

The Gateway

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STAFF THIS ISSUE

Those of you who have any idea of what has gone on around here the last two press nights may not believe this, but things are actually going together pretty quickly (it's almost 2 a.m., and we're almost half done!). Those who have been doing their duty for Gateway and University are Morey (duh) Eaman, Darryl (screech - you misspelled my name) Gregorash, Bob Blair, Lana Yakimchuk, Anne Parker, Karen Moeller, Karen Campbell, Fiona Campbell (and other permutations of these names), Francisco Cerda, Dot Mihychuk, Sid Stephen (does his wife know the real reason he dropped by SUB tonight), Don Bruce, Winston Gereluk, Gerry Slavic, and many many other whose names I do not yet know, and myself, Harvey G. (for generally a great guy) Thomgirt, reminding all the above (and anyone else who considers himself a member of the staff) of the party Saturday night (the address is on the blackboard in the office).

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cupe and other things

It was fortunate that Students' Council and the SU Executive saw the error of their ways and decided to drop the appeal against the CUPE certification thereby recognizing the same right to unionize that Canadian capitalists have been granting for 30 years.

All but two of the Executive backed away from their original stand giving as their reason that the staff has a right to organize into any bargaining unit they wish and students' council has no right to oppose the union.

However, it seemed that Council did not drop the appeal because of any respect or consideration for the workers but only because of the political pressures that they've been subjected to for the last few days.

This was made clear later in the meeting when the question of the firing of Bill Dau, a SUB janitor, was raised.

These same councillors who voted overwhelmingly for the workers' right to form a union and engage in collective bargaining overwhelmingly defeated a motion that asked little more than that Dau be allowed a fair hearing.

Arts rep, Barry McLaren, proposed that a committee be formed to investigate this questionable firing. The committee was to consist of three members of the CUPE local, three members of management and a seventh member who would be the chairman and who would be chosen by the other six. Dau was to be reinstated with full pay while the investigation was taking place.

Students' Council had little to lose by passing the motion.

If the committee, which had equal representation from both sides in the dispute, had been formed and had reported, Students' Council would have had more secure grounds for any action it took. Dau would have been receiving pay while the committee was sitting but surely he was owed at least a couple of weeks of severance pay (if not legally, then morally).

Dau was allegedly fired because he worked too slowly. This is contradicted by the other janitors' claim, "he was just as fast and as good a worker as the rest of us."

Dau was allegedly warned that he would have to "shape up or ship out" but the warnings were never written and furthermore he never received written notice of termination containing the reasons.

The other janitors claim that "most of the rest of us have also been warned two or three times."

Even General Manager, Darrel Ness, implied that proper and just procedure had not been followed and that, in future, he would receive all complaints about workers in writing and would act on them himself.

There is also a legal aspect to this particular case. As long as the CUPE certification was still in the courts (and it was so long as the Students' Union was appealing) no changes in personnel - no hirings or firings or changes in salaries - could be effected.

However Students' Union fired Dau, hired three new janitors, and tried to buy off one of the union members by offering him a promotion and a raise.

Since it is obvious that the actions of the Students' Union management in the case of this firing were very questionable, the Students' Council refusal to form an investigation committee to settle the issue is indefensible.

It is unfortunate that people who are having their education paid for by workers and who have set themselves in a position to make decisions for 18,000 other students, should take it upon themselves to deal so arrogantly with the life of a man who works for a living.

By denying Dau a fair hearing, the Students' Union further antagonized their employees and demonstrated a real lack of concern for the welfare of the workers.



Gateway? Facts?

September 15, 1971

I sure wish your reporters would attempt to keep the facts straight—at least on cover stories. The two articles about Student Help in the last edition contain so much misinformation and self-contradictions, I find it difficult to know where to begin the corrections. In the first place, the Policy Board for Student Help was not a recommendation of the Executive, but of the committee set up by Students' Council to study Student Help. This committee only had one executive member on it - myself.

Through its investigation, the committee found Student Help performed a very worthwhile and essential function on this campus, supplementary to other services offered, but not duplicating them. Because certain members of the university community questioned

various aspects of Student Help, the Committee recommended a policy board which included members of Student Health and Student Counselling, who are major supporters of Student Help. However, when this recommendation for the Policy Board was brought to Council (notice the past tense not the reported "will be"), a councillor brought up the matter of legal liability of the Students' Union. The Students' Union lawyers were then solicited for their opinion and replied that the Students' Union is legally liable for any organization which is integrally part of it, but also can be liable for any registered club on campus. How you ever figured that for groups other than Student Help, registration does not imply possible legal liability, but only to inform the "Head Office", I will never understand.

So then a motion was presented to Council granting Student Help \$800 "with no strings attached". Please explain to me how this implies (to quote) the "Union will attempt to establish full control over Student Help" or that "Interference on the part of the Students' Union Executive is for purely personal political reasons".

These articles on Student Help were one of the worst attempts at reporting I have seen for a long, long, time. The issues were so mistreated, the director and assistant director of Student Help, Tom Likeness and Shannon Smith, felt obliged to come to Council Tuesday night and apologize for the Gateway and refute that had anything to do with the articles. Now how bad is that? Gateway, when you slant an issue can't you even make sure the

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God, its nice to be back. After a long, hot summer of gainful unemployment, I find it rather encouraging to be back among the assorted dope freaks and bomb-throwing anarchists who inhabit this cockroach-infested office.

Speaking of res students! There is absolutely no truth to the rumor that the hamburgers they serve in Dinwoodie are the last earthly remains of those poor innocents who inhabit the hallowed halls to the southwest of us. After due research (conducted, of course, in my own inimitable style, i.e., while partaking of

spirit-enchanced beverages), I have found that this rumor is not only untrue, but completely unfair. Actually, the aforementioned last remains are recycled exclusively by Lister Hall, and served to those poor souls who dine there. Usually, I might note, in the form of creamed salmon on toast. Poetic justice...

I happened to run into five engineers yesterday on my way to an orgy (held thrice-weekly in the Students' Union Office). And to my amazement, they were all sober... I almost ran into Don McKenzie the other day. Unfortunately, he jumped out of the way. Oh, well. Better luck next time.

Speaking of our much-maligned campus security officers. I happened to meet one particularly badly-bruised member of this dying species on my daily round of the campus. After a few minutes of small talk (would you believe about five inches?), he revealed to me that he was thinking of trying out for Football of the Year.

FIW has brought a few ripoffs to light. The Students Union, in accordance with the circus theme of RIW, was handing out balloons and suckers to the first-year students who took it upon themselves to attend the film presentation/discussion in SUB theatre. It is my understanding that these supplies were ript off the Engineering Faculty Entertainment Committee, which was saving them for the next stag party.

Good new! Kathy got married last week to David. I'm sure you all know good old Dave, who has been a fixture around this campus for years and years. Dave and Kathy will be honeymooning in the basement of the Biological Sciences building, and seriously, I can't think of a more secluded space. Unless it's Don McKenzie's office.

I leave you with this ageless quote, which, as you are all loyal readers, I expect you to take to heart: "A herd in the band is worth boo in the tush." Think about it.