

I never let my schooling ...

the Gateway

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1981

... interfere with my education.
Mark Twain

Tuition increase unlikely

by Peter Michalyszyn

Jim Horsman has reiterated his stand that he doesn't anticipate a tuition fee increase next year, in his latest foray into the fee increase cold war between the government, the university and the Students' Union.

In a recent letter to SU president Nolan Astley, Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, said "I do not anticipate any change in the level of tuition fees for the 1981-82 school year."

But he also wrote a caveat into the letter: "I would have to be presented with some very compelling arguments for increases in tuition fees in 1981-82... before I would consider any changes..."

The university will do its best to present such a "compelling argument" for a fee increase if the amount of its operating grant from the government is insufficient, according to university president Myer Horowitz.

However, both Astley and Horowitz agree that the real argument is over sufficient university funding from government in the first place, not whether students will, or should, be asked

to pick up the difference in increased fees.

That argument, Horowitz said, is hypothetical at this point because the university administration hasn't heard what the operating grant, comprising about 89 percent of the university's entire budget, will be.

Horowitz does think, however, that a tuition increase proposal won't come from Horsman even if the minister introduces his promised long-term tuition fee policy before the start of the fall 1981 school year.

"If he were thinking of 1981 (for a fee increase) he wouldn't have stated so definitely that there would not be an increase..." in the letter to Astley, Horowitz said. Instead, Horowitz said he thinks any long-term tuition policy would come into effect in the 1982-83 school year.

In the meantime, Horowitz says he is hopeful that the government will soon indicate either in confidence, or publicly, how large an operating grant the university can expect for next year; in the past, the U of A administration has often had to meet its March 31 budget deadline without knowing even vaguely how much money is available.

RATT grill to close? Check in two weeks

After debating a motion to close the food-outlet in RATT, after (eventually) passing an amendment to include the closure of the food service portion of Fridays in HUB, after (eventually) defeating a sub-amendment that would make Fridays closure conditional on getting lease concessions from the university (see story this issue page 7), Students' Council last night was politely informed, to its chagrin, it no longer had quorum, after which all of nineteen people who bothered to attend in the first place packed up and went home, without having done anything. It was 11:15 p.m.

Which means, incidentally, that much the same debate will reoccur in two weeks at the next meeting.

There's little doubt about the original motion that the SU close the food outlet in RATT, although Steve Cumming (proxy for Cheryl McCall) suggested that a well-stocked fridge be left in RATT, at least.

There is, however, some hesitation on the part of, among others, Jan Byer, SU vp internal. He wanted several committees to see it first.

SU president Nolan Astley appeared to agree. He felt the boards were being slighted, although, to the confusion of all, he said he supported the motion to close Fridays food service.

"I think our experience in food areas...both RATT and Fridays...has been very negative," said Astley.

Bert Best, SU general manager, agreed: "If we keep Fridays as a restaurant, the capital required is excessive and I can't see the return on our investment."

And to nail the coffin shut (as the cliché goes) Pat Haws, SU vp finance and administration, volunteered that in a student survey only 29 per cent said they ever ate in Fridays.

SUB management wanted a decision from Students' Council by this Friday; however, Nolan Astley says he thinks they'll be flexible enough, in light of last night's Council's indecisiveness.

Committee for Preservation forms Support rises for N. Garneau

by Mike Walker

Opponents of the university's plans for North Garneau have united and are set to begin a campaign to preserve the area.

The Committee for Preservation of North Garneau organized Monday, will hold a campaign March 2 to 6 to pressure the university's Board of Governors to make a commitment to preserving university-owned North Garneau as student housing.

The university is currently planning new dwellings to house 650 students. These must be completed by summer 1983 in time to house athletes for the 1983 World University Games.

Current plans call for new housing to take up about one third of the three and one half block

area owned by the university east of the Humanities and Law Centres. This would leave two thirds of the area open for future expansion of the university.

The Preservation Committee wants the entire area committed to student housing, and as many of the old houses in the area as possible renovated.

"We're not in agreement with any of the present plans," said committee member Phil Soper yesterday. "They're making cosmetic concessions by saying the houses will be conserved in the 'medium term'. This means they'll let them rot until they put a parking lot in."

The Committee, composed of representatives from the North Garneau Tenants' Association, the Graduate Students' Association, the Students' Union, the Campus Co-op (which owns or rents a number of houses in the university area) and the Student Christian Movement, wants to "lock North Garneau into student housing," said member Kandys Kalhs. This might mean cluster housing on vacant lots, she said, and extensive restoration of many of the old houses.

The preservation committee's March 2 to 6 campaign

will involve information pamphlets, booths in CAB, and a rally March 5. All of these will lead up to a presentation to the Board of Governors, which has final authority, on Friday March 6.

The Committee will hold a

Committees confused

Members of two university planning committees seem to disagree about what type of development should go into North Garneau.

The Facilities Development Committee (FDC), an advisory body composed of students and faculty members, Monday recommended to the Board of Governors that no carpark be constructed anywhere in the area.

It also specified as few houses as possible be destroyed in the 3½ block area for the construction of new student housing.

But the Board of Governors Building Committee (BBC), composed of Board of Governors members, rejected FDC's recommendations, saying they were premature.

BBC said, "No, we can't make

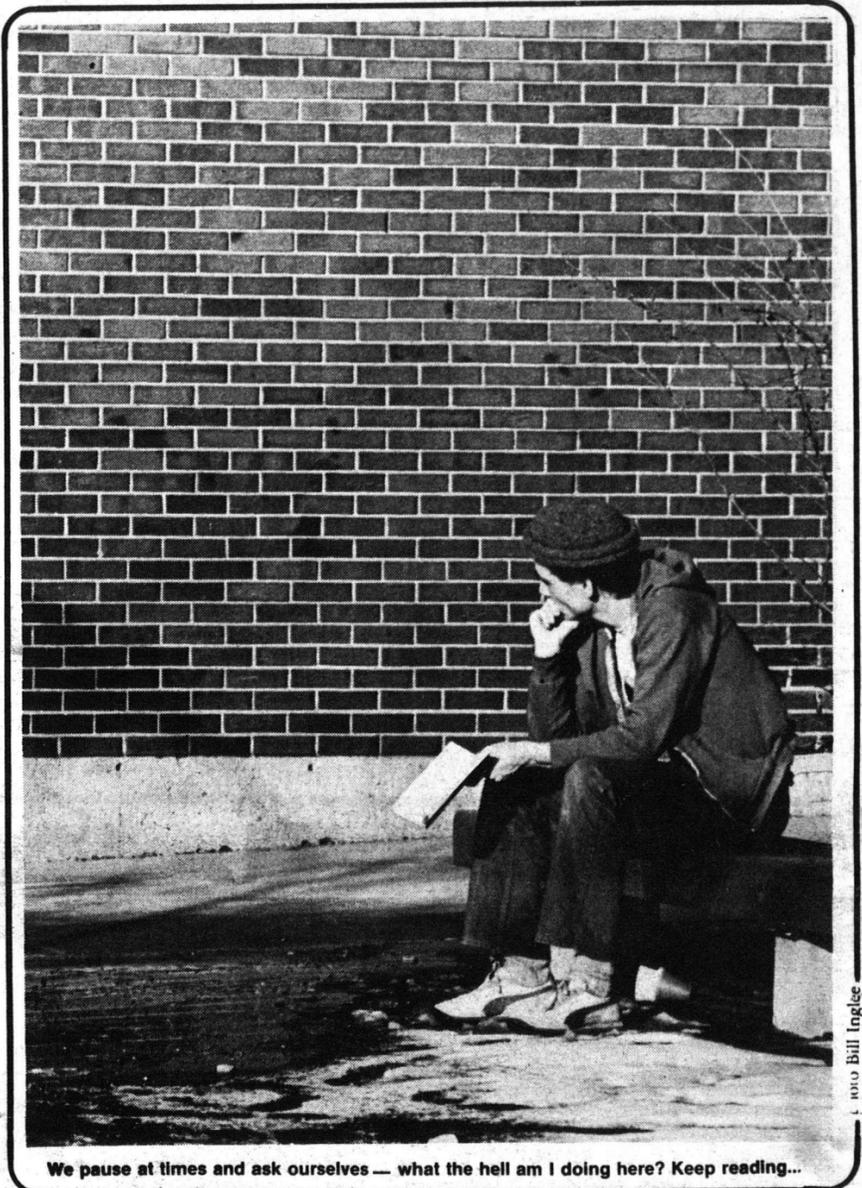
forum Thursday (tomorrow) at 12:30 p.m. in 158 SUB. Speakers will include SU president Nolan Astley, Robin Hunter of the Grad Students' Association and the Campus Co-op, and Anne de Villers, long time South Garneau defender.

a statement that it will not go there," according to U of A Director of Design and Construction Tim Miner. "They will address it at the right time," said Miner, who is directing the North Garneau redevelopment. The "right time" will be when BBC is presented with a specific proposal to build a carpark in North Garneau, he added.

However, he said the preliminary plan presented this week to both committees included "consideration" of parking and tennis courts.

Miner said there was plenty of time before an actual proposal was brought forward for a carpark in North Garneau.

But a detailed "site plan" specifically calling for inclusion of a carpark is already set for presentation to FDC and BBC, he admitted.



We pause at times and ask ourselves — what the hell am I doing here? Keep reading...

photo Bill Ingles

One issue this week

Sorry to all those who looked in vain for yesterday's issue of the Gateway; we forgot to tell you last week that there is only one issue this week. We have exams too.

While you're here, though, have a look at our first feature in two weeks: this one's on the proposed Norman Wells pipeline (page nine); of course, the letters page and the classifieds are (thought) provoking as ever.