

The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—It's been a long, wet evening with that damn moose licking the back of my neck—especially since a slithery, slimy serpent like yours truly is nothing BUT neck. As the moose muzzled madly and the saliva slobbered seductively, the staff who slaved for Sir Snake were Ina von Nieuwkerk, Andy von Busse, Dan Carroll, Terry-the-pettit, Philip Lenko, Ken won't-you-come-home-Bill Bailey, Ron Dutton, who deserves to be included because of his ears, Bill Pasnak, Brian Campbell (Out, out, brief Campbell), Lynn Weinlos, Judy Samoil, Cathy (a 'C' is better than any 'K') Morris, Joe Czajkowski, Bust Less (our double barreled Cub), Steve the connoisseur Makris, Bob Anderson, Bob Schmidt, Ellen Nygaard who is sick of all those comments about her apparel, or lack of it, various unhelpful engineers, and your moose-inspired wetback, Harvey G. (for Gummed-Up) Thomgirt.

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PAGE FOUR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1969

Editorial

Engineers' Week — ho, hum

The university administration and the students' union are vitally concerned about their public image. Which is natural.

The administration is currently in the middle of a large drive to collect \$5 million per year for a five year period. To do this, the university administration must project a favorable impression on the people who may contribute willingly and generously to a better university. It would be ludicrous to expect taxpayers to dish out funds to a place that spawns radical and rational people who are more than eager to think—and create.

The students' union is the same. They too want to portray the great image just on general principles—so taxpayers know their money is being spent on people who should go to university to get a degree and not raise a bit of hell.

Which brings us around to Engineer's Week. Now engineers are basically very shy, studious students who work at learning to build structures that will house the ever-blossoming population of this and other lands.

But every year the engineers hold their week in February and spend it pulling off stunts that are supposed to amuse but not necessarily inconvenience people.

This the engineers do to a considerable extent. They like to drag

students over to the red school house and paint their bodies a few shades of dye. And they like to push cars up on the steps of Tory Building but they say that doesn't inconvenience people. Etc., etc.

We don't see anything particularly bad about these things as long as they sincerely do not inconvenience people.

What does bother us is that the engineers seem to have extremely incapable minds in the field of pulling stunts. Which really puts them in good stead with the general public.

The engineers have been sadly lacking in authentic ingenuity this term. They haven't done one lively thing to make engineers week more real to the people on campus.

All they do is go along the same as usual and please the public by showing them that they really don't think of too many radical ideas and they still pull the same ridiculous queen kidnapping skits as the engineers did back in the 1940s.

We think the engineers should be less conscious of their public image (and hence the image of the university) and go all out and really let the campus and taxpayers know that the engineers of the future are creative, talented young men. And not just highly trained duplicaters of what has been going on here for the last 30 years.

The letter was authentic

A number of students think the letter we printed on page one of Tuesday's Gateway is not authentic but, in fact, a joke at the expense of Boyd Hall.

We can assure you this is not true.

Mr. Hall came to this office little more than a week ago and said he was going to run for president of the students' union in the Feb. 21 general student election. He said he was running to "provide an alternate opinion" and a few other things. We agreed this was a good

idea because a university campus should have as many opinions expressed as their are students.

Then, less than a week later, Mr. Hall came back to our offices and dropped the letter which appeared in the Tuesday Gateway. We didn't change a thing—just photographed the letter. Mr. Hall handed it to us personally.

We regret his decision. We believe his campaign would have been a good one and students would have had at least an alternative to some of the statics who have run for president in the past four years.



How to be good, communist and a member of CUS

By RICH VIVONE

It was a grade five class of 26 pupils and the teacher was talking about what is loosely termed "social studies" in the antiquated Alberta school system.

They were discussing democracy. "Do you know what democracy is?" one pupil was asked.

The pupil jumped up all bright and eager. "Yes," he said, "It is the way our country is governed. All people are free and everyone can vote and it is a good thing for all people. It isn't like that other thing."

"Oh, what other thing?" the teacher replied.

"Communism," the boy said, his face now very stern and sad. "Communism is what is going on in China and Russia and it isn't very good."

The class responded noddingly to the distinction.

This is not uncommon. Children hear their parents talk about such things and children, young, wide-eyed and all-digesting, pick up the serious tones of many discussions. They don't hear what is really being said but they can piece together some words and the result is part of the above.

Children are known for piecemeal conclusions to half-assed arguments. And, I used to think, as children grew older and understood the system, they learned to have a closer look at the essentials of arguments and debate much more before coming to a final decision.

Like I said, I used to think this. Now I know better. From what I saw of some of the debating prior to the Canadian Union of Students referendum Friday, a whole lot of students at this university still haven't left their grade five class.

Much has been suggested in the campaign against CUS that

CUS was still observed the International Union of Students Congress which has been labelled a "communist-financed, communist based" organization. It has also been said that CUS reading lists are filled with books by Marx, Engels and Marcuse who are, we are told, pretty nasty people. They may even be communists which is a dirty word indicating a subversive organization. A reinforcement to the above argument is the CUS resolution supporting the National Liberation Front in Vietnam which is at least anti-American.

The alligations go on and on. And students, most of whom are past the adolescent stage, would be expected to look for concrete facts before coming to a conclusion.

You know what I mean. Attending a political congress doesn't make anyone a member of that organization. Alberta attended the CUS congress and no one called it a radical university or any of the other terms likened to CUS.

University students are supposed to be the potential intellectuals in this country. Among them are those who will govern the nation. Would you expect they listen to half truths, derive false conclusions and argue that it is the truth.

I wouldn't think so if I hadn't heard too much of the discussion last week. But that's what happened. No one knows of any communists in CUS. No one knows if their are any genuine radicals in it. But because some read Marx, have been labelled radical, therefore they are and that makes them bad.

Bad. Bad. Bad. Bad. It's probably better for CUS that we aren't in it.