

Letters cont.

administrators to ensure that an adequate level of funding is set aside for the preservation of our campus's mature buildings

Mike Knopp  
Commerce IV

War discourse

It is far easier to criticize and find fault with others, than to make the effort to understand or find good points.

The fear of nuclear war has loomed over humans since the invention of the atomic bomb, so this is not a recent fear. I agree with Miss Rozeboom that the acceptance of such a horror is a ridiculously complacent attitude. But what is one to do to prevent war — nuclear or otherwise?

What is war? Why is the desire to have power, possessions, analogous morals and laws so strong, that people will kill to achieve a monopoly? If children fight over something that they want which another child possesses, they are told by authorities not to be selfish and to share. Are people all over this world so selfish that they cannot share with people from another country?

Life can become so complicated and hurried that one may miss the simple answers while searching for more difficult solutions. Perhaps humans are too afraid to acknowledge their similarities. After all, everyone shares the same earth, atmosphere and universe — at least for now.

If the reader has covered the editorial article "Farmers threatened" in October 29 Gateway, they may have noted that the Deans' concluded solution to prevent that extinction of family farms was adaptation, change and knowledge. A University's main purpose is the quest for a provision of, knowledge. Let us learn to find the good in others — to adapt and possibly change, before we become extinct. It is only fear that creates hatred.

C. Meroniuk  
Arts I

Wright rights wrong

I was distressed to read a quote from Rob Splane's report to Council that referred to the negotiations for the sale of Store Plus More. "Tom Wright quoted him a ridiculously high number and essentially he said okay." I take full responsibility for the misunderstandings that will result from that statement.

I have continually stressed to the Student Executive and Students' Council that the sale is more than advantageous to the Students' Union but in doing so I have obviously left my listeners with the perception that Mr. Dvorkin is naive, with little or no business sense. This is certainly far from the truth. In order for any transaction to be a success, all parties involved must benefit and feel that they have gained something. The sale of Store Plus More is no exception. If Mr. Dvorkin purchases the store he will definitely show a profit on his investment in a reasonable period of time and will without question be the envy of many retailers during the latter part of the proposed lease.

The fact is that customer traffic in the Students' Union Building is far better than in most shopping centres with the added benefit of no competition and therefore the location is worth a premium dollar to a buyer or leasee.

In my opinion, Mr. Dvorkin is very astute to realize that fact and will show substantial returns on his investment because of his foresight. While some people might laugh at how much Mr. Dvorkin may pay for the store, Mr. Dvorkin may be laughing all the way to the bank.

I apologize for any embarrassment that may have been caused.

Yours truly,

Tom Wright  
Business Manager

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Second Wind

Christian rationale

I am tired of trying to express myself through screaming at the walls of my bedroom, so I am attempting a column in *The Gateway*. You ask me why I am screaming at my bedroom walls? Out of frustration. Frustration because no one takes my position seriously. What position? Not my position or sports, politics, or writing competence exams. No one takes my view of life seriously, because I am a Christian.

When I say I am a Christian, people respond in different ways. Some respond with a snicker. They are really surprised that someone in our high-tech world actually believes in Christianity. After all, Christianity is pretty antiquated. To these people, I am just an anachronism.

But, if you look around, there are all kinds of anachronisms just like me in existence. My quick calculations tell me that there are at least ten Christian groups on campus, representing over 500 students. There are Christians in every faculty. Oh yes, there are people — even university-type people — who believe Christianity.

Then there is a group of people who get antagonistic when I mention that I am a Christian. These people argue with me. They bring up problems with church history and church doctrine. If they are well read, they can touch on the Crusades, Galileo and birth control all in a matter of minutes.

Now I will be the first to admit that there are problems in the church both in the past and in the present. In fact, I would say that Christians, on the whole, are probably more critical of the church than are those outside the church. Most of the problems

stem from a misinterpretation of biblical teaching or a misapplication of it. But all of these problems are not sufficient reason to throw out the whole Christian system.

A third group of people are going to say, "So what? Who cares if you are a Christian?" I suppose that is all right, if they are satisfied with their lives. But not if it is an excuse to avoid examining their lives. Socrates said that the unexamined life is not worth living. I would thoroughly agree with him, and say that Christianity specializes in honest examination of life.

Another response to Christianity is pity. Some people feel sorry that I had to resort to Christianity to give me some meaning in life, or to explain how we got here, or to find some basis for morality. It's too bad that I couldn't have found a more scientific or more modern answer to these big questions.

You know, in a small way these people are right. Being a Christian does give me a definite reason for existing. It also answers where we came from. And believe it or not, it does provide a foundation for morality. But none of these are the reason why I am a Christian. They are merely side benefits. The reason that I am a Christian is that God adequately revealed himself in the life of Jesus Christ some 1985 years ago. And in doing so, God gave us more than enough reason to listen to him, and to follow his teachings.

So the point I am trying to make — the same point I've been trying to tell my walls — is that there are intelligent, mature, independent, thinking people who are Christians. You don't have to feel sorry for them, or laugh at them, or even get angry at them. They are perfectly normal people who have made an intelligent decision to accept a system that makes absolute sense. And that is why I think they should be taken seriously.

Jon Arnold  
Ed II

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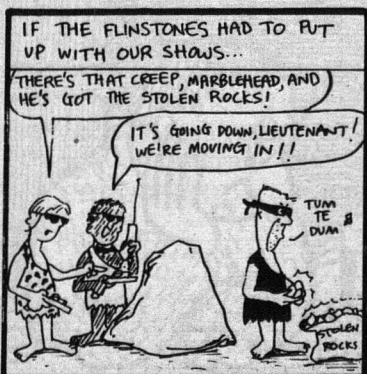
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