

Strike vote possible for Toronto grad students

TORONTO (CUP) - "Graduate assistants should hold off on any major planned expenditure this term", warns Graduate Assistants' Association (GAA) organizer Andy Stanley "because people do not get paid while they are on strike."

survival of the University of Toronto union, the first of its kind in Canada, is threatened by the University's refusal to agree to compulsory collection of union dues.

The union has been funded by the Graduate Students' union (GSU) through more than two years of

organizing and bickering with the University over certification, but must now find a way to become self-supporting.

"We cannot continue to function" without the compulsory collection of union dues, says Stanley, the union's chief negotiator in current talks with the University. "Without it we will

either have to strike or go under."

John Parker, director of labour-management relations for U of T, was unwilling to speculate whether the Advisory Committee directing the university bargaining team in the talks would be willing to risk a strike over the compulsory collection issue.

The two sides are presently clearing up minor areas of disagreement in preparation for three final days of talks with a government conciliator at the end of January.

The key issues besides the

collection issue include class-size, job security, the right to grieve excessive working hours, and maintenance of present levels of tutorial and laboratory instruction, according to Stanley.

Money matters have yet to be discussed.

"I don't want to prejudice the issue," Stanley says, "but it is becoming clear to us that several major issues will almost certainly remain outstanding after the talks. If the offer remains substantially as it is, I'm afraid we will end up with a strike vote."

Stanley cautioned that the very

Says social policy inadequate

REGINA (CUP) - A Carleton University Social Work professor and former president of the Canadian Union of Students says he is dismayed with "the total failure of successive Canadian governments to do anything about poverty in Canada."

Speaking to a University of Regina sociology class, Martin Lowney said that "social planning councils", like the Canadian

Council for Social Development and the National Welfare Council "only serve to mediate between the government bureaucracy and active citizen groups."

Lowney said the development of organizations like CCSD and NWC would be distorted because of government financing and therefore make it impossible for them to be independent.

"As a result, hostility builds up

and undermines the confidence of the (citizen) groups," he said.

Citing the Montreal Anti-Poverty Movement (MAPM) as an example, Lowney said the government, through the Local Initiatives Program, gave MAPM "so much money, they became an employment agency of sorts and part of the Canadian welfare state. As a result a number of movements will not touch government money."

Council had mandate for grant

Dear Editor:

This past Monday night I attended a fairly long SRC meeting that just should not have lasted as long as it did. One of the major stumbling blocks was the debate over whether or not council should allocate one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to the continuing student demonstration down at the Centennial Building, fondly referred to as the Glass Palace.

As an outsider I just could not see why the debate did continue once the decision was made not to hold a referendum. After all, if the issue was whether or not the student body would support such a disbursement, the only thing the council could do was refer back to what student input there was.

Strangely enough, few if any, people on council did bring up this point. If it had been brought up sooner the debate would not doubt have been settled. After all, did not students on this campus recently vote in favor of the demonstration

(in one of the largest turn-outs ever I might add). On that basis council had no choice but to finally allow this motion to pass which thank God they finally did. I was pleased that some member of council (and some ex-members) finally got their ass in gear and more or less said, "if council was to do its job which includes student leadership on campus then bickering about such an issue was really useless when the decision was so obvious."

When one takes into account that other universities across Canada are providing financial support as well as vocal, written and physical evidence of support for this demonstration it behooves us as the nearest campus to provide both moral as well as financial help to these students. Representatives from NUS and other university centers such as Toronto provided council with pur blatant evidence that other students cared.

Mr. Peter Forbes, our SRC legal advisor, pointed out at least one good point that though \$1,000

dollars was a "paltry" sum, eventually students will have to realize that the occupation will cease being beneficial and will begin to erode our position as a bargaining body. As he also said Mr. Hatfield knows where his votes come from, i.e. mostly the working class outside of university, and if continued lobbying by the students gets the public all pissed off then he'll be able to sit back and grin even wider than he is doing already.

All that aside and getting back to my original point I'm glad that some leadership finally was produced and the decision made. Mine is not to judge whether the long run results will be worth it but why not try. Lets get rid of apathy, it never was a hell of a lot of good to us anyway and who knows, perhaps we may benefit a lot more than some of us seem to think.

That's the way I see it anyway John McClusky.

SCRAMBLE

DEIFISSALC
YLKEEWTGCS
SWENDS RNOT
NEEPACOIPO
ODRSEIPTYR
OAPUHMSNPY
TEDITORIAL
RRERSCNRGI
AAFLAGIPEA
COLUMNWPAD

There are 18 words in this puzzle, spelled backwards, forwards, up & down, etc. All 18 words are related in some way to the hidden word, but no other clues will be given. The hidden word is found by unjumbling the left-over letters.

Engineers protest destruction

Dear Editor:

The Engineering Society was approached this year by Barry Newcombe and the Winter Carnival Committee to construct a platform for the opening ceremonies and an Ice Palace for the Queen ceremony. We decided it would be advantageous to build the two structures in one and place it in front of the SUB.

The actual construction took place over a day and a half and involved at least a dozen people at some times; finishing about 6:30 p.m. this past Saturday. A platform about five feet high, 25 feet long and 15 feet wide was built, with six foot high walls on three sides, and a throne in the centre.

We were quite proud of the result, especially considering the amount of work involved. Many people had cut classes, and put off ski trips and other weekend activity to participate. Little did we know that our efforts would not be appreciated by a group of idiots who, sometime between and 7 a.m. decided to completely wreck the palace. I say a group of idiots because it would take quite a few people to knock down in 30 minutes

something that took a day and a half to build. I can only hope that they have sore shoulders and broken toes for their efforts. If we ever find out who did this stupid thing they will have a lot more to show for their half an hour of fun.

Our's was not the only sculpture to suffer. One person had spent all day by himself constructing a statue of a man playing a lute, about 50 feet from the ice palace. The vandals apparently carried the sculpture to the top of the SUB steps and threw it down.

Such vandalism cannot go unrewarded. Sooner or later the perpetrators will be found out, and the paper measures will be taken.

We would just like to know why they did this, as we cannot understand the mentality of people who can only destroy, rather than construct.

In closing I would like to apologize to the Winter Carnival Committee for being unable to repair the ice palace before opening ceremonies, but I would like them to know that plans are already being made for next year's Palace, which hopefully will not suffer the same fate.

Sincerely,

Mike Corbett
EUS President

Overseas Chinese Students Association Film Show

Feb. 8 Head Hall C 13
7:30-10:00pm

Film will be in Chinese only

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