

Savagery for vulgarity

The majority of graduate students employed by this university as teachers manage to do a first class job of enlightening and helping students.

Complaints have reached The Gateway, however, which indicate that the quality of graduate assistance available to undergrads is not 100 percent what it should be.

For instance, has a lecturer any right to use his students' personal points of view as a springboard, from which he can bound to heights of asinine irrationality?

Is a graduate student slipping in his responsibility when he chooses to smother stu-

dents' papers with a sloppy mess of idiotic irrelevant and invidious commentary?

We suggest there is not general need for hand-in-hand supervision by academic departments of their grad assistants: but perhaps there ought to be more supervision, to protect students whose interest and achievement in a subject is threatened by the occasional wormy apple which comes along.

The level of teaching which we have encountered in at least one case is low to the point of vulgarity. Individuals responsible for such outrages to students and taxpayers should be brought up savagely by their superiors.

CUP: a vital institution

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The functions of Canadian University Press are so vital to the democratic health of the member communities that perhaps it would be wise to approach the Christmas conference with a brief examination of the ideas and difficulties of Canadian University Press.

As student enrolments grow, student government and activities become complex, Canadian campuses have evolved from the "town meeting level of administration, as recently as when I was an undergraduate, to giant corporations. Operation of the corporations is further handicapped by installing green executives each year.

Thus the exchange of information between campuses should go beyond the report that a student was killed during initiation at X university. The exchange should provide the wealth of experiences all campuses can offer regarding common problems.

Recently, the fledgling York University, in Toronto, with its few hundred students, debated the merits of fraternities and decided against them. The University of Saskatchewan debated the same problem when I was editor of The Sheaf in 1939. Colossal University of Toronto debated this question and decided fraternities should not be a recognized part of the campus but encouraged them to provide the fellowship the university cannot provide.

Student council budgets, whether professional direction should be engaged for the production of musical revues, discipline boards for anti-social students—all are common problems, and all information should be pooled for the guidance of all campuses. There should also be an intellectual exchange, so all campuses would know what each thinks about world and national problems.

Thus the president of a students' council should be able to drop into the office of his local CUP editor to solicit experience from other campuses. The editor would telegraph Ottawa, and the CUP machinery would turn up a plethora of campus material from across the nation.

Whether all exchanges of information would be of immediate use in all campus newspapers is beside the point. Editorial discretion must be used by each editor. But for our campuses to thrive, information must be exchanged.

To make such an exchange possible, the

senior position under each editor-in-chief should be the Canadian University Press editor. He should be the minister of external affairs. He should initiate news about his own campus, even some that his own readers may not wish to read, and he should request news that might be vital to his campus.

Canadian University Press can only be as strong and as functional as its individual units. Unfortunately, too many campuses look upon CUP as a joe-boy chore and assign it to the weakest hanger-on in the campus newspaper office.

Such a scheme as I have outlined also depends on a strong national office. This means that the national president should be freed of nuisance jobs so he can get on with the task at hand. One nuisance job that has occupied much of the attention of the incumbent president is the raising of funds to pay the rent. The national office must be financially strong.

Canadian University Press has other vital functions. Even as the national office must be financially strong, so must each newspaper be well supported by advertisers. The national president should create a favorable atmosphere among advertisers so that they would recognize the "captive audience" of intellectual young people across the land, the people who will be the business, political and social leaders of the future.

And Canadian University Press should be constantly concerned with the improvement of quality in each member newspaper. Information and advice should be made available on how to ferret out elusive facts and write sparkling stories, how to debate logically in an editorial, how to edit copy and lay out pages, and all the complex functions of producing a newspaper.

Canadian University Press is the nervous system of Canada's intellectual community, pumping a constant flow of ideas and events across the nation. Its health depends on the health of each part, the contribution and support of all parts. Should CUP operate feebly or break down, the democratic health of all campuses would break down.

To be strong, Canadian University Press must have:

1. Strong campus editors;
2. Strong financial support;
3. And campuses that are dedicated to the worthiness of Canadian University Press as a vital part of our student life.

Don't drag it out

Model Parliament has been changed into a Muddle Parliament during the last two years.

When it was revived six years ago, Model Parliament was intended to fulfil certain specific functions. Primarily it was designed to foster a political awareness in the student body as a whole, and to give the students an opportunity to see how Parliament functions. Those participating enjoyed the additional benefit of gaining experience in public speaking and debate. An enjoyable, high-quality shown was put on by the 45 members sitting on two consecutive nights.

Two years ago, Model Parliament was extended to a three night, 65 member affair. The

result was that the quality of the presentation dropped. The members did not have time to devote three evenings in a row, or to prepare adequately. The increase in the number of members meant that only a few got a chance to speak, the rest being relegated to the position of merely being present.

In its present watered-down form, Muddle Parliament is almost comparable to the United Nations Club Model Assembly. If the interest of the spectators and participants is to increase, it is necessary to condense the entire proceedings. Even the Political Science Club executive should prefer being active reactionaries rather than inert non-entities.



Secession for Quebec has received general endorsement from Canadian university students, French and otherwise. Some feel a division could equally benefit both sides—and when Quebec came running back after five years, provincial dominion affairs could operate on a clarified basis. The more rebellious (and UACers) sympathetically support the move as righteous self-expression of a purged, underprivileged minority.

The Failt De Tumes, voice of Quebec's MacDonald College concludes with these students: "The Separatist movement in Quebec is gaining more ground daily, and we say more power to it. Separatism is an ideal the French Canadians have been mulling over for many years and we are surprised that it has not reared its head sooner."

"Economically, secession is not feasible but one cannot argue economically with a person as emotionally involved in this struggle as the Frenchman is. The danger signs have made themselves apparent and secession is a real threat. The only way to prevent it is to give in to the French Canadians demand for equal rights. It's high time this was done."

Questions as to how issues as customs, maritime communication and national defence affect the feasibility of the venture have called re-evaluation of the Dominion-Quebec status with consideration of making it work. Thirty Canadian universities and classical college representatives attended a four-day Congress on Canadian affairs at Laval University recently to study the question: "Canada: A Success or Failure?"

Consensus of opinion at the end of the congress was that the Canadian "experiment" has neither succeeded nor failed—it is still an experiment.

English-speaking delegates left for home with the realization that Confederation is no longer to be taken for granted. They were impressed with the depth of French Canadian nationalism and the extent to which French Canadians in general sympathize with the separatist movement. "French Canada forms a nation," as one French speaking delegate explained Saturday, "and unless she can realize her legitimate national aspirations within Confederation, there seems to be a very

real possibility she will vote for independence."

Rene Levesque, Quebec Minister of Natural Resources, told the English-speaking delegates "you need us more than we need you. If we can't get what we deserve from Confederation, don't be too surprised if we decide on another course."

Levesque is not a separatist, but, like many French Canadians, feels his national minority is leading a truncated existence, due mainly to the fact that they are treated as "second-class" citizens.

Douglas Fisher, CCF member for Port Arthur, replied he failed to see what French Canada was offering to the country as a whole. "They talk about French-Canadian culture, but it seems to me its famous products have been Maurice Richard and Lili St. Cyr."

Editor, historian Murray Ballantyne, in his speech "What French Canadians Have Against Us", established a tone which was to influence the whole congress. He made frank and basic remarks on the ignorance of his English speaking compatriots toward all he had to do with French Canada.

Said Mr. Ballantyne: "We will never understand French Canadians until we accept wholeheartedly they are different, they have a perfect right to be themselves, and therefore different, and this difference is a good thing and an enrichment of our own national life."

Are we ready to have our national life enriched?

