JANUARY

Next time will we buy a ticket to get in line?

Carni is a time of excitement, anticipation and *fun*, right? Right.

Fun, that is, except when we get down to the nitty-gritty business of purchasing tickets. If you were unlucky enough to enter the line at its longest, you joined it at the Social Club and worked slowly down the hall past the lavatories, down the north-west stairs to the blue lounge and, finally, to the ticket office in the SRC wing. At the ticket booth there were three girls working: two to check your name and number against a massive computer readout, the third to sell you the tickets after you've been checked off. The ticket sale, then, was an incredible failure in timing and logistics.

If the tickets all *had* to be sold in the same place, the ballroom would have been much better suited to the purpose. This would, of course, have entailed delaying the sale until the blood donor clinic was over or else arranging the rescheduling of the clinic. But the tiny (7 ft. X 7 ft.) hallway in the SRC wing is no place for crowds. It lacks proper ventilation and it is pretty hot with all those bodies standing around.

Fortunately, one impatient antici-pant managed to elicit the cooperation of the SRC staff in getting some doors and windows opened.
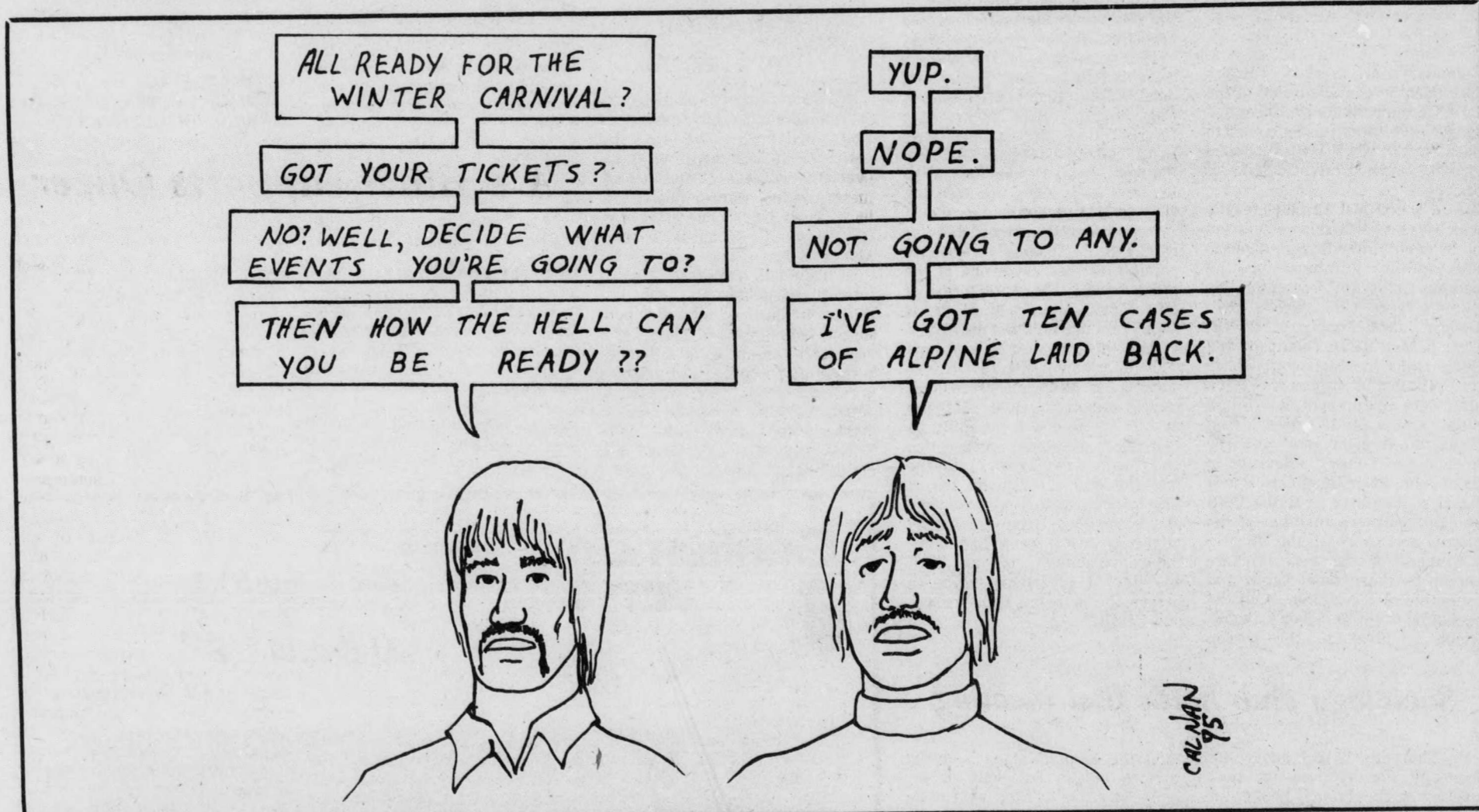
But why sell all the tickets in one place? Surely such crowded conditions and long lines are a potential fire hazard. In addition, many people having finally "done a progress" through the ordeal found the ticket desired was sold out. To his credit, one line manager kept tabs on the ticket situation and informed buyers on the likelihood of getting par-ticular tickets. But it seems he was not enough. Perhaps signs might have served a better purpose.

These problems might be alleviated by dispersing the sale of tickets to various faculty buildings. Many faculties have heavy class and-or lab schedules and are unable to take the time to stand in line for several hours. We wouldn't doubt that the biggest losers in this week's ticket race were the engineers, foresters, etc.

Obviously the reason for selling all the tickets at one booth is for better control of who gets how many of what tickets. Hopefully this reduces the incidence of scalping (some Extravaganza tickets were scalped as high as $15.00 last year) but such control could be implemented by marking the back of SRC cards. This is the method used for election control.

It is definite, however, that something better be done for next year. Tuesday's sale turned off a lot of people who waited in line, and a lot of others who decided they were better off not to.