

The Gateway

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. It is published by the Students' Union twice weekly during the winter session on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contents are the responsibility of the editor, opinions are those of the person expressing them. Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome, but must be signed. Please keep them short: letters should not exceed 200 words. Deadlines for submitting copy are 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Main offices are located in Room 282, SUB for Gateway, Room 238 SUB for Media Productions. Phone 432-5168, 432-5178, 432-5750, Advertising 432-3423. Circulation 18,500.

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editorial

At last we have it from the horse's mouth—the referendum the chairmen's committee conducted last December is worthless. Or, in the tamer terms of the university's office of institutional research, no "valid conclusions" can be drawn from the referendum's ballot returns.

So, the entire affair has wasted at least \$800 taken from the president's budget to pay duplicating costs for 2,000 "ballots" sent around to the academic staff. But it has also wasted a lot of time and energy for individuals around campus.

First off, the proposal to give the dept. chairmen more power (advocated by, who else? the dept. chairmen), and do away with GFC's power, was not democratic. The fact it would also have eliminated any student voice in policy decision, also, it seemed to some, totalitarian and reactionary. But the way the "referendum" was handled was none too wonderful, either.

When the "ballots" were first distributed, president Gunning claimed they were intended to be an "opinion poll," nothing more. Yet on the form they claimed to be ballots of a university referendum; and because these supposedly official ballots gave space for a positive response to the chairmen's proposal but none for a negative response, they were censured by AASUA and the Arts Fac. Exec. Council. Even after that, when the results of this opinion poll were tabulated, the chairman of the chairmen's committee, Dr. Tom Nelson of the Psychology department, was given a large space in our town's single newspaper in which to claim the statistics were not only significant, they offered significant support for his (their) proposal. Which is all nonsense.

The questionnaires were not "ballots" because the chairmen's committee had no authorization to conduct a referendum. The questionnaires were not set up fairly to begin with, and certainly after AASUA's motion of censure any significance would have been ruined because staff members may not have returned their questionnaires because of such censure. Then too, the questionnaires were not properly collected and there was opportunity for ballot stuffing. And, as inst. research notes, the way the questionnaire was set up does not even allow for statistical validation of tabulation of responses to obtain significant conclusions. All of which means, we wasted time and effort for nothing. And certainly no one now, not after the university's experts themselves have reached no "valid conclusions," can claim the referendum proved anything at all, except that there are still many, many people on campus concerned with the way our university is run. But I think the optimists among us figured that already.

by Kevin Gillesse

For National Advertising, this paper is a member of



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JOE MUTTON SPEAKS OUT

Our Man in Leduc

RCMP officers swept into all 39 branches of Canadian Birks Jewellery stores last week, nailing down the lid on what is apparently the largest mass arrest in Canadian history. The tally from the series of coast-to-coast raids stands at some 2000 arrests with over 12 million dollars worth of drugs, gambling equipment, and pornographic movies seized.

"We'd been waiting for two years for this," explains a jubilant and justifiably proud Inspector Davies of the RCMP's famed Ottawa Special Section. "I used to think, just like everybody else," says Davies "that it (Birks) was a nice store for rich little old ladies. Hell, even my Aunt Phoebe spent a lot of time there. But then ..."

Then he began receiving reports, reports about little old ladies spending too much time at their local Birks store returning to their families in states of blissful

euphoria, borrowing more money each week, sometimes even stealing (gasp) to get it.

"It was appeals from relatives that finally did it." Davies told me, "Mothers spending pension cheques, hawking their false teeth as one gent told me in sign language .. even my Aunt Phoebe was acting strange. That's when we began our investigation into the organization ..."

And what an organization! Its sole purpose — to "cater to the whims of these ... these lecherous old ladies," as Davies puts it. Each of the stores was equipped with all the props needed to create a jewellery store 'front' — including genuine sales staff who were unaware of the illegal activities going on. "The real operation was in the basement which was built right into the false foundation of every store ... access to it was made through a

trap door in the powder room. They had everything down there: narcotics, craps, roulette, blackjack, not to mention the movies."

The alleged leader of the organization, Antonio Santastafano, says he sees nothing wrong with "providing a valuable community service" and denies he is guilty of any crime.

"Would you rather have them do it on the streets?"

Most of those arrested while partaking in the "services" provided by Mr. Santastafano reiterate his stand.

"Damn ... can't a girl have a little fun any more?" says convicted 73-year-old Emmy Atherton of Coquitlam, B.C. "That was the first real fun I'd had in 40 years at that store there. And they wouldn't let us see the rest of the movie either," she pouts. "I've never seen 'Endless Through' before."

BUB SLUG by Delaney & Rasmussen



Thoughts from Chairman Len

Please to be taking with grain of salt word of Chi'ang Ching. She knowing this Year of Snake now and practising snake like evil. True, wall poster refer to heir of Chairman Len. But who true

Not us!

The CKSR management and staff wish to disclaim any knowledge of or responsibility for P.R. Lockheart's fallacious, scandal-mongering, cheap, politicking, jealous, and ridiculously immature letter that was published in the Feb. 24 edition of *The Gateway*.

In fact, the person who poses under the cloak of the P.R. Lockheart handle was irresponsibly using his position in the CKSR news department in a futile attempt to lend credibility to his letter.

Gordon Turtle
 CKSR Director

heir? Let us read poster.

It say: "Beware zealot virgin boys who would pass themselves off as the true heirs to beloved and respected Comrade Chairman Len. True heir ingloriously and ignominiously removed. False virgin boy leaders ignore."

Is that not clear making it for all to see Chi'ang Ching again backing wrong horse? It becoming clearer when considering other warning on poster: "You will find it necessary to identify and remove these false elements, you will know the false successor

Community ed. invitation

The concept of community education presently exists in an embryonic stage in our country. We're a group of U of A students interested in community education in our province and we're setting up a community education display in conjunction with Education Week.

The display can be viewed on

to our beloved chairman, for they are the ones whose actions are no more consequence than the foul wind of a monkey backside."

But let Chi'ang Ching and fellow usurpers-to-be of Chairman's authority defend heinous treachery, they will be unsuccessful. As poster notes: "Their actions will be of less merit than public mating of giant pandas."

Teng Hsiao-ping
 Rehab Med

George Palenik