The Gateway

Member of the Canadian University Press - Don Sellar

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residence failures

An administration official has said residences at this university are running smoothly, and student govment there is progressing well.

We disagree.

Residence inhabitants, who are fortunate enough to be able to call the university their home, are failing miserably in their cultural and literary commitments to this campus, commitments which acompany the privilege of living in the heart of an academic community.

Today, we are able to boast that students control their government in the Lister Hall complex, and that they do not submit to administration 'paternalism'' so common at American colleges, where residence halls are run like penitentaries.

The administration has supported the philosophy of student control, realizing how important it is for students to run their own affairs. Plans are now being made for two more residence complexes to be built befor 1980, and construction is to begin this year on the final phase of the Lister Hall complex.

Unfortunately, Lister Hall students have failed to uphold the responsibility they have been granted, when they fail to see their hallowed halls as anything more than bunkhouses in which to eat meals, do

homework and sleep.

Residence government, though it functions smoothly like a well-oiled bureaucratic-machine, is neglecting the cultural needs of its citizenry.

Residence activities are restricted solely to social functions such as dances, and to an intramural athletic program organized by the University Athletic Board. Residence participation and achievement in these activities is regrettably poor, considering there are 1,200 students in the Lister Hall buildings.

Where, might we ask, are the residence drama groups, discussion groups, arts societies and literary publications which make residences at other universities so much superior to these drab, concrete-block campus Hiltons which we have at this university?

A house organ distrubution on an irregular basis, and an annual "residence revue" are apparently the sum total of cultural activities among 1,200 university students. Surely residence dwellers can do better than this.

When our residences do provide their inhabitants with cultural and literary outlets, administration officials will be able to say the buildings are indeed "running smoothly" and the government is "progressing well."

But not until then.

thou shalt not

The Alberta liquor Control Board, in its infinite and unquestionable wisdom, has ruled that The Gateway shall not carry liquor advertising.

You see, gentle readers, we are being asked to protect your best interests by sheltering you from the evils of drink. The ALCB has decided that since this publication is designed for students, it should not carry such salacious advertising.

Furthermore, the ALCB has in effect said that because the university Board of Governors is opposed to liquor advertising in The Gateway, no such advertising shall be allowed. Somehow we doubt that the university's most august body should have the right to set policy for a student newspaper, over which it has no control or jurisdiction, financial or otherwise.

If we may be allowed to comment

further?

Subsection 8 of Section 93C of the Liquor Control Act, 1958, states in its infinite and unquestionable wisdom: "A manufacturer may advertise in the following media: (a) daily newspapers, (b) weekly newspapers, and (c) magazines and periodicals."

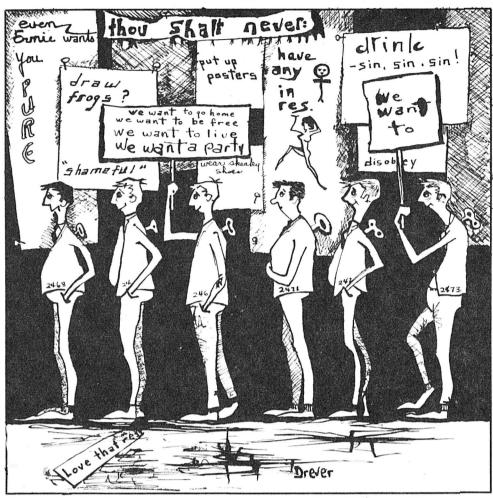
This statement is made with positively no strings attached, so it leads us to ask the ALCB what is The Gateway if it is not even classified as a periodical?

The ALCB decision implies that some students below the "legal" drinking age would be encouraged to drink if they saw liquor advertising in The Gateway.

But there are in the province other publications published daily, weekly, monthly and periodically, which proudly declare they publish for a "family" audience. Why then, does a student newspaper not qualify under Subsection 8 of Section 93C, when its audience is not unlike that of other periodicals permitted to carry liquor advertising?

Strangely enough, Subsection 4(f) of the ALCB's liquor advertising code, says this: ". . . but no advertisement shall (f) encourage, promote or extend the use of liquor . .

Two questions then: First, why do liquor manufacturers advertise at all, if it is not to sell their products? And second, if other publications in Alberta can publish this type of advertising, then why cannot The Gateway?



"And they all live in little boxes . . ."

piling it high

Students' Council has as usual gotten the cart before the horse, tripped, and fallen heavily into the

manure. I refer of course to recent unpleasantries concerning 25 per cent student representation on the Board of Governors.

The proposal, even though ludicrous, indicates an admirable interest in university affairs. Council theorists imagine that student representation on the Board would lead to the righting of wrongs by carload

But what indication have we that council will do one bit more towards improving this university than it has done to date, which is nothing?

"Arrrggg!" I can hear the roar from council members now. But the proof that students' council has not been holding up its end of the garbage can is in the present university situation.

There exists right now a number of genuine faults in the organization of this university. These faults have been present for several years. If council is really serious about its role as a social reform agency, it will prove itself by working to remedy them.

 The university administration has failed to cope with problems arising out of growth of the university to its present size. The problems include the present impersonal nature of the university, student alienation, and a breakdown of personal communication between professor and student.

The university curriculum is inadequate in may areas. Certain disciplines have exhibited a hidebound resistance to change that has left them at the backwater of thought, using approaches and teaching methods 50 years behind the times.

Certain introductory courses, not-

by bruce ferrier

ably Psychology and Sociology 202, are so devoid of interest and meaning that students are flunking out for lack of motivation. Those who do pass consider the time wasted.

Some members of the teaching staff exhibit lack of enthusiasm and dedication, Students have a right to expect a little more than the same dreary monotonous approach day after day after day.

 Students are deliberately shutting themselves off from the mainstream of the university community.

There are the professionals, who have come to regard the university as a sort of super trade school, which will prepare them for their future careers much as a stamping machine makes auto bodies.

There are the super-scholars, who have walled themselves up behind a bunch of highbrow arts courses and consider science to be a barely-endurable necessity.

There are the cowards and the parasites, who spend three years in university without making a single contribution to the life around them. There is a general fear of relationships that falls like a damp cloth on classroom conversation, a fear of speaking out that turns discussion into monologue.

 These faults may spring from other, more general lacks, such as the failure of university administrators to adequately prepare new sid dents for university life. Or a sort of general dullness that has settled on classes, manifested in poor teaching, insufficient use of advanced techniques such as audio-visual aids, and poor co-ordination of subject material into a thematic whole.

Student councillors, let us not prattle on about representation on the Board of Governors. Let us get to work on bringing pressure to bear on some real problems confronting students at this university.