

An Editorial

## EDUCATIONAL BETRAYAL

On the south end of our campus the new Education Building stands loftily, a ten-storey brothel complete with red light, dedicated to the prostitution of education.

Next fall when the new building is opened one will be able to take a delightful course in "typewriting, and the teaching of typewriting" (or if specially qualified—"advanced typewriting, and the teaching of typewriting"); an erudite course in "school buildings and pupil transportation"; an instructive and intellectually stimulating course on "the enterprise method"; or for those inclined to group dynamics a course on "the sociology of the school" and "a comprehensive survey of folk dancing."

The picture is not totally black—but almost so.

Education, as one writer recently said, has taken "substance from the academic fields of psychology, history, philosophy, and the social sciences, all of which it has digested badly while adding little that is uniquely its own." Yet what substance there is has been stretched, inflated, fragmented and subdivided into vast academic empires, often overlapping other disciplines.

All the courses listed above exist and can be taken for credit for the bachelor degree.

The ubiquitous methods courses cover almost every conceivable subject on every level in the entire public school system from a course on "the content and organization of the program in language dramatization, art, music, rhythms and play for the kindergarten and primary grades" to a course on "curriculum and instruction in secondary school household economics."

**The number of courses available is a tribute to the imagination of the Education Faculty, but their triviality, repetitiousness, and ambiguity is a strike against its collective common sense. As a natural consequence these courses repel the best students, bore the average students, and please the poor students. The result is inevitable.**

Poor students tend to drift into education. Major studies in the United States and an informal survey on this campus confirm the harsh truth that in native ability and achievement, education students show up badly in comparison with other faculties. Surely this fact must be known even to the Faculty of Education.

The easy acceptance of this scholastic poverty and incompetence breeds an insidious anti-intellectualism which only compounds the problem. Better students and faculty are deflected, poor ones attracted, and the low standards maintained.

Fortunately, some students in education are among the best we have on campus; some of the faculty members are of international repute but their numbers are desperately few.

**Some reforms have been instituted: the infamous Junior E Program has been jettisoned; full tuition grants are no longer available to first year students with only 60 per cent averages. The greatest deterrent to further reform is the field of professional education itself.**

Under existing regulations in the Alberta School Act anyone who has not taken education courses cannot instruct in our school system.

A university professor in English cannot teach English 30 to high school students, yet he may be instructing these same students the next year. A graduate in Honors Chemistry with four to six times the number of chemistry courses required of a chemistry major in education is not qualified to teach chemistry in the high schools. For this same reason, even in our largest schools, some foreign languages must be taught by correspondence because able immigrants are not permitted to teach these languages.

Greater reforms and revisions are needed if the University of Alberta is to take its place among the leaders in the field of education: an infusion of more liberal arts courses in place of the present "junk" and methods courses; financial assistance and higher salaries, but only when coupled with these same higher standards; a qualifying examination in place of the present closed-shop regulations.

Sending forth from our university any other teachers than the best is a betrayal—a betrayal of our youth, of our university, of our province, of ourselves.



BRYAN CLARK

Business Manager

## Clark Appointed

Bryan Clark was appointed Permanent Business Manager of the Students' Union at the regular Students' Council meeting held Tuesday night.

"He has done the job since Mr. Dinwoodie's death, and has demonstrated that he is capable of handling its responsibilities," stated Iain Macdonald, Secretary-Treasurer of the Students' Union.

Walter Dinwoodie, previous Business Manager, died last December after fifteen years service to the Students' Union.

Other considerations that were taken into account in arriving at the decision were:

- that he is a product of the system. He graduated from U of A in 1961 with a B.Comm.

- he is dedicated to the job.

- it would ultimately cost more money to obtain someone with more qualifications, but less experience with the job of Business Manager and the local situation, and to train him.

"The only possible handicap is his youth," Macdonald pointed out. Clark is 25. "But he is maturing both to and in his job, and he has shown that he can handle it satisfactorily."

Clark was appointed Assistant Business Manager in 1962, to relieve Mr. Dinwoodie of some of his work load. Prior to that, he was active in Students' Union activities, and is a past President of Radio Society.

The Permanent Business Manager is employed by a written contract, and must perform the following duties:

- supervise the financial affairs of the Students' Union, including the drafting of the annual budget,

- act as an adviser to Students' Council,

- hire and discharge such permanent employees of the business office as he deems advisable,

- perform such other duties as may be mutually agreed upon with Students' Council.

Terms of his contract specifying salary were not released.

Clark was unavailable for comment at press time.

## Hellyer Defines Stand

Paul Hellyer, Liberal defence critic and MP, clarified the Liberal party stand in the coming election to a standing crowd in Pybus Lounge, Wednesday, March 6.

"The major issue of this coming election is the creation of a strong government for Canada. This does not necessarily mean stable government, for we had a stable government in 1957 creating many problems," stated Mr. Hellyer.

Mr. Hellyer voiced a strong opposition to minority governments. He said that a government should be strong enough and able enough to put through unpopular measures. He pointed out that the last attempt at a minority government resulted in a disaster.

**Mr. Hellyer termed the defence policy of the Conservative government incomprehensible.**

"The government made commitments to the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance and then failed to fulfill them. Although Canada's commitments are small, as a part of a team, Canada must do its share. The Canadian government's policy of inaction over defence has alienated the USA and given Canada a reputation of unreliability among its allies and friends."

The Conservative policy on nuclear weapons was hotly criticized by Mr. Hellyer. In 1957 the Canadian government agreed to the formation of NORAD and in 1958 agreed to accept Bomarc missiles. Today the bases are finished but there is nothing in the warheads (but sand). Mr. Hellyer described a typical day at a Bomarc missile base. "The men get up in the morning, sing 'O Canada' and shine the warheads." Mr. Hellyer stated that it now seems that the weapons will be stored in the USA and brought up by dogsled when needed.

The Liberal stand to accept nuclear weapons is based on military and technological reasons, Mr. Hellyer said. "We have bases costing many millions of dollars, but no equipment to make these bases effective. We must re-establish Canada's moral reliability and participate in our own defence, rather than hypocritically 'allowing' the Americans to defend us," he stated.

"The decision to fulfil our commitments must be made by an able government," Mr. Hellyer stated. Two tasks of the new government will be: to establish a stable economy; and to help share the responsibility of protecting our free world allies.

## DIEC Takes Our Money

The Gateway has been fined \$30 by the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Committee on charges of violating a campaigning bylaw in the recent Students' Union elections.

Charges were laid after one member of the organization acted in a manner deemed by the DIEC to be campaigning on election day — the Friday of election week.

At the DIEC hearing, the Gateway staff member said his actions were not intended to be campaigning, and the member's superiors supported this stand.

DIEC chairman Jim Foster, law 2, said intent was not the basis on which the committee of five made their decision to impose the fine.

### APPEAL PENDING

At the close of the hearing, The Gateway indicated it would appeal the decision.

The higher body to consider the appeal would consist of Provost A. A. Ryan, Students' Union President Dave Jenkins and DIEC chairman Foster.

## Do-Fay Der Is First Male Sister

Sonia Kulka has invited Do-Fay Der to the Wauneita Big and Little Sister Party. Do-Fay wants to come, but he's worried about what Sonia might say.

Do-Fay X. Der, 21, is not a member of Wauneita. He is male. All male.

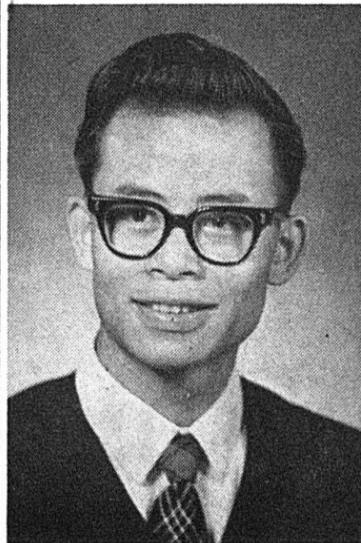
Der, a third year education student, says it isn't the first time. Not only Wauneita, but the library, the Students' Union, the Banff School of Fine Arts, even his professors, address his mail, "Dear Miss Der."

"It's a little bothersome," says Do-Fay.

Just about all his university correspondence is addressed to some woman or other. Only the Registrar keeps his sex straight. He suspects that's only because of the IBM.

Der's home is at Chauvin, Alberta. Originally, his family lived in the Himalayan Mountains in Southeast China. He speaks fifteen Asian dialects. He plans to teach in Europe after graduation.

In the meantime, he is looking forward to Sonia's party with the freshettes.



DO-FAY DER