

NDP slams sham gov't concern

In a news release to *The Gateway* NDP leader Grant Notley professed that the provincial government "has revealed its willingness to sacrifice the environment in promoting its industrial development schemes."

On March 16 Notley introduced a motion in the legislature urging the government to force Syncrude to take steps to curb its pollution of northern Alberta - specifically to reduce its sulphur dioxide emissions from the current level of 287 long tons per stream day to no more than 60 long tons.

The government's rejection of this motion, says Notley, "shows in the clearest terms what little priority the government places on environmental health and safety."

He added that some of the government's own documents warn that current emission levels will create potential pollution hazards, including "possible killer fogs and acid rains in the Fort McMurray region."

One document, which Notley claims was suppressed by the government, warns of "damage to humans, plants, fish, wildlife and equipment," due to unacceptable levels of fog-borne pollution.

Notley is convinced that Syncrude could lower sulphur dioxide emissions to the 60 long ton level, especially considering that federal officials estimate it could be reduced to 40 long tons.

However, "In the legislative debate," claims Notley, "government spokesmen ... took the position that since the dangers are only potential and not certain, Syncrude should not be required to upgrade its

pollution technology."

He concluded that the government hasn't required Syncrude to use the best practicable technology because "it doesn't want to impose higher costs on its pampered oil sands baby."

The estimated cost of \$40 million to upgrade the technology is only 2% of the projected cost of Syncrude, he added.

The Molson boycott is finished

The boycott of Molson's advertising in university newspapers throughout Canada is over, as a result of a contract settlement recently arrived at between management and striking workers of the Vilas Furniture Factory in Cowanville, Quebec.

The boycott began one month ago - eight months after the strike began - as a result of a *McGill Daily* feature on the strike which called the working condition at the factory "reminiscent of the sweat shop conditions of sixty years ago." The *Daily's* particular objection was to the unsafe conditions in the sawing and sanding sections of the plant which, they claimed, had caused many men to lose fingers or suffer severe hand abrasions.

A settlement resolving the particular grievances was reached in the evening of March 16, when employees of the Vilas Cowanville plant voted to accept the company's offer of November 20th, 1975, as amended by a Quebec government mediator.

Action is now being taken

to put the Cowanville plant back into operation as quickly as possible.

Memorium

Dr. Charles W. Nash, professor in the department of pharmacology for over twenty years, died suddenly Tuesday morning of a heart attack.

Dr. Allan, associate vp (academic) of the university, said Dr. Nash's death came as a "very sudden shock. I knew Dr. Nash for a number of years; I liked and respected him as both a scientist and a man."

Dr. Nash joined the U of A in the fall of 1954, as an Associate professor. Two years later he was granted tenure and was made a full professor in 1957. Prior to his arrival in Edmonton he had been an instructor at the University of Manitoba for 12 years. He held degrees in science from the University of Manitoba and the University of Minnesota, where he received his doctorate.

HUB tenants taken off the hook

by Kim St. Clair

The latest development in the HUB damage deposit debate lets HUB tenants off the hook - maybe.

Suite cleaning costs will still be subtracted from HUB damage deposits, but from now on tenants will not be charged for rug shampooing costs that are incurred as a result of normal

wear and tear.

There has been some question, though, as to what constitutes 'normal wear and tear.' However, Judge Feehan recently rules that rugs soiled from use over a period of time do not exhibit excessive wear, and any costs of cleaning them should be absorbed by the landlord.

This decision was made after two HUB tenants took the Students' Union to court on charges of illegally withholding part of their damage deposit.

Following the case, SU lawyers advised the Students' Union to be careful not to debit students in the future unless the condition of the suite (including carpets) is obviously above reasonable wear and tear.

Considering this, SU

General Manager Harry Goldberg has announced that it is not necessary for tenants to shampoo rugs when leaving, but that they should be clean. "If it's normal shampooing that is required, then I would say that would not be charged to the tenant."

But, he added, "if they have to repair burns and slashes and if the rug is full of mud and what not, cleaning and repair of those rugs should be covered by the tenant."

There's only one problem, though - it's up to the HUB cleaning staff to determine what degree of dirtiness 'normal wear and tear.' So students may still get billed for the shampooing of what they thought was a reasonably clean rug.

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The Journal in love ?

The *Edmonton Journal* is in love with the Anti-Inflation Board and it is in love with the *Journal*.

At present there are at least five companies in good standing with the Anti-Inflation Board. The Board is so pleased with their efforts to comply with the Federal wage and price restraints that it published their names today. The companies are: Banque Canadienne National, The *Edmonton Journal*, The *Toronto Star*, Sheraton Hotels and State Farm Insurance.

The Anti-Inflation Board reports that the *Edmonton Journal* reduced a proposed rate increase from 19% to 13%. *Toronto Star* publisher, Beland Honderich, told shareholders that because operation costs will be three million lower than expected, the newspaper will cut planned advertising rate increases.

Sheraton Hotels, following talks with the Anti-Inflation Board, deferred price increases in room rates and restaurant charges for one month.

State Farm Insurance of Toronto agreed to reduce planned customer charge increases to ten per cent from eleven per cent. Mr. Hague says that originally State Farm had planned to raise its rates by about 15 per cent.

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