a pleasant, almost disarming winter thus far, January opens with a cold snap suitable to make most rue the new year. By popular consent January is the worst month of the year, and historic proof of it can be found on page 3.

## Rent increases guaranteed in 1977

by John Kenney

Shortly before Christmas as the provincial government passed rent control legislation, Grant Notley, provincial NDP leader and Ron Hayter, a city alderman, don't think much of it.

The rent legislation came into effect Jan. 1/76 and encompasses rents increased after

Oct. 1/75. In the first year, rent increases are limited to 10%. This may be done in two installments or all at once. In the first six months of 1977 a further 9% is allowed.

There is no rent control after this point.

However inadequate this may seem to Notley, he confessed, "I voted for it because in

the absence of any rent legislation we would have a complete mess."

Similarly, Hayter commented that "I'm not going to say that the system meets my approval but its an improvement."

Among the shortcomings of the rent legislation cited by Notley and Hayter:

- no provision for rolling back increases before Oct. 1/75.
- no bill of rights for tenants included.
- the rent legislation ends after 18 months - what then?

Under the new bill a landlord can appeal for a higher rent increase assuming its justifiable. A tenant cannot be evicted over a rental dispute but he can be evicted on any other grounds.

Hayter was concerned with

large companies like Alldritt raising their rents an average of 45% in 1975. He felt the ceiling on rent increases would only hurt the honest landlord who didn't make similar increases in '75. "This provides a windfall for gougers" he said. "The honest guy is under the same restrictions as the gouger."

The uncertainty after 18 months of rent control was expressed in the alderman's belief that constant lobbying is necessary in order to guarantee that better legislation is produced. "We need some lasting legislation that is going to give tenants a better deal."

Notley is planning to introduce a private member's bill designed to balance rights between landlord and tenant. "It is obviously a bill designed for the landlords," concluded Notley.

## Who's for desert?

SAN FRANCISCO (ENSCUP) - The movie "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore," the adventures of a woman who runs away from her conventional role as a wife and mother, has sparked interest in a modern real-life phenomenon - runaway wives.

Fifteen years ago, runaway husbands outnumbered runaway wives 300 to one. But in today's more liberated atmosphere, twice as many

women desert their homes as men, according to the Wall Street Journal.

According to Ed Goldfader, President of Tracers Company of America, an investigative agency specializing in missing persons, most of these women are running away from someone, not to someone. The typical runaway wife, he says, has been married for more than ten years and feels abandoned by her grown children.