



Med students develop an alternate form of bed care as Nurses' strike drags on.

photo Ray Giguere

Rosey projections cloud over

by Wes Oginski

Unless drastic actions are taken there will be a shortage of engineers in Canada, says the federal background paper "Requirements for Engineering Graduates to 1985."

However, Dr. Peter Adams, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, says the present economic situation in Canada contradicts the paper's optimistic projections, but even with an economic decline, the universities' ability to meet engineering needs are far below the requirements to be met.

Recent developments also support the paper's results.

The recent slow-down of energy programs, the restrictive National Energy Program (NEP) and the current federal budget have all created a slow down in the mega projects in Alberta.

Projects like the now defunct Cold Lake project (which was also highlighted by the paper as a major employer of Engineering graduates), the faltering Al sands project, and the dead Norman Wells project, are examples of a declining industry.

Pat Kushnir of the Engineering Placement Office confirms that the hiring trends point downwards.

"It (employment opportunities for engineers) is a lot less healthy than it was this time last year," she says, but indicates the

current statistics are not available.

Kushnir explains that the trend has been occurring for some time. In 1981, 31 per cent of the

Engineering graduates entered the petroleum industry. This compares to 51 per cent in 1980. She adds that the figures for placing first, second, and third year students have also been declining.

"I anticipate the percentage of the number of students to enter the petroleum industry is declining," she says.

Adams agrees there has been a decline but says demand created over the past seven years still exists.

"Engineering graduates are not the only ones being affected," he adds. "With the whole economy down... the negative dive in the past year had a negative effect on the employment figures for all graduating students."

He also indicates some industries are actually on the upswing, or soon will be. Among these are the fields of construction and design for offshore drilling, the chemical industry, electrical generation projects, and the computer industry.

Kushnir says it is hard to say how these industries will be affected by the economy in the future.

Nader's Raiders on campus

OTTAWA (CUP) — While student groups bicker among themselves, universities are turning into "an instrument of the corporate system", claims U.S. consumer activist Ralph Nader.

Nader toured Ontario universities in a recent push for his Public Interest Research Groups (PIRG) program, a network of campus-based organizations aimed at involving students in social issues.

"Student unions should suspend their internal bickering and focus on building citizen organizations with full time staff," he said in an interview at Carleton University.

During an address dubbed "Action for Change", Nader told over 300 people at Carleton that students have the potential to have a major impact in changing society. "Student groups differ from other social groups," he said. They have their own communication system, are at the peak of their idealism, they don't have bosses breathing down their necks, and they know how to get hidden information.

The 48-year-old attorney, seen as the guru of consumer revolt in North America, brought worldwide attention to the automobile industry's hazardous standards in his 1965 expose, "Unsafe at Any Speed."

He zeroed in on student

power as a lever against the big business practices in the early 1970's, with the development of PIRGs around the United States and in Canada. Paul McKay, coordinator of Carleton's PIRG, said there are six PIRGs in Ontario and one in British Columbia, with two more possibly starting in Montreal and Vancouver. Winnipeg also has a PIRG beginning to form.

Nader's speeches harped on the dominance of corporations in contemporary culture and the obligations students have to challenge abuses. He said the Niagara River in Ontario, was "being used as a gigantic cesspool for corporations", while PCBs and pesticides can now be traced in

breast milk. "Pollution is a very charitable word," he said.

"If millions of young infants can be toilet trained, why can't the corporations?"

At Carleton, he said the student press has an obligation to investigate what is going on in the university. "They should look at what connections universities are having with corporations and how research is being distorted." Companies are giving grants for only some kinds of research, he said. Student papers should also look at the extent to which professors may not be spending adequate time with students, because they may be busy consulting with companies or government agencies.

Postage rates nix tax form delivery

by Wes Oginski

With tax form deadlines around the corner, many students are finding that their Tuition Deduction forms were distributed on campus while their Education Deduction forms have been mailed.

Next year both forms will probably be distributed on campus.

University Comptroller A.

Knowler says the decision to distribute the Tuition Deduction forms, which is handled by the Office of the Comptroller, was made for economic reasons.

"We made the decision to hand them out instead of mailing to save money," he said. "We think we're saving about \$8,000."

Many of these costs come from postal rates and the cost of a special printer needed for a mail-form to produce 27,000 copies.

The Registrar's Office is responsible for the 27,000 Education Deduction forms and they were mailed only because of technical difficulties.

"We had decided in fact we would hand them out but had them mailed out because of delays in (printing) production," says W. Blanchard, Registrar.

"Our plan is to distribute them, hand them out, next year," he adds. "We hope to coordinate with the Comptroller's Office (to distribute the forms together)."

"In terms of postage, we estimate \$6-7000 in (savings)," Blanchard says. "Recent dramatic postal increases in postage rates, we've been particularly hard hit in this office."

Knowler says that the campus distribution of the tax forms is a growing phenomenon on Canadian campuses.

"At the University of British Columbia, both types of forms, the Education Deduction and the Tuition Deduction, are both handed out at the same time (and have been for the past few years)," he says.

Of those handed out on campus, only one-half of the 27,000 forms were picked up. (At UBC, only one-third are picked up.)

Knowler also admits the timing for distribution was poor. The forms were handed out in

SUB the week before Reading Week, during Reading Week, and the week following.

He also says the decision came late, so those in Spring and Summer session and out-of-towners were not informed of the change in procedure.

"We plan to search them out and mail them (Tuition Deduction forms) out to them," Knowler says.

Next year the policy will be made explicit, and those who will be unable to pick up their forms on campus will be instructed to inform the proper office to make arrangements.

Lock up your babies

Once again it's time to experience the joys of the democratic process in motion.

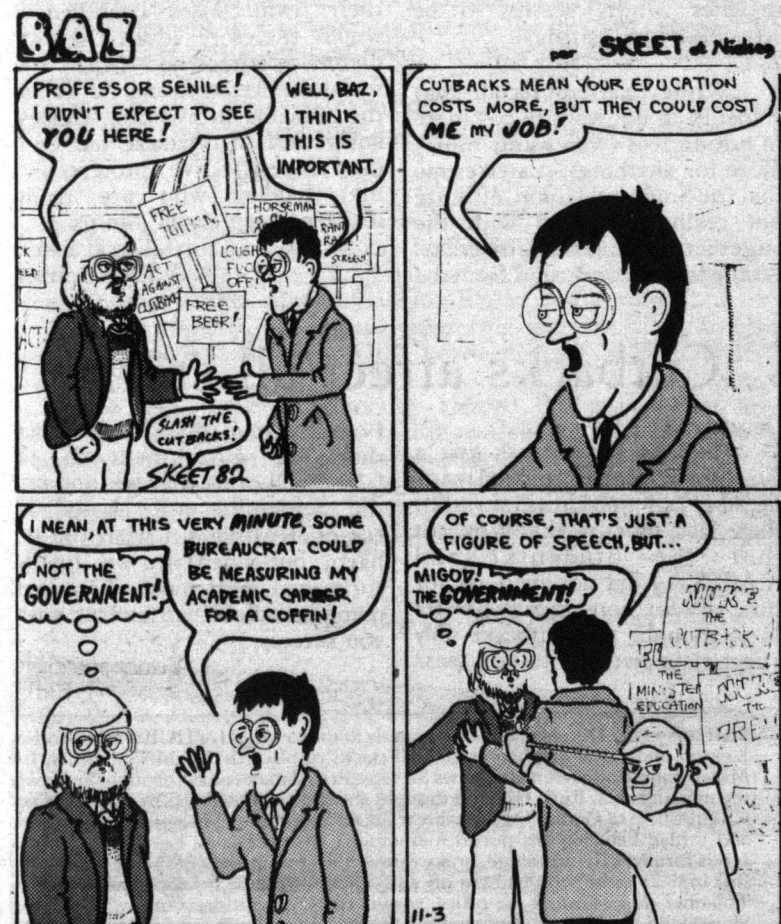
All would-be, perspiring politicians are hereby informed that Election II '82 will take place almost right away.

Nominations for Students' Council reps (5 positions), general faculties council reps (7) positions,

and Science Faculty council representatives (12) positions, will close Friday March 19.

Nominations for the positions of president and v.p. internal will close on Wednesday March 17.

Campaigning will begin March 21 with the election on the 26.



Olivia Butti's Diary

Olivia Butti was unable to make deadline today because of an important conference scheduled with Mr. Gregory.