

EDITORIAL

The Young Liberals

The Liberals want to create a new department that would help youth find jobs. According to Saturday's *Globe*, the department will bring together 87 federal programs. These programs, aimed directly or indirectly at relieving youth unemployment, are currently dispersed over several departments.

The Liberals are losing in the popularity polls (Gallup's and Carleton's), so this latest scheme could make it to Cabinet sooner than most bureaucratic proposals.

Canada's unemployed numbered 1.365 million in August, almost half of whom are under the age of 25. For university graduates, the situation of underemployment is common.

The overall jobless rate for the country in August was 11.8 per cent. Statistics Canada reports further that the jobless rate for men 15 - 24 was 22 per cent and for women 15 - 24, the rate was 16.4 per cent. (Alberta's overall jobless rate was 11.1 per cent.)

The good news is that we're on the upswing. The bad news is that the Class of '84 will be competing with last year's grads in the labour market.

While Edmonton's economy suffered (12.1 per cent out of work), Ottawa's (7.9 per cent) has remained essentially recession-proof. The idea of hiring youthful bureaucrats outside the Nation's Capital is at least recognition of that fact.

Senator Jacques Hebert, a long-time Trudeau friend, wrote a 15-page proposal on the idea. The *Globe* quotes Hebert, saying that the Ottawa segment of this new department would be small.

The most interesting aspect, though, is that the Government would only hire people less than age 25. After five years, those individuals originally hired would be required to transfer or to seek other employment.

Are the Feds simply wasting tax dollars on bureaucrats who would espouse the Liberal line on youth unemployment? The stakes are too high to think that's the rationale behind Hebert's plan.

There's no denying that the Liberals are looking at the political benefits from showing such concern, albeit contrived, for the country's disillusioned youth. Their Party faithful will be dutifully impressed, especially the fastidious Campus Liberal types.

Will the proposed department turn out to be a high profile Youth Aid Clinic? Probably not. The Liberals admit that there's little that can be done to alleviate the unemployment problem in the short-term. Still, they are being rather particular about the image of this new department, even at this early stage.

However, the jobless youth in Canada don't care about what image the Liberals are trying to convey. Any further discussion regarding Hebert's proposal will seem speculative and somewhat premature now, but suffice to say the matter deserves careful consideration.

Construction, forestry, finance, real estate, mining, and textiles are some of the industries that are used as key indicators of economic recovery. Bureaucratic expansion, though not a key, tends to gain acceptance as long as it provides new jobs. In other words, these newly created positions will be designed, in part, to inspire confidence in youth on their attitudes about the future.

The Government wants to instill a sense of hope in us. Ironically it's the Liberals who are doing most of the hoping these days. The Gallup poll says the Tories are leading 52 - 28 and Southam (Carleton's) says the spread is 56 - 26.

It's debatable whether Brian Mulroney will pick up on this new department idea should he become the next Prime Minister of Canada. The latter supposition about Mulroney's future has become a strong threat.

This is all the more reason to believe that Trudeau's Cabinet will soon be discussing a new Ministry composed of bureaucrats under the age of 25. Just how far discussions will get depends on how important their party strategists consider the plan in terms of garnering votes in a general election.

Brent Jang

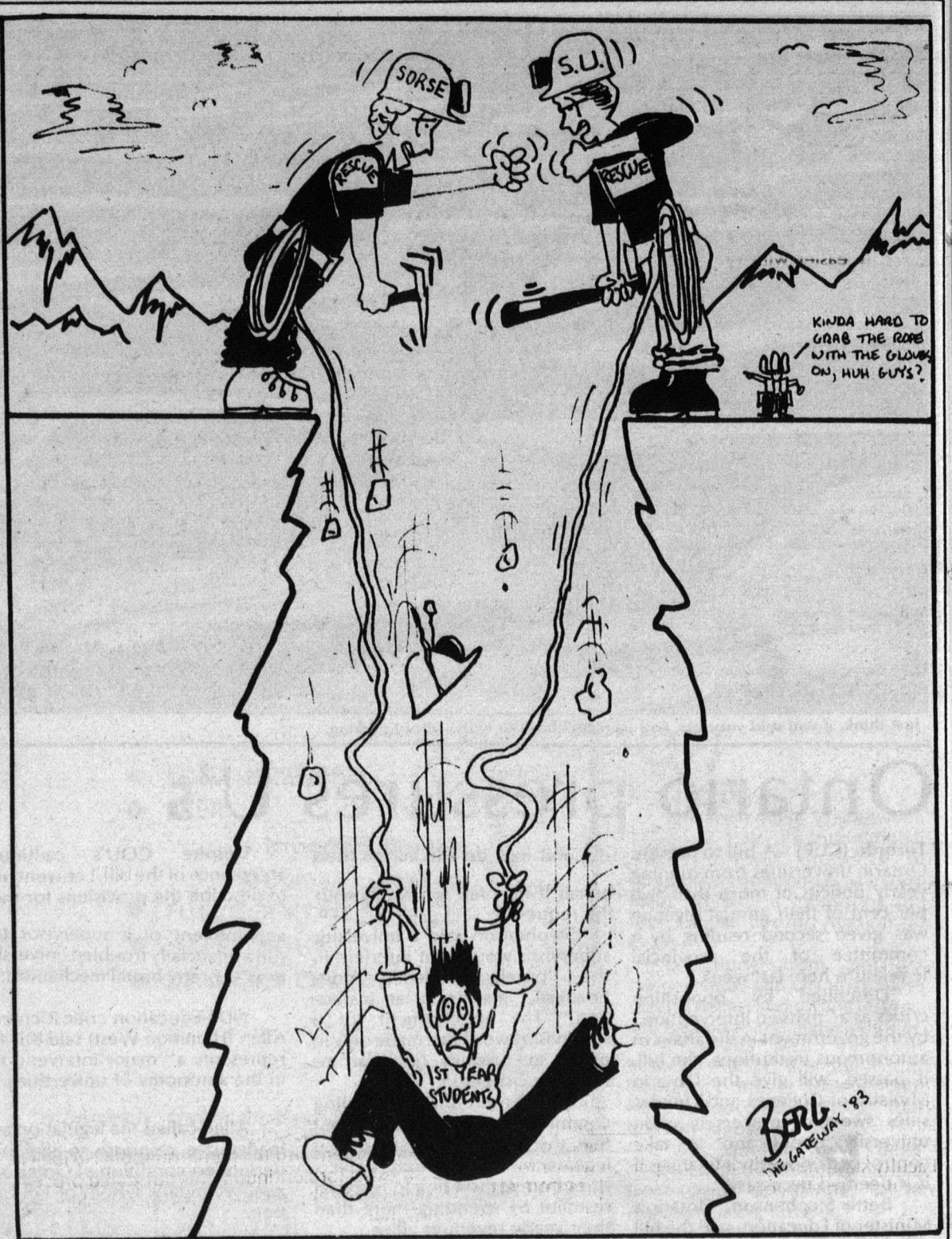
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Staff this Issue

Zane Harker and Jordan Peterson brutalize the typesetter, while Gunnar Blodgett, Ninette Gironella and Sally-Ann hid all the line tape while Ludwig and Berg hid on various pages, much to the chagrin of Greg Harris and Christine Koch, while Rob Johnstone joined the Church of Gilbertology with Algard as both priest and virgin-type figure.

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« LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »

Finders keepers

With the commencement of the Winter Term, students are reminded that Campus Security provides a number of services for the benefit of the Campus community.

Among them is a Lost and Found service through which we endeavor to trace lost articles and return them to losers. Similarly, found articles, when turned in here, are held for four months in the hope they will be claimed.

Campus Security provides stickers for identification for eyeglasses, books, calculators, etc. and also a gratis identification engraving service for skis, bicycles, etc.

Other services are described on free bookmarks available at our office.

Please call 5252 for information regarding these and other security subjects.

W.F.G. Perry, Director
 Campus Security and Parking Services

Welcome already

There seems to have been no official welcome of new students to the U of A in the first Gateway. In recognition of this, the Arts Students' Association officially welcomes all those poor souls who lived through registration to these, our ivory towers.

Also, we would like to thank the following people for helping out with the ASA Registration Info. booth: Terry Bixby, Tony Brouwer, Lisa Schnell, Shannon Silver, Jacqueline McDonald, Brian Wolfman, Don Davies, and Ninette Gironella.

Gunnar Blodgett, President
 Arts Students' Association

Arts Editor Wanted

The Gateway is accepting applications for the position of Arts Editor for the 1983-1984 school year. Persons interested in this editorial position should be experienced writers ready to step in and operate the department within a week or two.

A staff meeting will be held 4:00 PM. Thursday, September 15, to elect the Arts Editor. If you're interested in the position, or would simply like to know more information about the Gateway, contact Brent Jang, Room 282 SUB.

**Radical statements
 Floyd on formula**

Brent Jang's new student activist sounds like the man from "Glad". Maybe Bible Study 200, "Christian" Fellowships and "Better Way" clubbies are his idea of "prudent and conservative...campuses", but, to me they represent more of the same type of pseudo-human mentality that sells baby formula in the third world or votes conservative in Lister Hall.

The idealistic student activist probably wouldn't waste his time voting or "talking with university administrators". Let the lackeys of the administration talk their heads off to the administrators: let them feed the system.

The student movement must already be dead if the "Sixties (seem) romantic" historically. I suppose the sacrificial lambs of the sixties are the turkeys today?

Floyd Hodgins
 Ed. 1

LETTERS

Letters to the Editor should be no more than 250 words long. They must be signed and include faculty, year of program, and phone number. No anonymous letters will be published. All letters should be typed, or very neatly written. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gateway.