

Trudeau on his toes

SASKATOON (CUP) -- Pierre Trudeau isn't known for his diplomacy with students.

Just before facing a crowd of students, packed into a University of Saskatchewan hall March 19, he said shrinking funding of post-secondary education is partly the fault of the "ignorance of students and student organizations in lapping up everything (Saskatchewan) premier Blakey has fed them." The provincial governments, the prime minister said, are also to blame.

Then, entering the jammed hall to the tune of the Hogan's Heroes theme, Trudeau called for the provinces to match the

funding for social services currently provided by Ottawa. In three years, Trudeau said, federal support for post-secondary education has climbed from 46 to 62 percent of total costs. The provinces, according to Trudeau's math, have decreased their share from 46 to 23 percent.

Evan Thornton, external vice-president of the U of S Students' Union, later said the federal government is equally responsible for cuts that will swell tuition by 12 to 20 percent in most provinces this year. He said the 1976 funding agreement between the federal government

and the provinces was originally a "blank cheque", for use at the province's discretion for any social service.

It was with tacit approval from the federal government, said Thornton, that the provinces chose to cut back on university funding. He accused the prime minister of playing politics with students' tuition fees, squeezing post-secondary education between the provinces and Ottawa in their squabble.

Trudeau responded to charges that the government is funneling money into technical training rather than liberal arts programs, claiming he had

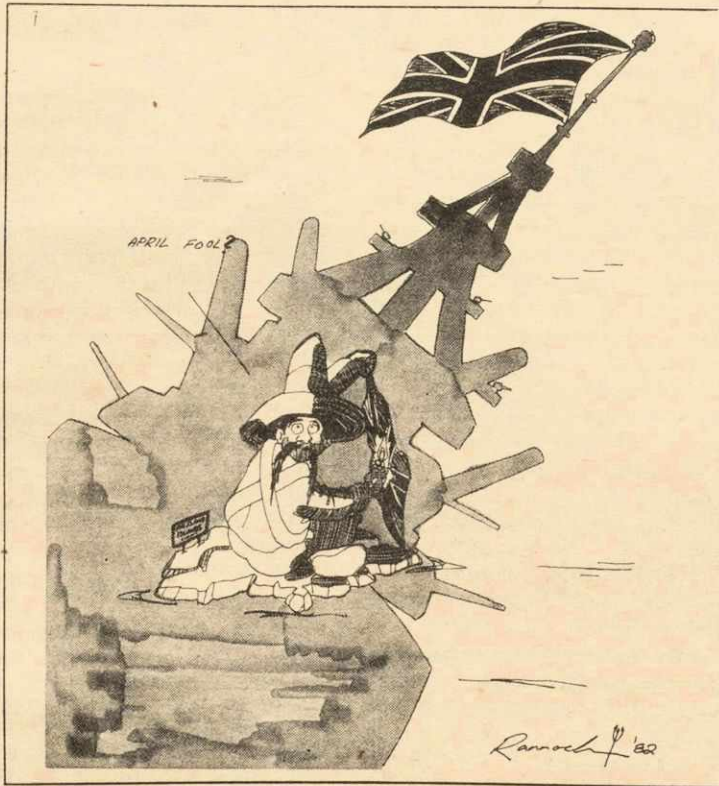
"enormous respect for liberal arts education." But he said an increase in arts students means a decrease in technical students, while a shortage of skilled workers exists.

"Mr. Axworthy's office is filling out thousands of working visas a day for foreign technicians coming into Canada," Trudeau said. "We can't keep producing sociologists."

One student reported that the shortages are caused "largely by quotas forced by cutbacks at technical schools. "That's your opinion," Trudeau said.

Thornton said the prime minister's responses were evasive, and said it was "scary" that Trudeau was threatening the autonomy of universities by "talking about how liberal arts don't fit the job market."

The Liberal government, he said, has "one of the worst track records in predicting the job market," while liberal arts provides a good base education in the rapidly-changing job market.



social parasites

(RNR/CUP) Long a familiar sight on North American street corners, saffron-robed Hare Krishna devotees are turning up in an unexpected place: the streets of Moscow. And the Kremlin is not amused.

One Soviet official has denounced them as "social parasites," and a newspaper said the cult's emphasis on simple living and meditation diverts devotees from problems of everyday life and useful work.

The publication said the movement is part of Western ideological subversion, claiming its Russian followers "have allowed themselves to succumb to alien influences, swallowing the lure cast out by our ideological foes."

Raises in honoraria for Council executive

Raises in the honoraria of council members was discussed in the council meeting. The proposed honoraria system allowed for a gap between the President's honoraria and that of the other two executive positions, Vice President and Treasurer.

During discussion it was pointed out that it would be a problem if the disparity led people to run for President instead of other positions only because it paid more. Others said the President should be paid more as he or she does more work than the other positions.

After discussion, council members voted to support the gap and a motion containing all honoraria changes was passed by council 12-3-1.

FRANKFURT



TRAVEL CUTS has the following money saving flights available.

RETURN from \$378 standby (via NYC)

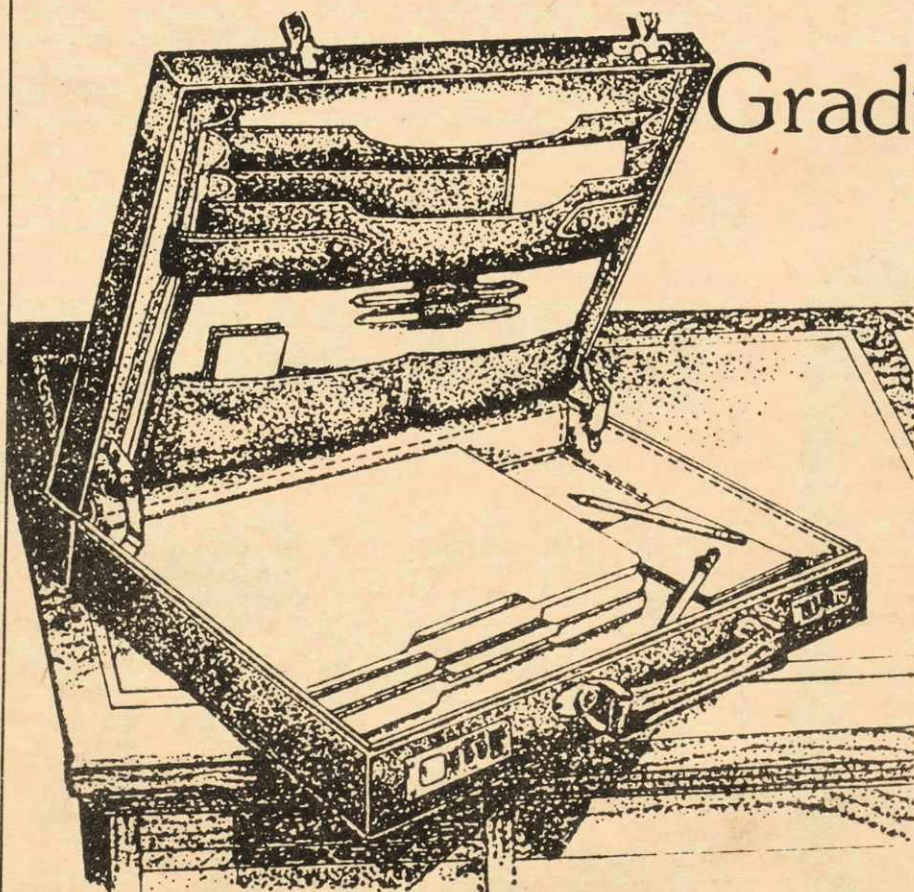
ONE WAY from \$469 (via NYC)

Flight must be booked 21 days in advance.

For details and booking contact:

TRAVEL CUTS
Going Your Way!

Dalhousie, Students' Union Building
Halifax, 902 424-2054



Graduation Gift Ideas

- . ladies leather portfolios from \$75.
- . men's attaches from \$90.
- . briefcases \$195.
- . wallets & French purses from \$18.

D.J.'s
TANNERY SHOP
and
CAFE
5472 SPRING GARDEN ROAD, HALIFAX

Where you've come to expect the best in leather