

If Willie had de wit...

# The Gateway

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... he wouldn't be in de ring.

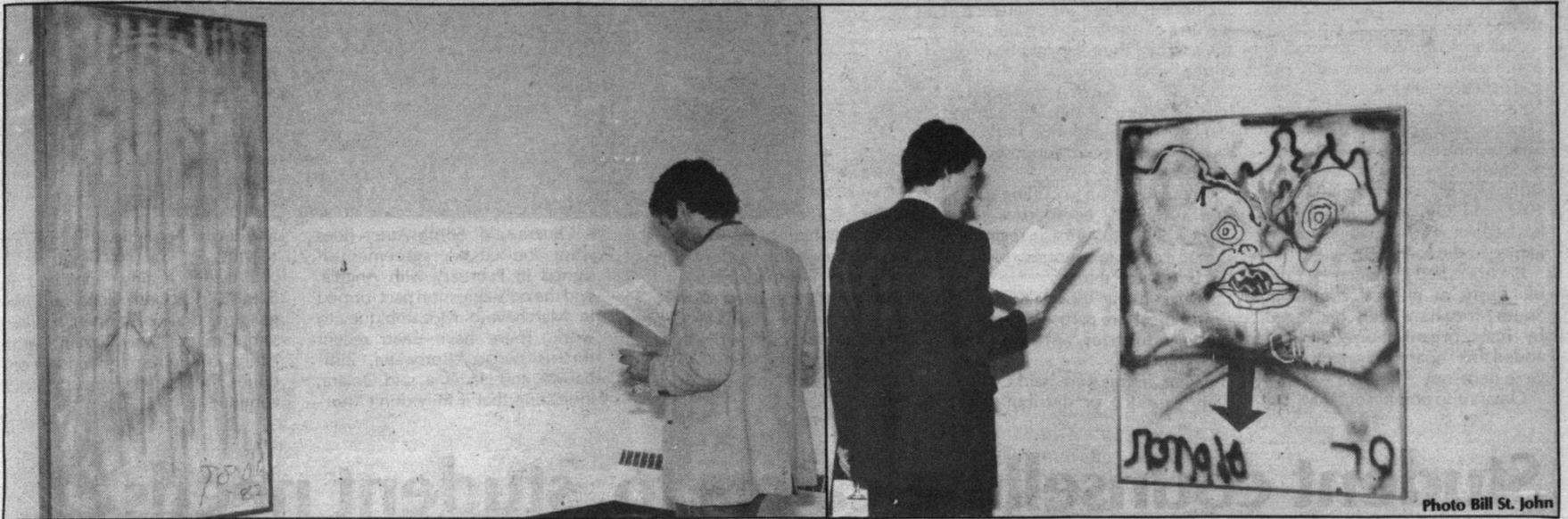


Photo Bill St. John

Can't tell the prime ministers without a program? Can't tell a Bowell from a Tupper? For the unenlightened, this is William Ronald's portrait of Arthur Meighen on the left and John Diefenbaker on the right. Both paintings are part of Ronald's The Prime Ministers collection now on display at the ManuLife Building. For explanations, see pages 8 and 9.

*Resignation coincides with struggle for university's survival*

## U of R SU president announces resignation

by Felix Gray

for the *Carillon* in Regina and Suzette C. Chan for the *Gateway*

Sue Sorensen, president of the University of Regina student union, has announced she will resign as of Dec. 6, 1984.

The decision was made after an in camera meeting Nov. 27.

In accordance with the U of R

constitution, the VP internal, Lori Latta, will fill the position until the end of the academic year. The position of VP internal will remain vacant until the next council meeting.

In a letter to the Student Representative Council, Sorensen cited personal reasons for her resignation. She said her student loan and scholarship depend on her enrolment in at least three classes

next semester.

It is not the amount of time she gives the union, she wrote, "rather the quality of time I can give projects."

Councillors at the meeting were reluctant to accept Sorensen's resignation. It was moved by Latta that they accept it "with deep regret." There was no discussion on the motion. Jane Bouey, secretary treasurer of the SU, said

there will be no major change in the direction of the council since the SU is united on policy direction. She added that the entire SU will miss Sorensen's leadership.

Sorensen had indicated to a *Carillon* reporter that she might have stayed on if she were receiving an honorarium for the position. U of R students' council members and executives are not paid.

She added in her letter that she is not a politician or a public speaker and has to work hard at being "a public figure."

She said she no longer has the personal energy to plan activities of the SU and goes on to say that the problems at the U of R have just begun.

Her resignation comes at a time when the university is fighting for its existence. Underfunding has led U of R administrators to announce the potential closing of one of the university's two campuses and the implementation of a priority registration system.

The system was designed to prevent overcrowded classrooms by giving preference to students with the highest marks and who are closest to completing their degrees. The administration made the announcement only six days before registration for next semester began.

Even more seriously, the U of R is in danger of being swallowed up by the University of Saskatchewan. U of R officials recently hinted it may have to close the College Avenue Campus if the province does not appropriate \$60 million to repair buildings on that campus.

The campus was the original site of the U of R and its buildings are in such bad condition one university official quipped, "Bricks keep committing suicide." One building has already been closed due to unsafe floors.

There has been talk that if the government does not give the university funds (and it is unlikely it will) when its budget is announced this spring, the U of R, with an enrolment of 5,000 students, may be reunited with the University of Saskatchewan as the University of Saskatchewan.

The University of Saskatchewan, with campuses in Saskatoon and Regina, was split up in 1974. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the U of R.

If that happens, U of R students fear it will become merely a technical subsidiary to the already larger U of Saskatchewan, with major faculties staying north.

## Students ignored by troubled PQ

**MONTREAL (CUP)** — The biggest question on Quebec students' minds when they march this week for accessible university education is: will the Parti Quebecois government notice?

If Rene Levesque's divided government has not toppled by the time an estimated 4,000 students from six universities take to the streets of Montreal Dec. 5, it will still certainly be too pre-occupied with its own survival to pay attention.

Martine Gagnon, McGill student council vice-president external, says the national assembly's problems will change the focus of the rally. "We won't hope to have an effect on the government. They're busy trying to save themselves.

"We want to make the public aware of what's happening (the threat of a tuition fee thaw for Quebec students)," Gagnon said.

Tuition fees for Quebec students have been frozen since 1969 at \$570 a year, but education minister Yves Berube recently hinted they may go up.

Freezing and eventually abolishing tuition fees was a plank of the PQ party platform since the party began. But the PQ now seems ready to re-examine this, just as it has its commitment to Quebec sovereignty.

Still, students do not think they are asking much. "It's neither more nor less than the status quo that students will ask of the Pequist government — at least what's left

of it — as a Christmas present," writes Sylviane Lanthier in *Continuum*, the student newspaper at march have a giant "ANEQ" logo screened across them.

"If ANEQ takes over the demo and people at U d M feel-tricked they'll pull out," Gagnon said. "U de M have a lot of influence (on the l'Universite de Montreal.

L'Universite de Montreal's participation in the rally surprised the other schools organizing the event. U de M is an anchor member of the pro-PQ rassemblement des associations d'etudiant(e)s universitaires (RAEU) which is not supporting the Dec. 5 demonstration. RAEU says students should not protest until the government announces it is thawing tuition fees.

U de M's student association executive brought a motion to its council opposing participation in the rally. But council overturned the motion.

Other universities supporting the rally are Bishop's Concordia, McGill, Universite de Sherbrooke and l'Universite du Quebec a Montreal.

The marchers will meet at Parc Lafontaine at 6:00 pm and walk past UQAM and Concordia to McGill, where a dance will end the evening.

Gagnon admits the march is badly timed, with so many students studying for finals.

She also worries l'Association nationale des etudiant(e)s du Quebec, (ANEQ), Quebec's largest student association, will try to take

over the march. Though only two universities, UQAM and Concordia, belong to ANEQ, ANEQ has been printing flyers and posters for the event. The flyers promoting the possibility of other joint university action."

"It's very important that ANEQ

## NDP may freeze funding

**WINNIPEG (CUP)** — Manitoba's NDP government may freeze post-secondary education funding next year and at least one University of Manitoba professor fears the U of M may be forced to cut whole faculties in response.

Provincial Finance Minister Vic Schroeder told university and college representatives recently that a freeze in funds is likely because the federal government imposed its six and five restraint programme on education transfer payments in the spring, leaving Manitoba with \$24 million less for education and health.

"I think a zero per cent increase is a very serious possibility," Schroeder said.

While Vic Froese, University of Manitoba faculty association president, said the freeze may mean the elimination of faculties and departments, university board of governors member R.P. O'Kell said it may prevent the university from bargaining in good faith with its workers.

Administration president Arnold

stay as low-key as possible. They should swallow their pride and work for co-operation," said Gagnon.

Gagnon hopes to replace the trucks and bullhorns which typify ANEQ marches with candles for every marcher.

Maimark said, "The minister has repeatedly said the government does not want to interfere with the collective bargaining process... (But I am not certain) how he squares that with the statements he makes about not wishing to provide funding for... increasing salaries."

Naimark said the U of M needs at least \$2.75 million more in its 1985-86 operating grant, or a 8.39 per cent increase, to cover non-salary expenses.

"It is not clear to what extent this represents an attempt by the government to on the one hand lower expectations and on the other try to mobilize support for lobby efforts (aimed at the federal government)," he said.

"Whatever the case, I think that prudence requires that we take the signals of a tough year ahead seriously and make appropriate contingency plans," he added. Naimark refused to elaborate on possible contingency plans.

"I believe we are facing a very difficult period," he said.