

Notre Dame to die in stages, not single blow

VANCOUVER (CUP) - British Columbia's Social Credit government has apparently decided to kill the province's only interior university in stages and not in a single blow as had been expected.

Increased class size and a drastic slash in courses was the price set by the B.C. Universities Council on February 28th, as it

handed down a list of pre-conditions for Notre Dame University (Nelson, B.C.) to receive government funding.

Among the conditions set are 1) the elimination of first and second year programs at NDU, and 2) a reduction of the faculty/student ratio.

"The institution is running at a level of staffing one-third to

one-quarter more than is the practise at other universities in the province," said B.C.'s deputy minister of education, Walter Hardwick. (NDU currently has a faculty/student ratio of one to ten, although the costs per student are lower than those at the three larger coastal universities in B.C.)

The Council recommended

that first and second year courses be taken over by Selkirk College, a two-year college located in neighbouring Castlegar.

A letter distributed by the NDU Students' Union to students and community in Nelson says that the recommendations will cause the eventual shut-down of the university, as third and fourth year enrolment will be too small to support the institution. The letter calls the Council's recommendations "a disgusting route for the government to take."

The fight at Notre Dame has been overwhelmingly backed by other student organizations throughout the province. British Columbia Federation of

Students (BCFS) delegates reaffirmed their support at a conference held this last weekend in Vancouver. Forty-five delegates, representing twelve institutions in B.C., made a number of recommendations intended to alleviate the crisis in Nelson.

In a lengthy telegram sent to four major education department officials, BCFS demanded that NDU become the first campus of an individual interior university teaching all four years, by September 1977.

Its further demands were that NDU receive immediate grants totalling six and one half million dollars - \$3,000,000 in operating grants and \$3,500,000 as a library grant.

Michener Pk, from page 1

he adds. "And that is: how in the hell do they get in and how in the hell do they stay there?"

That was obviously the question GFC reps asked

themselves in December when they called for the sworn income statements. They responded to the second part of the question by re-instating a

maximum term of accomodation of four years. This four year maximum was in effect from 1967 until 1973, but had been changed to an indefinite term in the spring of 1973.

Furthermore, the maximum income limit of \$10,000 has been upped to \$12,000. Young explains that this \$12,000 is "a rather arbitrary figure, but in view of recent labour negotiations, it seems to be a reasonable one." He adds that the university is presently looking at some way of indexing that figure with the cost-of-living index, "but that is still unresolved."

Young also said that the proposed rent hikes of 18.6% for three-bedroom unites in Michener Park are still under review by the Rent Review Board.

Michener Park contains 548 two and three-bedroom unites and has a waiting list of 250 married students. All changes - sworn statements of income, raising of maximum income permitted, and the beginning of maximum four year term - will take effect as of April 1st, 1976.

Energy, from page 1

of energy research and because it derives a great deal of tax revenue from petroleum sales - it won't promote research into alternatives, he said.

"Because the government has that huge tax imposed on oil they're actually killing investment in alternatives, because if they were to suddenly remove that tax then the alternatives become non-competitive," he stated, "and therefore not a viable investment for business."

Taylor questioned the "buffalo hunter attitude" now held towards oil exploitation, which could ultimately leave us not only short of adequate energy reserves, but with high employment in what is inevitably going to be a contracting field.

Both Berkowitz and Taylor predicted that although society in the future will have to change its lifestyle, there is no need for drastic change. One of the main

areas requiring restructuring, said Berkowitz, will be transportation, which accounts for one third of the total energy demand in Canada.

A cross-Canada link-up with potential hydro energy in northern Manitoba supplemented by dispersal of western oil to the eastern provinces was proposed by Berkowitz as being a viable scheme. "But," he said, "Canada unfortunately is not anywhere near considering a co-operative venture like that."

Hydro-electric power is not the answer to energy problems in Alberta, said Berkowitz, because it could never provide more than 6% of total energy needed in the province. Little was said in the panel discussion about the role environmentalists are likely to play in future energy decisions.



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ELECTIONS

Nominations have been re-opened for the following positions and will be accepted between the hours of 1 PM and 4 PM on Tuesday, March 16, 1976, Room 271, SUB.

Positions:

- Student Representative on the Board of Governors
- President of Women's Athletics
- Vice-President of Men's Athletics

Nominations are now open for the following positions and will be accepted between the hours of 1 PM and 4 PM on Tuesday March 16, 1976, Room 271, SUB.

ARTS

2 SU Council Reps
6 GFC Reps

SCIENCE

2 SU Council Reps
6 GFC Reps

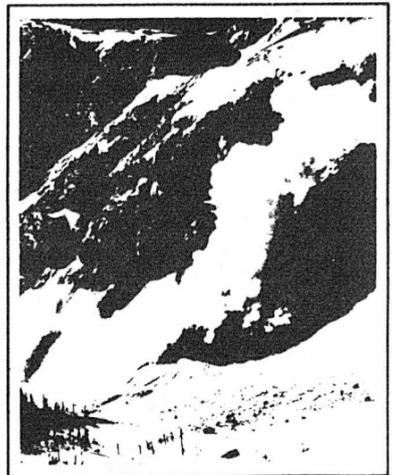
Nomination forms are available in the SU General Office - 256 SUB.

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