

Resignation letter cont'd from page 5

It is now well understood in our society that workers do not have the same degree of control in the exploitation of their labour power. Labour contracts specify job classifications and categories in great detail precisely to preclude this prerogative of management. Without this form of protection the latter will always to date have been done in this case - i.e., over-extend the obligations on the employee so as to increase the productivity of the worker in relation to the value of the wage. In the process, the worker becomes completely alienated from the product of his/her labour.

Both consequences accurately describe Doug's situation. There have been many occasions where we have seen Doug unable to enjoy a forum that took months to organize because he had to oversee a cabinet, etc. at the other end of the building. That is alienation, simple and direct.

As the question of the exploitation of labour in society has been raised, it might be important to know why the CUPE local did not intervene and specify job classifications for Doug as it obviously does for other university employees under its jurisdiction.

The answer is as simple as the implications of the answer are obvious: the SU executive, in its business-minded wisdom, refused to hire Doug on a full-time basis - despite the multitude of tasks it required from his labour. In other words, a 10-month contract prevents Doug from receiving the benefits obtained through decades of working class struggle.

Such tactics lend considerable credibility to Doug's assertion that in association with the expansion of the Students' Union "...business empire, we find that those students who are most anxious to seek election are those interested in both the experience to be gained by managing such a large corporation and the prestige and obvious advantages of being able to include such a position of power in their curriculum vitae."

He continues, "...inference from the executive succeeds only in harassing the employees who are much more

knowledgeable in the day-to-day business operations than dilettante student politicians who see themselves as managers of a large corporation."

Having learned the theory and the practice of anti-union management, the present SU executive appears well on its way to future corporate positions in which these talents are greatly appreciated. Nor is this the only example to give credence to Doug's analysis. Student officers have also mastered the technique of professing to be "apolitical" at the correct time (e.g., the refusal to take a position on the local opposition to apartheid sporting links), which only a moment later we find two members of the executive acting in a very political manner in accepting the tidbits of surpluses derived from the exploitation of black labour in Cecil Rhodes' Rhodesia. The award is spoken of in polite circles as the Rhodes scholarship.

Contradictions abound - in university as in the society generally. Some people, like Doug Elves in particular, manage to cut their way through the morass of mythology to discover what really lies beneath. In the process, and in this case, the university community at large has lost the services and the dedication of a person who is truly concerned.

Yet the mythology machine continues to belch up worn and false cliches: "Doug is leaving us because he has over-extended himself ... but not because of any

hard feelings." And: "People always think when they hear about resignations that there's been some conflict but that's not the case here."

Hopefully the above information will reveal such platitudes as nothing but a sham. Conflict does not essentially result from individual personalities but rather from structural relations. For the SU executive to intentionally leave the the university community with the impression that Doug Elves is just a nice guy who wants to return to school is to attempt to cover one myth with another. We should conclude by raising one of Doug's questions to the fore: "Are the students of this university truly apathetic or are they simply represented politically by 'politicians' of 'upward mobility' who profess to be apolitical, and who are therefore incapable of articulating the proper approaches to an issue?"

We, the undersigned, know Doug's answer to this rhetorical question, and we agree. Finally, we would like to thank Doug for what he tried to do and the courage of his convictions.

- Ken Luckhardt - Anthropology
- Brenda Wall - Education
- Greg Teal - Anthropology
- Peter J. Newcomer - Anthropology
- Sandi Pentland - Anthropology
- Kristin Murray
- Ann Murray - Education
- Dianne Sieniuc - Sociology
- Vidya Thakur - Education
- Anne Butorac - Education
- Alvin Finkel - History
- Jim McDonald - Anthropology
- Janice Douglas - Anthropology
- Andra P. Thakur - Anthropology



ratt*
food service
8:30 AM till 11 PM
"refreshments"
3 PM till 11 PM
 *7th floor SUB There's Room At The Top



Société Radio-Canada
CHFA 680

December 8, 9, 10 and 13th
17:30 - 18:00 REFLETS
 will be devoted to the National Conference on Housing and Essential Support Services for the Disabled which will be held at the Chateau Lacombe on December 9 and 10th.

Saturday 11th
9:30 - 11:00 TOURLOU
 "L'Art Lyrique: Le Trio Lyrique"

18:00 METROPOLITAN OPERA
 ... this Saturday a Premiere at the Met: "ESCLARMONDE" from Massenet.

Account Representatives

MIDLAND DOHERTY LIMITED

Wants to invest in you!

At Midland Doherty Limited we invest a great deal of money in the men and women who make it through our training programme, but we invest it in the right people. We are looking for those people now, energetic individuals who work well under pressure.

The responsibility of a Midland Doherty Limited account representative is to handle **other peoples money**, often a great deal of it. That takes judgment, intelligence and initiative.

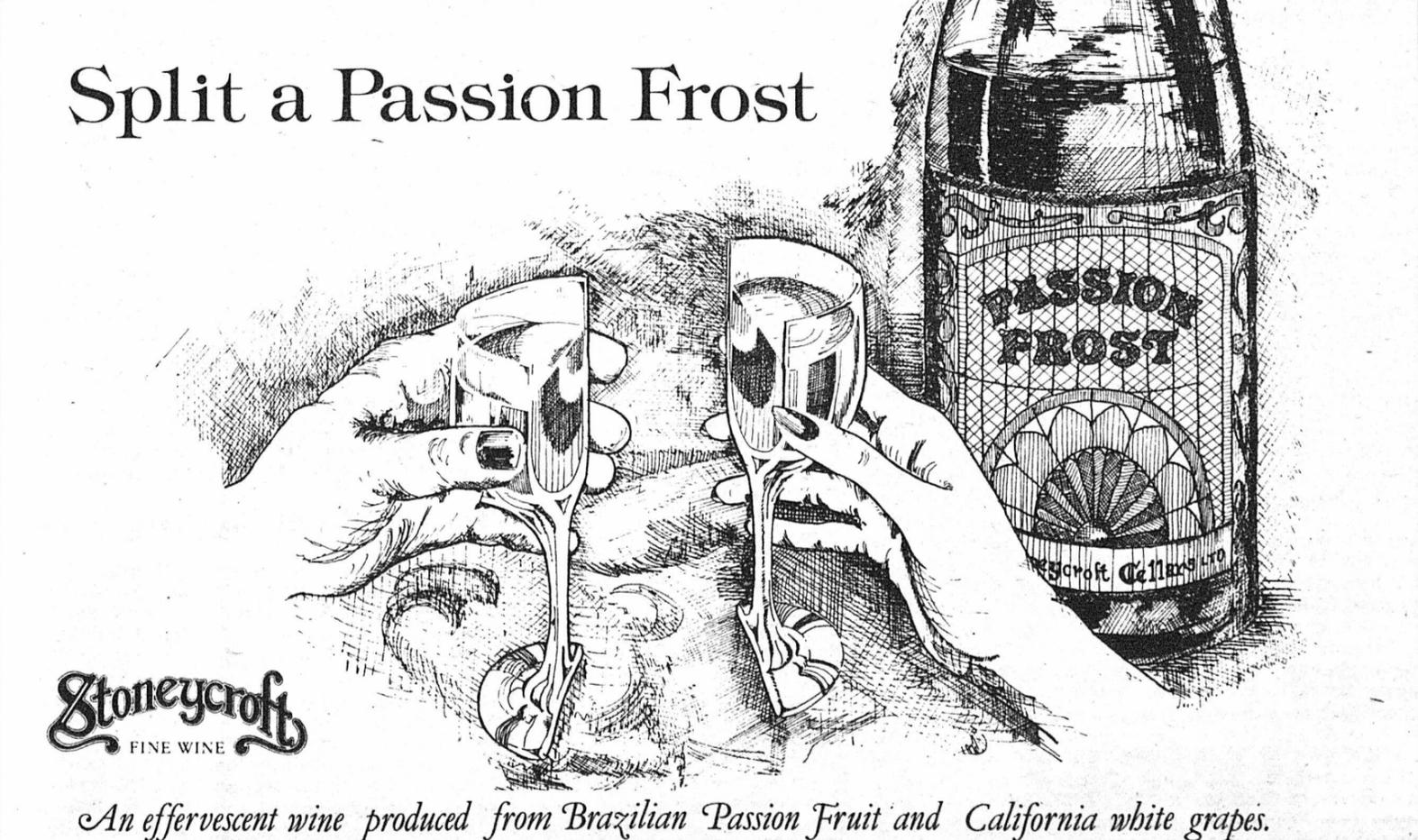
We want highly motivated men and women. Winners. People comfortable with success. People who enjoy challenge and responsibility, and the rewards that go with them.

We are presently seeking candidates to work at our Edmonton office.

If a career in **Money Management** interests you, send your resume as soon as possible to:

Mr. George A. Milton
 MIDLAND DOHERTY LIMITED
 #310 - 10117 - Jasper Avenue
 EDMONTON, Alberta
 T5J 1W8

Split a Passion Frost



Stoneycroft
 FINE WINE

An effervescent wine produced from Brazilian Passion Fruit and California white grapes.