

Books, etc.

—and so to bed

UMBILICAL UMBRAGE—For the last three months Gateway arts office has been stormed with a barrage of promotional material on a book called *Now Show Me Your Belly-button*, by Reuben Schafer and Ken Borden. (The arts staff met the challenge—see the picture this page.) The publishers, whoever they may be, have led us to believe that the book has caused a literary revolution in the east, and they faithfully promised to send us a review copy.

Well, the review copy finally arrived last week, and we all read it avidly. We didn't exactly read it—we looked at the pictures. The book is nothing more or less than one of those photo-caption joke books which come up from the U.S.A. every now and again (see *Who's in Charge Here?*), but this one is distinctively Canadian in content, using photos of distinctive Canadians like John Diefenbaker and Judy LaMarsh.

The book (which sells, or will sell, for a dollar) is a disappointment on the whole. The pictures have tremendous potential, but the captions seldom do them justice.

The funniest thing about the book is the reception it received in Toronto the Good. Apparently all sorts of dignified easterners objected to the word "belly-button" in the title—and if we are to believe what we are told, a major publisher refused to publish the book under that title.

Pierre Berton, in a typically complacent Bertonish preface, didn't miss the opportunity of chuckling over his own broad-mindedness, and over the narrow-mindedness of his contemporaries. In fact, everyone connected with the book is guilty of a certain smug satisfaction in having dared to use the word "belly-button". I suppose they would be disappointed if we didn't act suitably shocked.

DEATH OF A COLUMNIST—This is the last Books, etc. column that will disgrace the arts pages of the Gateway. Next year it will be replaced, I hope, with a sort of arts forum containing quips, doggerel verse, and observations from readers—but that is still in the nebulous stages of planning.

I ought to wrap up the year, I guess, with a summary and recapitulation of the year's new books. Unfortunately, not too many of the year's new books have come my way, and so I haven't much qualification for doing so.

If the really important novels of 1966—like *Giles Goat-boy* and *The Birds Fall Down*—haven't been talked about here, most of the blame must be put on the financial situation. Some publishers supply the Gateway with review copies of new books, but most don't. Hence I'm often faced with the prospect of buying a book for the purposes of reviewing it—and it's unlikely that I'm going to be willing to spend six or seven dollars on a brand new novel that might not be worth reading. It's equally unlikely that the average impoverished student is going to be interested in reading about books that he himself can't afford to buy.

In short, I was neither willing nor able to make this column a pale copy of the New York Times Literary Supplement. I have tried to keep track of the books that interest most university students, although I confess that too often the contents of the column were determined by my own perverted interests or by whatever crap was sent here by the publishers.

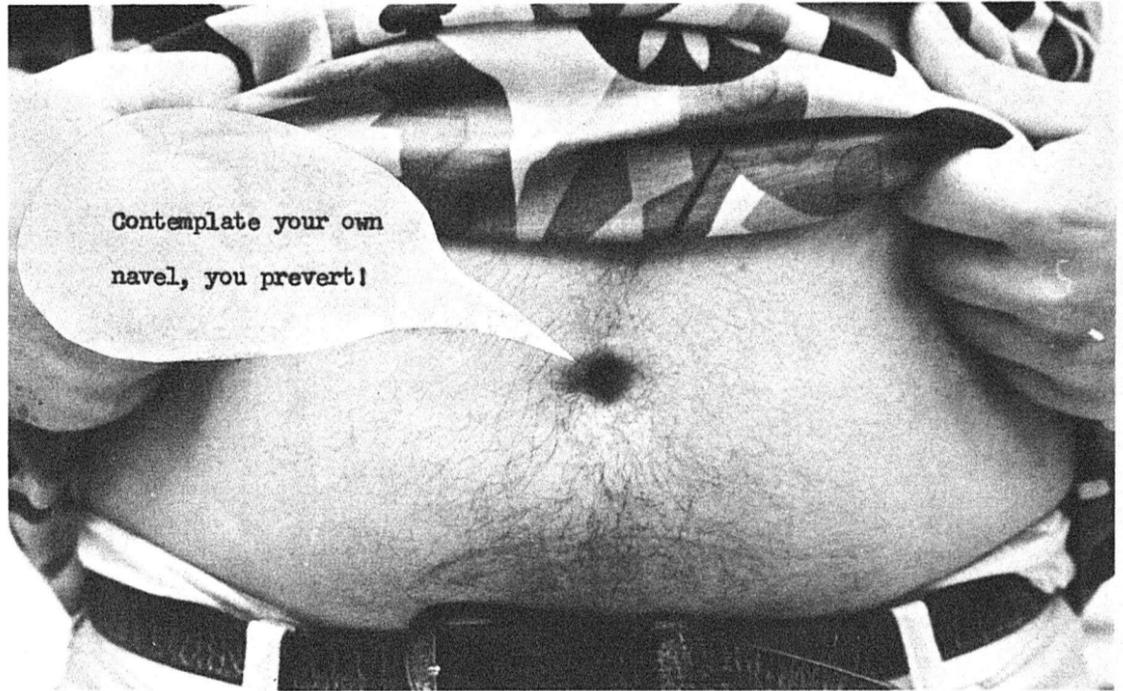
The column was, of course, largely experimental. The arts page crowd found itself with more space than ever this year in which to provide coverage, making columns like this possible for the first time. Whether or not it has been a successful experiment remains to be seen.

And this is where you, the reader with the critical eye, come in. Our complaint is a common one—lack of audience response. Unless you can tell us what you want in the way of arts coverage, we have no way of determining exactly how these pages should be filled. As a result they are filled according to our own tastes—a risky business.

So, I must wrap up the year with a desperate plea: if there is anyone out there listening, please let us know. Let us know that you exist, and that you read the arts pages; and then let us know what you'd like to see in them. Let us know if you're satisfied, and more important, let us know if you're not.

Next year we return, flippant and irresponsible as ever. We can use help. If there are any latently talented book, music, and theatre critics among you, be assured of a warm welcome in the arts office next September.

—Terry Donnelly



—Marion Conybeare photo

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN?—One might well ask this about the graphic illustration to a new book reviewed on this page. To find out whose navel it is, we suggest you dash around campus shouting "Now show me your belly-button" to everyone you meet, and comparing the results with the photo above. Whoever identifies the navel correctly will receive, absolutely free, one bushel of navel lint from said belly-button.

Symphony

The University Symphony Orchestra is featuring the music of Russian composers at its second term concert. The concert will be held in Convocation Hall on Tuesday, March 14, at 8:30 p.m.

The Orchestra, under the direction of Arthur Crighton, will play an emphatically romantic program of music, starting with Moussorgsky's Persian Dance from "Khorvanchina". This will be followed by the Symphonic Poem "On the Steppes of Central Asia" by Borodin and Capriccio Italien by Tchaikowsky.

The highlight of the evening will be Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor (in three movements), with Michael Massey as piano soloist. Mr. Massey is a Bachelor of Music student at this university. He originally hailed from England, and plans to return to Europe for further studies after graduation. Presently he is studying under Professor Sandra Munn. He also plays the cello.

The prospect seems to be for a very enjoyable evening of music. The University Symphony Orchestra, which is a student-controlled organization, has suffered in the past from poor support by the student body—we urge you to help improve this situation.

Tickets are available at the door, and in advance from any member of the orchestra.

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TEACHERS

BEFORE YOU APPLY TO THE COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

The County of St. Paul operates six schools in North-Eastern Alberta. Of these, three are bilingual, and two others have accepted Indian students on an integrated basis. The following description reviews its operation:

- Ashmont School 3336 (Grades I-XII; 22 teachers)**
Ashmont serves the Ashmont and Sugden centralizations and the Goodfish Lake Indian Reserve integration, consisting mostly of non-bilingual residents of the north-west area of the County. Grades I-XII are currently offered. Residences are provided for teacher accommodation. This village is 20 miles from St. Paul on a hard-surfaced highway and some teachers commute daily.
- St. Lina School 3780 (Grade I-VIII; 4 teachers)**
Four teachers on this staff provide education for the children of mostly bilingual French Roman Catholic residents. St. Lina is 30 miles north of St. Paul. There is some housing accommodation.
- Mallaig School 3885 (Grades I-XII; 16 teachers)**
This school serves the north-eastern portion of the County. French language instruction and religious education are accommodated. Some residences are available in the community 20 north of St. Paul.
- Lafond School 3304 (Grades I-XII; 8 teachers)**
This centralization is 14 miles south-west of St. Paul. French language and religious education are accommodated. There are some residences provided although most teachers commute daily from St. Paul.
- Elk Point School 2005 (Grades I-XII; 29 teachers)**
This school is currently the largest County School. An academic-commercial program is planned for continuation of the high school for the future. Several residences have been provided for teacher accommodation. The town is 22 miles south-east of St. Paul on a good all-weather highway.
- Heinsburg School 4610 (Grades I-XI; 10 teachers)**
This is currently a 10-teacher school serving the south-east corner of the County and accommodating integrated Indian students from the Frog Lake Reserve. Residences are provided for teacher accommodation. Heinsburg is 45 miles from St. Paul, and about 23 miles from Elk Point.
- A large number of County students are accommodated by St. Paul public and separate school districts, which are under different administering authorities.**

A composite-vocational high school is being planned to accommodate over 1,000 students from the three jurisdictions by September 1969. It is expected that current employees will receive consideration for appointment to the composite staff when the school comes into operation and will have an opportunity to participate in the planning of this unique school in the interim.

For the next five years our schools will require teachers dedicated to provision of a good education for our children under adverse cultural and socio-economic conditions. Our 1966-67 salary range is as follows:

	II	III	IV	V	VI
Minimum	4100	4900	5800	6200	6500
Maximum	6400	7500	9100	9600	9900

You may compare the minimum salaries with those being offered by other areas and find ours not too unfavorable. In addition, the Board provides bursaries for additional training for teachers and accommodates students desiring internship.

In the past year two teacherages and four fully-furnished new 12 x 52 house trailers have been added to the accommodation available to teachers.

Teachers will be required effective September 1967, particularly at primary and elementary levels. At least two opportunity rooms will be established. One principalship of a 10 room elementary school will be available. Teachers with intercultural preparation and those prepared to innovate under unique circumstances are particularly preferred.

It is not expected that many teachers will want to make a lifetime career in our area, but any teacher willing to devote two or three years in our environment is guaranteed an experience which will be invaluable in coping with educational problems of the future.

As you can see from the above statement, we are not No. 1 in Education in this province. Neither are we No. 2, but would you believe 37?

For further information about these special opportunities please contact:

N. J. Chamchuk,
Superintendent of Schools,
Box 100, St. Paul, Alberta.

Phone 645-3301