

Garneau move delayed a year

U of A expansion held up until new architect found

By ELAINE VERBICKY

University Garneau expansion will be held up for at least a year, while the department of public works looks for an architect.

"The university is willing to accept whatever delay there is for better design," the Hon. Fred Colborne told The Gateway Thursday.

Previously, all campus buildings were designed by the department of public works.

The campus planning commission wants a well-known architect to design the buildings in the three-stage Garneau program.

This would mean the Garneau buildings would be a unified group. "But nobody is going to make a beautiful unit of the whole Edmonton campus," Mr. Colborne declared.

"Before, every project was a crash project, and architectural planning suffered," he added.

Also being delayed is the multi-million dollar biological sciences complex. After the building had been designed and planned by department of public works, tenders were given by contractors quoting costs of \$6 million above the first estimates. "This shocked us some," said Mr. Colborne.

PHASE BUILDING

He said the department and the university had just agreed to build the complex in phases instead of all at once.

This would encourage competitive bidding and cut costs, he suggested.

Part of the reason for the high cost of the bio-sci complex is that it is "highly serviced mechanically," Mr. Colborne explained. "Equipping this building will cost over \$41 per square foot," he said. Much of the equipment is highly specialized laboratory research material.

Asked about rumors of communication problems between the department and the university, he said, "There was a feeling of conflict over planning in general; in particular, with respect to how to distinguish between what the university wants and what it needs. But there is no lack of communication. There is constant liaison on all projects."

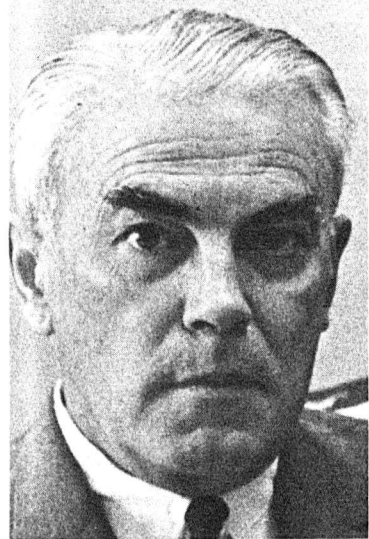
U of A POSITION

"We had to accept the position of the university, but it is impossible to meet the deadlines. For example, the law building was due next June. This is obviously impossible now while we wait for an over-all plan," Mr. Colborne said.

Mr. Colborne referred to complaints that the Henry Marshall Tory Building is an "architectural abortion." "Some people like Picasso—some don't."

The plan was approved by the board and by the planning commission. The building turned out like the plans. If they liked it then, I don't see why they shouldn't like it now," he said.

"I think it's a fine building," he concluded.



DR. WALTER H. JOHNS
... heads AUCC

Dr. Johns made head of AUCC

U of A President Dr. Walter H. Johns was elected president of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada last week.

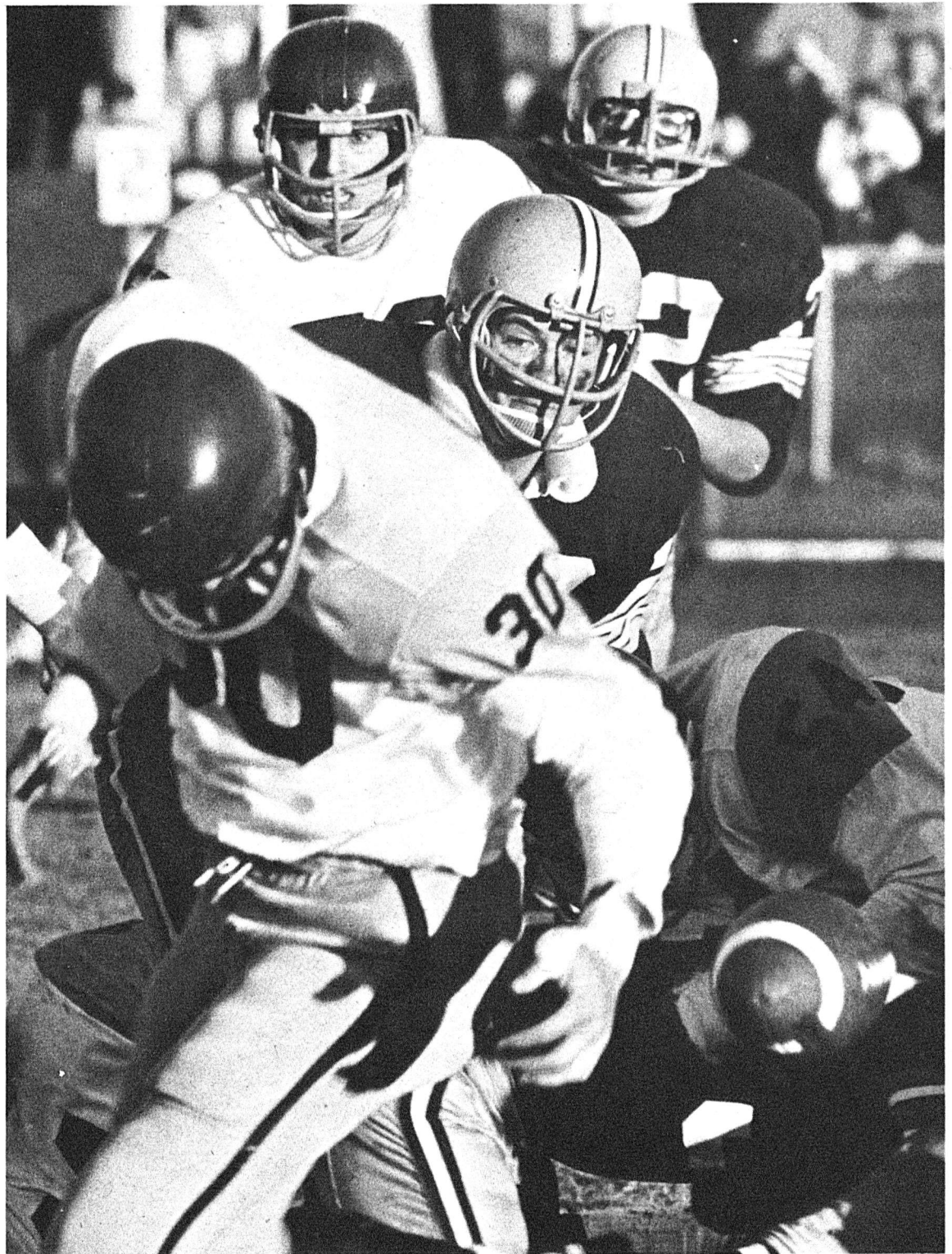
The vote came during AUCC's annual conference which ended in Ottawa Friday.

Dr. Johns, vice-president of the organization last year, will take over duties as chairman of the board of directors.

He told The Gateway his new position will not affect his job here, since he will spend no more time on AUCC work than he has been doing for the past five years.

The 57 members of the association organize and carry out studies of higher education from an administration point of view.

Past projects include the shoring out of federal aid to universities across the country.



—Lyaill photo
LIKE LOSING THE CROWN JEWELS—This fumble by Bison Mike Shylo (30), and its recovery by an alert Bear defence, did little to help the Manitoba cause last Saturday. It helped the Bears though, as they steam-rolled to a 33-9 win, and vastly increased their College Bowl chances. See story page 6.

Manning criticizes offer

Premier E. C. Manning has brushed off the federal government's offer to increase its contribution to higher education as complicated and confused.

He said it would be impossible to tell what Alberta would gain until Ottawa decided what post-secondary education means.

All Ottawa was doing in its education manoeuvring, he said, was taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another.

Last week the federal government offered to pay half the operating costs of higher education and the total cost of adult training.

Equalizing of tax rates across the country appears to be one of the principle reasons behind this new formula.

Currently, the federal government contributes \$5 per head of provincial population for university operation. The new scheme would result in approximately a \$14 per head contribution.

Premier Manning said Alberta stands to gain very little from any changes.

The equalization formula will affect Alberta in-

directly, he said, in that Albertans will have to pay increased taxes to pay for increased equalization payments to other provinces.

Asked if things were as confusing in Ottawa as they seemed here, he replied: "Well, I don't know how confusing they seemed here, but they certainly seemed confusing down there."

These were the main points that emerged from the conference:

- The federal government is transferring some tax money to the provinces to finance university construction and operating costs.
- The federal government will discontinue entirely, over a gradual period, its assistance to the provinces to finance the construction of vocational and technical training schools.
- The federal government will assume entirely the costs of adult manpower re-training programs, although the provinces will run the schools.
- The new tax-sharing agreements between the federal and provincial governments will run for a nominal period of five years, but are subject to review within two years.