The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—There are only two papers left to publish, hurrah. Those that came to work and/or play were fewer and further between than most nights. They included: Rich Vivone, Gail Evasiuk, Alex Ingram, Dennis Fitzgerald, Ron Yakımchuk, Pat Mulka, Reg Moncrieff, Ken Hutchinson, Hiroto Saka, Bill Kankewitt, Jim Muller, Bob Schmidt and the ever-faithful yours truly, Harvey G. Thomgirt.

The Gateway is published twice a week by the students' union of The University of Alberta. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for all material published herein. Final copy deadline for Tuesday edition—7 p.m. Sunday, advertising—noon Thursday prior, Short Shorts—5 p.m. Friday; for Friday edition—7 p.m. Tuesday, advertising—noon Manday prior, Short Shorts—5 p.m. Tuesday; Casserole advertising—noon Thursday previous week. Advertising manager: Gordon Frazer, 432-4329. Office phones—432-4321, 432-4322. Librarian: Suzanne Brown. Circulation—10,000.

Authorized as second-class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, and for payment of postage in cash. Postage paid at Edmonton. Telex 037-2412.

Printed by The University of Alberta Printing Services.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1968

chickenman means more

Tuesday's meeting of the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board further served to support the theory that the very existence of the board is, to use a favorite students' council term, a "crock of."

Suspending Glenn Sinclair's students' union privileges for a week has got to be, without a doubt, the funniest thing that has happened in a long time.

The existence of the board is justified by the University Act, and the rights of the board are clearly defined in the students' union bylaws.

But, we suggest the powers of the board are too far-reaching. We fail to see how a board of five students, chosen by a board of nine students, all part of the "establishment" should have the power to dictate to the student body at large, and more particularly, the power to punish wrong-doers.

It is interesting, to say the least, that all board members at today's hearing (namely Blaine Thacker, Bob Rosen, Mike Morin, Eleanor Corlett and Norm Hallgren) are senior students in the Faculty of Law.

We can appreciate the theory that law students are generally older and therefore, supposedly wiser. And, if the cases the board hears were based on British legal traditions, they, by the very nature of their academic pursuits, would be more qualified than other students to sit on the DIE board.

But, we must seriously question how many DIE cases are pursuits into precedents in British law. It is a sure thing the case of Al Anderson and Glenn Sinclair versus the state was not.

The decision was made on the basis of what the board members thought the two men should have said and when. All too often, these decisions are a direct result of personal feelings and/or past antagonisms; in fact, it is almost impossible to expect the board members not to let their personal feelings enter into their decisions.

And in the field of personal feelings, it is necessary to doubt the superior knowledge and judgment

of law students over other students.

The board, as it is set up now, is nothing more meaningful than a nice chance for a few students to play lawyer, or, depending on the case, to play God.

Clearly, it is time for a serious

and critical look at the board and whether or not it is of any value to the students' union.

If it is to be of any value, it must certainly be changed in some way to make it anything but the big farce it is now.



tomorrow – the world

The establishment of a students' union housing planning commission was long overdue.

The problem of housing was a plank in the platform of nearly every candidate in the recent elections—winners and losers alike, and it is commendable that council Monday took action on what for so long has been only talk.

Members of the commission are full of all sorts of dreams of studentowned, student-run, high-rise residence complexes and of studentsowned food services. With enthusiasm like the new commission has, the project is bound to go far. And the project is one of such universal concern that it should be easy to recruit all the voluntary manpower needed to conduct the multi-many surveys, feasibility studies, and research necessary to make the commission effective.

The one phrase that kept entering the discussion at Monday's council meeting was "It won't be anything like Lister or Garneau Towers".

Sounds great.

involvement changes people

By RICH VIVONE

We live in hell—a sadly complex hell. The people in it are complex, the issues are super-complex and the situations are ultracomplex.

To deal with these, we must have a variety of feelings. We must be happy, sad, generous, inquisitive, friendly, drunk and tolerant. If we felt one way throughout life or if there was just one mutual feeling in the world, life wouldn't be very exciting. It would not be worth living.

Just to illustrate the varieties of attitudes in people, following are some words spoken to me about my writings in The Gateway.

There was the column about the frustration of young people who look at the old and become fearful that one day they too will look like that. In the same column, I wrote of the people who begin to wonder what the world is all about and then ask themselves if it's worth the effort to work,

sweat, worry and study when there is no seemingly fruitful benefit.

Among the verbal reactions were these:

• do you have to be so pessimistic?

yes, I've felt that way many timesyou write a bunch of crap

Another was the column that appeared Friday in this space. It dealt with my experiences as a ghost writer of love letters. Verbal reactions included these:

- •it was stupid—but funny
- you'd be surprised how many guys write those type of letters
- •what dribble!

My last example is the column that appeared Tuesday and dealt with Sikk Kidd. It was partially autobiographical and partially fiction but all of it was true. Verbal reactions included these:

- •man, you're frustrated
- it's always a problem to find sincere friends

•still writing that garbage?

These reactions are generally told to me personally which is the way I prefer. But one thing escapes most and it is this—I don't write to please people or make them angry. When I write, I have one basic source of information and that is myself. If I write about human frustration, there is only one person to give me the required information. Sure I'm frustrated. How it is possible for a young person to live in this world and become involved in any issue and not experience at some time a feeling of utter mental, physical and, yes, exual frustration (not necessarily all at once) is too far above me to understand.

Perhaps that makes me human which, if you live in Alberta, is sinful to admit. Students walk around and look at students' union presidents and think they wear secret thinking hats while they really wear dunce caps. When people see the newly-elected editor of The Gateway with a glass of joy juice in his hand, he is an alcoholic—but a bright one.

Actually, all who will hold office on second floor SUB next year are just little people who are not afraid to become involved. Involved in anything with a finger in lots of issues.

Involvement changes people—your feelings, attitudes and ideas. As students in a university, it is up to you to become involved whether it is the bowling club, a pool tournament, SDU and other activist organizations or in student government office—or just coming to The Gateway office and writing down your opinions.

Your opinions mean as much as that of the other guy. All you need is enough guts to write what you feel and sign your name. It is your right as a student because you, as a student, are the most important person in this place.

Next Friday, I will tell you exactly (maybe vaguely) what I intend to do with The Gateway next year as the editor. All the changes involve students because, without students who think, we are nothing. You are too.