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

Utilities are going up 18 per cent. Bus fares are going up 40 per cent. Water and sewer and telephone rates are going up and up and up.

And so now the federal government is talking about abandoning the wage and "price" controls it began a little over a year ago. It stands to reason, doesn't it, that we should abolish the anti-inflation controls since they don't seem to have been very effective in holding back major increases on the most common consumer items, but have proven very effective in holding down the wages of most workers?

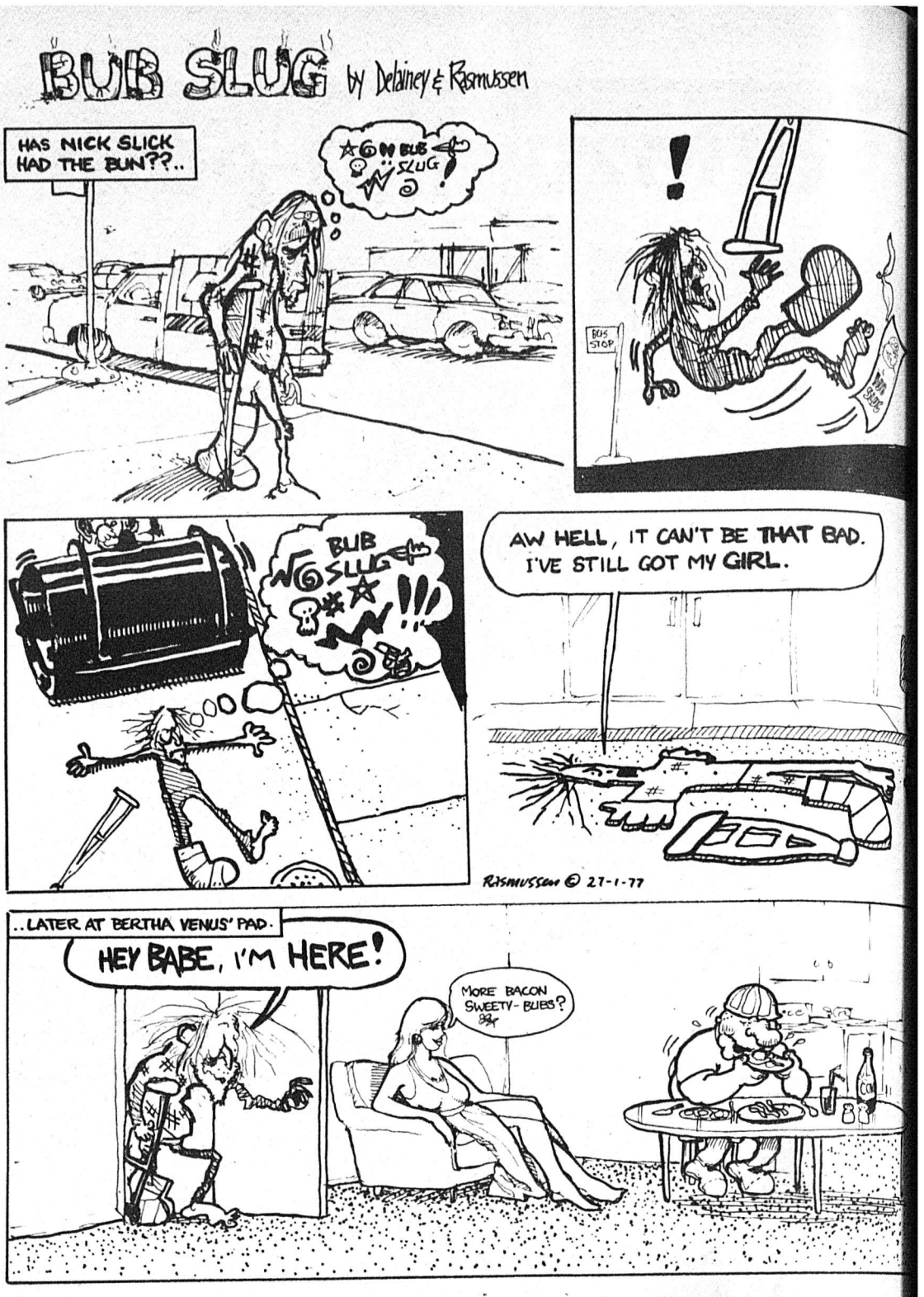
The federal government has begun to realize that inflation won't be stopped by keeping a system of ineffective and antagonizing "controls." Now the people have to realize that perhaps inflation *can't* be stopped (except by depression) as long as we retain our present economic system. The only thing that will stop inflation and bring back efficient use of resources and manpower, I think, is a complete change of economic priorities in our country. Whether it should be a reshuffling of wealth within the limits of our present economic system, or whether it should be a move to a different economic system, I don't know. But I don't think we will have a sound economy until we can somehow bring Canadians to the point where they are not constantly in cut-throat competition for the dollar, where they again take pride in the work they do, where they recognize how crippling strikes are to the economy, where common workers won't be screwed simply because they won't go on strike to back up their demands.

When we continually have confrontation over wealth, everyone suffers. Shut down an industry for a day and it doesn't just hurt the industry's owners — it hurts the industry's workers and the Canadian populace generally. But so often, it seems,neither workers nor owners can see this fact.

Something has to change. Instead of expecting the government to furnish us with relatively worthless economic forecasts, we should ask the government to debate publicly the pros and cons of our present market economy. Let's find out whether our confused economic system really is working to the tremendous benefit of the tradesperson, as some would have us believe, and to the detriment of those earning upper-income salaries. Let's find out whether U of M economist Cy Gonick's prediction that we are headed towards depression is true, and whether, as suggests this is a result of a basic flaw in our present system and not, as others suggest, a flaw of those working the system. Let's find out if our "modified free enterprise" system works.

I don't think it does. I don't think we can keep businesses responsible to the consumers any more, when the businesses are so heavily monopoly-controlled or allowed to go to fat by heavy government subsidies. I don't think our present system of confrontation and retaliation between business and labor and consumer can continue. And I don't believe too many intelligent people think that either.

by Kevin Gillese



We're nice terrorists

Are you getting sick of all the malicious terrorism? If you are, then you will be interested in the Benevolent Students Association. As our name suggests, we are terrorists with a difference; we are basicly (sic) nice. We have absolutely nothing against flowers, sunshine, or motherhood. We do not subscribe to radical political philosophies. Then you may ask, why are we terrorists? The answer is long and complex but basicly (sic), it is the only way left we have to pursue our above goals in a world of Yassir Arafats, IRAs and Young Socialists.

No doubt, intermixed with the daily letters of John Savard and the hourly memos of Gordon Turtle you get a number of letters that you immediately file under "CRANK." Before you chuck this one in the same place, we would hasten to tell you that we don't believe that we are deserving of such a fate. We have already 'pulled off' a number of terrorist activities:

1) It was *us* (sic) who set off the Air Raid siren. (one of our members phoned you to inform you but had a communication problem with someone we later found out to be a sports reporter.)

2) In case you havn't (sic) already noticed, why don't you run out and check the Campus Security Force sign facing north towards the bustop(sic)?

Rest assured we will not stop here.

Even as you read this letter our power grows. We decide whether buildings stand or fall.

All we ask of you is that an coverage you may give us be fa we have no ill will to anyone s don't slander us please. In retur we will not interfere with you freedom of the press. Incidentl our symbol (gee whiz a terrorists have symbols) is modified 'U of A' resting betwee a 'roof' and a 'v' as shown. Th two 'v's (one inverted) symboliz our total rule of the University: w rule from above and below.

Ed. Note: We will promise no *libel* you on the pages of ou paper, but the only way you ca ensure we do not *slander* you by bugging our offices (whic informed sources tell us ma already have occured).

Gateway gives ideas to criminals

In response to the editorial in *Gateway* Thursday, Jan. 20, by Kevin Gillese, I would like to know his feelings on how the campus and the building on campus would look like of there was no campus security force.

He says that campus cops aren't very important in the campus hierarchy, or the law enforcement hierarchy, well I would like to say that I think he is wrong. What would the campus look like if we didn't have a security force? It would probably look like a dump. I bet ¾ of the students would take their frustrations out on university property like some of them do now. We would see trees and shrubs uprooted by the dozens, we would see windows smashed, doors broken open and buildings vandalized. It might sound far fetched, but bet on something like that happening if we didn't have a security force.

You students don't realize what it would be like if you didn't have the force you do, if the campus cops weren't here guess who would be here? Edmonton City Police would be here patrolling campus and looking after the grounds and such. The campus cops put up with a lot of hassles before they call in E.C.P. to help them out. With E.C.P. you do what they say or else you are taken downtown to the "cells." The students don't realize how easy they have got it around here. Just because they don't have guns it doesn't mean to say that no one doesn't have to worry about them too much. They still have the authority to arrest and detain people or persons suspected or caught doing something illegal.

As far as the policy on giving out information or details concerning a story or "rumor", not giving out details is standard procedure at any law enforcement agency. Just try to get some details out of E.C.P. or the R.C.M.P. on a story; fat chance. The same thing would happen, you wouldn't get a single thing, so why get upset like a little kid who can't have his own way and start cutting down something you don't know very much about. You are only looking for trouble. The only thing you have started is to raise a few ideas to potential criminals!

If there was a dangerous situation developing on campus I think we would be warned about it. So don't everybody start worrying their pretty little heads off because we are being looked after. As far as the campus security force having to invent importance, I don't agree with that either because I don't think that we realize what happens in the campus security force office. I would imagine that it is busy most of the time and who can really say except the people who work there, right? If the students want to ignore the green-uniformed guards who masquerade as campus security guards let them go ahead, but who do they run to if they are assaulted or if they have something stolen or lost? The campus security force right? If they don't that's their own problem and mistake.

If I have something stolen or lose it I'm going to report it to the security force because they a there for that purpose and I' going to use that feature. Wha happens when we get a rowd person in Residence, do we l them go, or do we telephone th security force? We phone th security force and let them han dle it because we are too weak t do anything about it, correct?

Any vandalism that happen on campus has to be replace and eventually the vandal and th rest of the students have to pa for the damage, so next time tak your frustrations out o something other than universit property, okay?

Terry Floc

Ed. Note: Instead of puttin (sic) after each grammatical err in the above letter, it is printed a is.