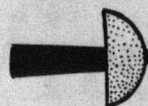


# En Garde!

by John Roggeveen



A political science professor once said to me Ontario voters were more politically sophisticated than Alberta voters. At the time I didn't believe him. On Monday I spoke with him again. I was still skeptical.

You see, the voters of Ontario played a large role in re-electing Trudeau and his clowns in the last election and they have re-elected the PCs as their provincial government for the last billion years.

My skepticism died Tuesday night. When the CBC announced a likely Lougheed landslide at thirteen minutes after eight, I was stunned. With the re-election of Lougheed and myriad of mindless mannequins, Alberta showed its blissful ignorance of misdeeds and mistakes during his terms in office.

It was brutally evident that Lougheed managed to hypnotize the electorate into thinking economic recovery is imminent. In their dreamy Never-neverland, voters forgot about the social services department's blunders, the lack of substantive economic diversification, the shady land deals, the glaring lack of open government, the tortured environment, the questionable intrusions into municipal affairs, the poverty-stricken post-secondary education system, and the \$100 million extra on the tab for the Prince Rupert grain terminal.

They also forgot Lougheed's refusal to debate his opponents publicly. That alone should have cost him the election.

Instead, people believed him when he said there was time to debate in the legislature.

But, just as Trudeau smashed illusions in Ontario, Lougheed will stick it to Albertans. Albertans, unfortunately, will learn the painful way.

Some day this coming spring Albertans will be wrenched from their trance. The shadow cast over the province will be obvious. They will be out of work. The future will look bleak. They will see no evidence of the economic recovery Lougheed promised them. They will see how much "free enterprise that cares" really cares about them. They will know why Lougheed called the election in November.

Lougheed, the man who knocked the "knockers" while conducting a "positive" campaign will be lower in the polls than he has ever been. The voters, however, will be despondent to find that these are Gallup polls and not election polls.

• Ellen Goodman of the *Boston Globe* quoted anti-ERA activist Phyllis Schlafly as saying, "There is only one way to be sure you never get (genital) herpes: avoid sexual relations. Remain a virgin until you marry, marry a virgin and remain faithful to each other." Phyllis should have stopped at "avoid sexual relations." Unless, of course, she is going to release a new book on fool-proof methods to determine virginity.

• I did a risky thing in this column by predicting the course of Alberta's economy. But, Will Rogers once said something like: "You have to go out on a limb sometimes, because that's where the fruit is." How's that for mixed metaphors?

I'm not the only one trying to figure out the economy. In the good ol' US of A Reagan and the Republicans have been saying the US economy is "turning the corner" for so long now it has probably done a 360 degree turn and is headed in the direction it was going before: down. Ergo, my pessimism.

News Item: Phyllis Schlafly says the answer to herpes is to marry only virgins. (And how does one verify male virginity anyway?)



And if you think this cartoon is tacky, remember: it was Schlafly's tacky idea, not ours.

## Trudeau pulls us together

It seems to me that any remnants of imagination and ingenuity that at one time may have been attributable to past editors of the *Gateway* have all but vanished. Andrew Watts, editor extraordinaire, once again bankrupt of ideas for his "editorial" has succeeded in dispelling any misconceptions I may have had regarding the competency of the media. I am now convinced that Watts is worthy of comparison with the Charles Lynches, Peter Worthingtons and J.P. O'Callaghans of the world — yet another reputed "journalist" who lacks imagination or an original thought, and exclusively, in the name of ignorance flogs yet another dead horse.

Watts, your editorial of October 26 re: Prime Minister Trudeau was truly a marvel of "journalistic" innovation. The profound nature of your critique on Mr. Trudeau was, without a doubt, a zircon in the non-existent world of "journalistic" gems.

You characterize the Prime Minister as "an actor playing at politics, duping the public and taking the country for a rough ride." You apologize for the people of Canada and attempt to explain away in ridiculous terms your difficulty in understanding how Canadians could return this "mess" to office. You go on to enumerate a number of Trudeau's initiatives over the last decade, choosing to see only the surface and not daring to dirty your hands and dig deeper — but that would be too easy, wouldn't it?

At a time when Canadians require unity and cooperation, sharing and selflessness, you choose to take the easiest way out and condemn a man who is moving to facilitate cooperation on the part of Canadians. Your editorial served only to exacerbate the sense of divisiveness in Canada today felt on the part of many Canadians and many regions. And it "beats to death" any initiative made by our leader to alleviate such division.

You choose to hop on the bandwagon, as it were, and condemn a dynasty (sic) — a master of the art of the possible, for the sake of "journalistic" convenience. In my opinion your shallow understanding and interpretation of Mr. Trudeau, is surpassed only by your even shallower understanding of what has been relegated to the "trade" of "journalism".

John A. Middleton  
Arts II

## Handy hints for drivers

Re: Abuse of One-Way Traffic Lanes

Operators of motor vehicles are cautioned against driving their vehicles contrary to traffic direction signs. This appears to be coming more prevalent, particularly entering "U" and "N" Zones when some congestion occurs at the kiosk entry. It has also been noted that some operators are entering "G" Zone by travelling contrary to the one-way designation of the avenue on the north side of Corbett Hall.

University Traffic Regulations provide financial

sanctions against offenders and these will be vigorously applied.

Re: Loss of Parking Permits

A number of reports have recently been received of the loss or theft of parking permits, the cause being that the permits were not properly affixed to the vehicle as is required by the Traffic and Parking Regulations. This information is clearly provided each recipient when the permit is obtained.

In the view of the above, if permits are lost or stolen under circumstances that indicate they were not properly affixed to the window of the vehicle in the first place, consideration will be given to the refusal to replace them, which will result in the vehicle operator not having a permit to park on Campus.

W.F.G. Perry  
Director, Campus Security

## Everybody makes mistakes

You guys sure showed me up. After I scraped the egg off my face I noticed that you improperly edited my letter. I asked Mr. Cox if our "racial" characteristics (not radical) made us easily identifiable. You see, I was amazed by the similarity (between) Cox's column and a speech made by Adolf Hitler in 1923. In that speech, Hitler railed against the supposed economic and political overlords - the Jews.

Even though Hitler was a right-wing twit and Cox is a left-wing twit, they bare (sic) similarities - racism.

Doug McQueen  
Arts II

P.S. "... and stared wistfully as their bloated sun set (no 's' in sets) to the west."

Thanks for the question mark and apostrophe. I stand corrected.

*Managing Editor's note: Ouch! McQueen is absolutely right about the "racial" changed to "radical," as well as the "sets" which should be "set." However the original Gateway quote was "our pagan fathers huddled in the shadows, staring ..." which is perfectly correct (as is McQueen's letter today). However, in his last letter McQueen said "stared," not "and stared." We were right and McQueen was wrong. In addition, in his letter of today he neglected to capitalize the word "Thanks," failed to put quotation marks or deletion dots in his Gateway quote, and made an error and a word omission noted in the body of his letter. Final score: Gateway 6, McQueen 2.*

P.S. Dave Cox intends to reply to the charge of racism. Stay tuned.

## Gateway a spoilsport?

Okay turdwads, that is it. I've watched the *Gateway* libel (sic) comparatively innocent members of the legislature. I've seen you run an obviously fixed poll on the cruise missile (sic). I've read quotes so absurd (especially some attributed to our Students' Union president Robert Greenhill) that they could not possibly be true. But nothing has so offended me as the consistent abuse you have heaped on our Golden Bear football players.

After three consecutive successful seasons (including a national championship) you would think the so-called sports scribes of the *Gateway* would understand that a season of rebuilding would be in order.

Let me assure you and any of your readers you may have misled, the Golden Bears do not consider themselves practice dummies. They went out on the field for each and every game this season and gave their all to win. If a 1-and-7 season looks bad on paper the *Gateway* should have the decency to look past that and respect the effort and energy that went in to each and every game.

The poor attendance of U of A students at Golden Bear Games shows just how much the negative criticism of the *Gateway* has hurt intercollegiate sports. If people are encouraged to make light of the efforts of university athletes in football it can only adversely (sic) affect all university athletes including those who will participate in next year's University Games. If you had any sense of decency you sports department would apologize to Ed Lazaruk, the Golden Bear players and fans of inter-collegiate sports everywhere.

Dwight Childs  
Science II

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