

LETTERS, from page 5.

make up the society. A point in favor of society being a distinct entity.

In conclusion I should like to address a comment to the article by Fletcher Stewart, University chaplain.

Your position I recognise as a valid one and deserves due consideration, but I cannot help feeling we would be better able to handle the problems of today if we better understood their sources and mechanism of development. Thank you.

Dennis Wilson

## Mud slingers?

I take time out from my campaign to read *the Gateway* and I note that Ric Darichuk headed his story about the foreign investment forum participants "mud slingers"? On the contrary, the forum was mild and restrained. There was not a trace of mud-slitting. Webster's New Collegiate Dic-

tionary accurately describes mudslinging as using offensive epithets and personalities, and the forum was innocent of this offense (who then is the mudslinger Ric?) Ric came to me after the forum and had ample opportunity to unscramble any confusion generated in his mind. While he did indicate to me his political persuasion, which shows in this article, I did not expect him to falsely report the proceedings. The theatre was fairly full and so the reporter could have damaged his reputation for accurate reporting.

While I did say that Albertans would be wise to select enduring industry based on renewable and non-depleting resources for their investment, I certainly did not advocate leaving our irreplaceable mineral treasures to be monopolised by foreigners. I conceded that we need foreign investment for some development, having in mind conventional Rig drilling. This, not because there is no money in Canada, but because it is harder to pry loose money from Canadians to invest in their own country than it is to find an economical method of

separating petroleum products from the tar sands. I did say that the tar sands deal is a business matter that we must honour, since it has been already committed in the name of the people of this country by the governments federal and provincial.

Since North Sea petroleum can be delivered ashore in Britain at \$1.00 cost of production per barrel, and middle east oil can be produced at a cost (not a sale price mark you) of only 80¢ per barrel, then I should have preferred to see the tar sands wait, until a cheaper and more efficient method of extraction than the cost estimates from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per barrel can be discovered. But the thing is done. When Ric came to me for clarification of the point, I told him that Canada should accept foreign financial endeavours only on a selective basis related to our need, and that by following a prudent course in this matter we Canadians, through political and governmental action, will be able to deal with any organization or any situation at an appropriate time. This is quite different from the rather pejorative description of my remarks by your reporter, and while I respect his right to the left-wing views he indicated to me, I recommend to him a certain neutrality and accuracy when purporting to be reporting the views of others.

Arthur Yates

## Referendum ignored

The fact that the Lister Hall Residences are governed by students makes it unique among all university residences in Canada and therefore makes it an example of what 'student power' can do - given responsibility. This government like all governments has its purpose and powers embodied in a

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constitution. Their constitution states that the Joint Council (Residence legislative body) "shall exercise its powers so as to provide order and good government in student affairs, subject to the limitations set out in the constitution". It also states that this government "shall represent the resident students in official matters of joint concern to the resident students."

Recently we have been given good reason to believe that the Joint Council has not acted with the responsibility necessary to satisfy these requirements.

On February 25 a Referendum was held in Residence to determine what the students felt about a Tri-Level system being implemented in Residence. Tri-Level would see Men's Residence, Co-ed Res and Women's Res abolished and replaced with all Halls being occupied by men's, women's and co-ed floors. The Referendum indicated 3870 favouring Tri-Level and 6270 against with a 60% voter turnout. It would seem obvious that Residence had rejected Tri-Level but Joint Council felt that the Referendum was invalid.

Their reasoning behind this was that people were asking voters at the polls how they were voting, posters were put up against Tri-Level without approval, and that some chairmen would not let the Committee on Lifestyles and Occupancy appear on their floors.

There were also claims that people had been coerced into voting against Tri-Level.

We feel, however that the Committee on Lifestyles and Occupancy presented a biased case for Tri-Level and that seeing as one chairman talked to his floor for 4 hours advocating Tri-Level that if coercion was present it was present in both sides on the issue. Furthermore seeing as it was a secret ballot coercion at the polls is not really possible.

Another argument was that only the people who voted against showed up to vote. You don't have to examine this point extensively to see its flaws.

Furthermore, since only the Committee on Lifestyles and Occupancy complained about the results, we seriously question their motives. Were they displeased with results or unhappy with the referendum procedure? What if the vote had gone the other way?

At any rate Joint Council decided to believe this Committee and ignore the voting results, passing a motion to implement Tri-Level subject to ratification by the next Joint Council.

When Provost Ryan was approached on this matter, he seriously questioned this procedure suggesting that a poll, floor by floor, be held and with these results a roll call vote be taken in Joint Council. If a Joint Councillor failed to vote in accordance with his floor his recall should be considered. We agree and question why Joint Council did not hold another referendum if they felt the first was invalid?

Our personal opinion is that the Joint Council 74-75 is choosing to ignore the voice of their electorate and is thereby abusing their authority having lost sight of their purpose of 'representing the students'. We can only hope that the next Joint Council will not ratify Tri-Level without another opinion poll and will abide by this poll's directive.

Phil Taylor 10th Henday  
Dan Backs 9th Henday  
Tom Engel 5th Henday

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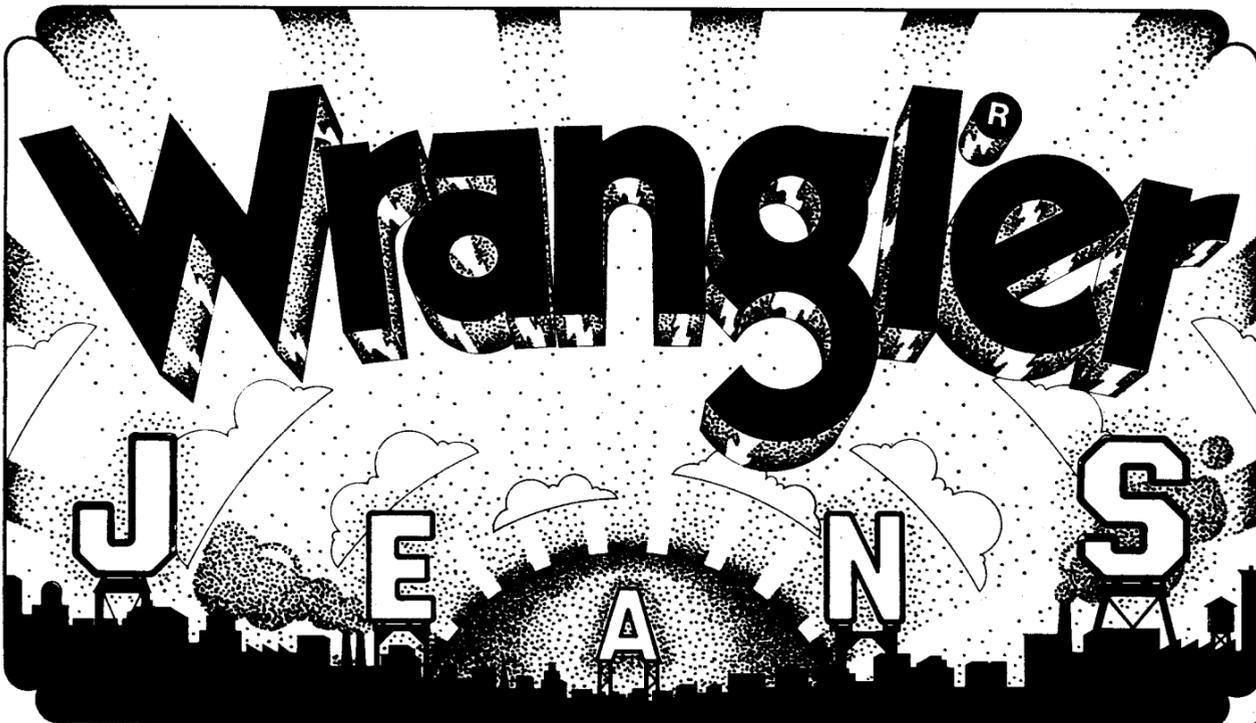
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