

Immigration run around

As a foreign student who has now been resident in Canada almost three years, I have had the opportunity to experience the vagaries and machinations of Canadian Immigration Department. Prior to my entry into Canada, restrictions were placed which prevented students from obtaining landed immigrant status. Since I arrived, these restrictions have been replaced in a new Immigration Act (implemented in April, 1978), so that now it is impossible for anyone to obtain landed immigrant status from within the country, it is virtually impossible for non-Canadians to obtain visas, and foreign students are required to expire by as little as a year. There are valid political reasons for at least some of these restrictions at a time when unemployment is high, and I would expect a government which attempts to take its responsibilities seriously. It is unfortunate that hardship may be caused to some people as a result of these policies, but of course, non-citizens are non-voters.

Recently I had occasion to renew my visa at the Immigration Office in Edmonton. Prior to the 1978 Immigration Act, this involved taking a letter from my Department showing that I had support, and a small form was filled out which covered both a student and a working visa. I was invariably on my way within ten minutes. At the most recent interview, I was asked to fill out a form before the interview was granted, I was questioned in detail for ten minutes, my social insurance number was required, and two forms, each one and one half times the size of the old form, were filled out for my student and working visas. The difference between these forms appeared to be that one included

my S.I.N. The interview took between 20 and 25 minutes and the amount of paper was at least tripled.

This amounts to a considerable amount of time and paper when viewed in terms of foreign students across Canada, significantly more, presumably, than before the new Act. At a time of government cutbacks and "restraint," an increase of both costs (printing forms), and salaries (extra time), is hardly justified. Is this a case of a government seriously attempting to control immigration and unemployment, or of a bureaucracy attempting to justify itself?

Ian G. McLean
Grad Studies

Unacceptable

With reference to Ken Graham's letter of February 16, the natural law referred to does not imply a "static universe" and "static man." There are differences between individual members of the human race and between groups of individuals, but there are also characteristics which are common to all human beings, even across time. All people, because of the nature and dignity of being human, are

entitled to certain rights; human rights. Being human also implies a responsibility to self and to others, requiring appropriate behavior.

I also object to what seems to be the attitude that if we can find a way to escape from the consequences of our actions, they become acceptable.

Cecelia Williams
Education I

Abortions admitted

In the editorial of 22 February you challenge your readers: "Ask a woman who's had an abortion — if you can find one who will admit it — ..."

You are right that this is a sensitive question. However, thanks to the randomized response technique (RRT), that guarantees anonymity, it is possible to obtain truthful — as far as we can tell — answers.

The Population Research Laboratory (PRL) of this University conducted a fertility survey five years ago, which included abortion questions. When a direct question was asked only a quarter of those who had legal abortions ad-

mitted to having had them. When an RRT question was applied, three times as many abortions were admitted than the number of legal abortions.

These findings were reported in international learned journal and are available in limited numbers as reprints of the PRL: No. 16 (American Statistical Association), No. 24 (International Statistical Institute), No. 32 (*Population et Famille* in Brussels). A fourth report is to appear in a forthcoming issue of the *Canadian Journal of Public Health*.

Karol Krotki
Professor, Sociology

Letters

Letters to the editor should be addressed to Gateway, Room 282 SUB, Edmonton or dropped off at our office. Please include your name, student I.D. number (if applicable) and phone number. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. If you wish to write a longer piece, come to see us. We reserve the right to edit all letters for libel.

What is the most basic right of all? The right to have a letter in the Gateway. However, too many nasty, brutish people have abused that right by exceeding the 250 word limit and thus denying the right to their brothers and sisters. Selfish letter writers, halt your intransigent backsliding. Rejoice in the and righteousness of compact space allotment.

Council gutless on issue

It is very self-righteous of people like James Sykes to say any woman who becomes pregnant accidentally is *idiotic* and shirking her responsibility. On the contrary, there are many excuses for unplanned pregnancies. The 1977 Badgley report, a federal study of the committee on the Operation of Abortion Law stated that the failure of contraception and contraceptive failure are mainly responsible for unplanned pregnancies. If you consider the 35 or more years a woman is at risk there is a high chance that she will become pregnant even if she is using a birth control method. This is obvious if one looks at the use effectiveness rates (number of pregnancies per year among 100 women using a method). These range from 4% for the oral contraceptive to 10% for the condom, 17% for the diaphragm, 21% for rhythm and 22% for spermicidal foam.* If James Sykes were more aware of the situation he would know that contraception is *not* readily available to every woman especially the poor, teenagers and women in isolated, rural areas. These are the very women that would be most detrimentally

affected by unwanted children!

I am continually amazed by those anti-choice groups who have such empathy for an unwanted "unborn child." Their outlook is so short-term; what about the right of all children to have a loving mother and father who wanted the responsibilities and challenges of caring for a person for his first eighteen years? Do they expect all "accidentally-pregnant" women to go through 9 months of mental anguish and physical discomfort to produce babies for those who want to adopt? Why don't they feel any empathy for women who in the past, suffered expensive humiliating and dangerous illegal abortions? Why don't they feel sorry for children who are abused by their parents? The pro-lifers are entitled to their opinions; no one is forcing them to have abortions. It is the right of women who want abortions to be able to obtain safe, legal operations with none of the humiliation and running around and waiting that they now have to endure. In addition to ICAR, Planned Parenthood of Canada, The National Action Committee on the Status of Women and the YWCA all support the principle that it is the

woman who should have the ultimate right to choose whether or not to continue an unwanted pregnancy.

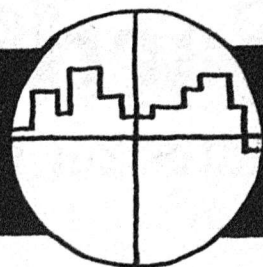
If the Students Council can act to boycott South African products, I don't see why they have been so gutless as to deny support to an organization which is only working for improving the operation of the Abortion Law for the client. If one were to look at the number of abortions arranged through Student Health Services, and Statistics Canada's figures, they would find the majority of U of A students and the majority of Canadians would support ICAR's resolutions. At least pro-choice groups like ICAR and Planned Parenthood are working to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies by offering and advocating sex education programs and contraceptive counselling.

It is the "Coalition for Life" and anti-choice groups who are either hostile or indifferent to such necessary programs!

* Contraceptive Technology 1978-79
Halsted Press, N.Y., page 20.

Maureen Day
Arts IV

RIFLESCOPE



YES FRIENDS WE'RE A SUCCESS

Two issues of this column are out and nobody has sued. So, I guess we're a success. However, the boys in the advertising department call us a dismal failure because we haven't turned one dime in revenue. Well, I've decided to use this column's factual approach to news to sell advertising. All you rich businessmen with lots of money up front can now point out to the public pertinent facts about your competitors. The plan is called S.L.U.T.S. (Slander and Libel Using This Space). So, **Imperial Oil**, let's bring to the surface the torrid details of **Allistair Gillespie's** sex life for only \$112. **David Sears**, isn't the world crying out for a published text of **Furniture Fair's** tax forms? How about it **Carpet World**, let's tell everybody about **Uncle Nicky's** illegitimate nephews. At *Riflescope*, we believe in the first law of good journalism—"Tell the truth, especially if it hurts" and we believe if it doesn't hurt then **MAKE IT HURT**.

WILD ABOUT HARRY

Even in death, **Harry Gunning** can find no rest. Since Tuesday, Harry has been followed around by a cadaver-hungry first year Med. student named **Elvira Dipstick**. Elvira says she wants to get to know Harry a whole lot better "inside and out." Gunning, whose mind is still as sharp as when he was alive, has refused Elvira's invitations to drop over to the lab to get acquainted. Harry put it best, "I've learned long ago not to fall to pieces around young girls."

CEC AND DESIST

The war between **Mainland China** and **Vietnam** was ended today when both nations were annexed by the **City of Edmonton**. The entire region has been renamed **West Stony Plain** and placed under the temporary administration of **Alderman William Chmiliar**.

NO FOOLIN'

The idiots who run **Edmonton Telephones** have done it again. I picked up my supposedly new copy of the phone book and what do I see plastered all over the cover "75". These bimbos don't even know what year it is. According to my City Hall contact, **Claude Deskjob**, the phone company has taken a page out of **Alderman Ed Leger's** book, *Cut Costs Until Service Stinks*, and decided it was cheaper to reprint one of the smaller, older books than to compile a brand new book. This really bugs my butt. We in Edmonton have a city of over half a million, a **NASL**, franchise, rapid transit, and **Edmonton Telephones** treats us like we live in **Mundare**. To top it all off, I must have **Cec Purves'** old phone number because I keep getting threatening phone calls. I am upset. It may be nothing to you and if you don't give a damn, well EX CUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUSE MEEEEEEEE.

OUT OF TOWN, OUT OF MIND

I had a great weekend. Last Friday I jumped in my '58 Buick and visited this year's **BGW**. What is **BGW** you ask? Only a virtual hermit has never heard of **Boyle Guest Weekend**. Thousands of high school students and a few other members of the curious club go out looking for a quiet place to settle down and rot. **BGW** started a few years back when Boyle's **Ukrainian** community decided to do something special for Easter. They built the world's largest colored **rubber boot**. I remember what Uncle Clem said when they put it up; "If they put all that rubber to good use, there wouldn't be one knocked up chick on the entire university campus." The town of Boyle gets behind **BGW** 100%. Even the local hockey team, the **Boyle Blazers**, got in on the act by playing an exhibition game against a pack of starved wolves from **Athabasca**. Boyle won the game 1-0 on a powerplay goal. The wolves drew 2½ years in penalty minutes. Top that, **Dave Semenko**. The weekend ended with Boyle clobbering **Lac La Biche** in the **BGW Spelling bee**. Boyle spelled **cat**, it and the before **Lac La Biche** got hung up on **polyunsaturated**, **inhibition** and conceded when given the word "**Bhattacharya**".

Only ten issues left, but

We STILL need a Distribution Mgr!

See Loreen in room 282 SUB

Wed or Thursday 10-5 pm.