

Seizure status

by Peter Michalyshyn

Following an official inquiry, Edmonton Police Chief Robert Lunney said last week that "corrective action has been taken against the (police) member involved" in November 18's seizure of the *Gateway* newspaper.

Lunney reiterated what his own investigation earlier had turned up: that "there were simply no grounds" for the seizure; he also said the officer involved acted in good faith. So far there has been no mention of the fire

department investigator or the Campus Security employee, both involved in the seizure.

Students' Union President Phil Soper says he is pleased the Edmonton Police Commission investigation concluded the seizure was wrong.

Soper says the Students' Union intends to push forward with a civil action for damages against the parties involved, including the University of Alberta; however, he says any action must first be approved by Students'

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Conservatory...

the Gateway

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1982

...Joe Clark's next campaign

Library funds up in the air

by Greg Harris

There has been little change over the holidays on the issue of library funding cutbacks.

University president Myer Horowitz was notified in early December that the provincial government had elected not to extend the three year program of library endowments from the Heritage Trust Fund.

He called the government decision an "extremely serious blow," and sent a letter of protest to Advanced Education and Manpower Minister Jim Horsman.

According to Horowitz and a government official, the decision has not changed.

"The status (of the Heritage library grants) has not changed, but we're still lobbying in the hope of change," says Horowitz.

Assistant Deputy Minister Reno Bossetti of the department of Advanced Education and Manpower says that no replacements for the Heritage program have been considered since the government is still evaluating the program's effectiveness.

The endowment program that gave the U of A \$2.7 million over three years has allowed the library to do little more than keep pace with the rate of inflation.

Bossetti says, however, that the program was designed "to enhance library collections, not to combat inflation. That is dealt with in the block grants to institutions."

"This is an enhancement grant, not a replacement grant," he says.

Head Librarian Bruce Peel has stated that the library will need \$1.5 million next year to fill the gap created by the endowment grant termination.

If the coffers are empty however, Peel says that book purchases will have to be cut into and later, periodical subscriptions, as well.

Horowitz refuses to speculate publicly on the university's alternatives to the program, saying that he remains hopeful that future talks with Horsman will produce positive results.



Students at the U of A "brain centre" pray that libraries might one day be adequately funded.

photo Bill Ingles

Students juggled if nurses strike

by Wes Oginski

In the event of a nurses strike, medical and nursing students will be affected.

The United Nurses of Alberta (UNA) had served strike notice to their affiliated hospitals for the 1st of January. A provincial Disputes Inquiry Board was set up, delaying any possible strike action until February 1st.

The Board has no official power but can make recommendations to both parties, UNA and the Alberta Hospital Association (AHA).

The Board has asked for an extension to their deadline on making recommendations but UNA has rejected this proposal. Both parties must agree for any such extension. The deadline can be extended, though, by Alberta Labour Minister Les Young, who has not commented on the issue.

Many medical and nursing students study at the U of A hospital, where the nurses union is not UNA, and these students will not be affected by the strike.

Grace Stanly of UNA says no U of A students will be affected unless they choose not to cross picket lines at hospitals where nurses are striking.

University officials disagree.

"Yes, indeed it (a nurses strike) would (have a affect on medical students)," says Dr. P.A. Cameron, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

Rene Day, assistant to the acting Dean of Nurses, says student nurses will also be affected.

"We have developed a contingency plan, effective January 1st," says Cameron about the medical students affected.

Both undergraduate and interning medicine students study at hospitals affiliated with UNA. If a strike occurs, students on rotation at affected hospitals would be taken out and rotated to non-striking hospitals.

Cameron says the delay of the strike date by the Dispute Inquiry Board has changed the contingency plan. Nothing can be planned until the faculty is certain when a strike will take place.

Day says that the Faculty of Nursing also has a contingency plan dating back many years, to other nurses' strikes.

"This will mean that students at the Royal Alex or Charles Camell will not be able to go (to those hospitals for study)," she says.

A lot depends on how long

the strike lasts, she says.

A nursing student now spends two days of the week at a hospital. If the threatened strike is short, the students will not have missed much.

If the strike is long, nurses will probably change to non-striking hospitals. This is uncertain because negotiations with the U of A Hospital are still underway. If not, students may have to make up classes in May.

"It's one of those interesting

things," says Day, "in that the longer the University Hospital could hold on (with an increased load, due to the strike) the longer the strike could last."

UNA is negotiating for higher wages and better working conditions, according to union representative Stanly.

"Basically, what the nurses want is improvement to conditions of work," she says. One such condition is having every other weekend off instead of one

weekend in three.

Other demands include a more balanced shift schedule and a yearly master rotation schedule.

"(AHA) has responded by saying they have to do a study on what the problem is, exactly," Stanly says.

AHA has offered a starting wage of \$10.09 per hour and a top figure of \$11.79 per hour. UNA has asked for a starting wage of \$13.50 and a top wage of \$17.50.

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