

The Gateway

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. It is published by the Students' Union twice weekly during the winter session on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contents are the responsibility of the editor, opinions are those of the person expressing them. Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome, but must be signed. Please keep them short: letters should not exceed 200 words. Deadlines for submitting copy are 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Main offices are located in Room 282, SUB for Gateway, Room 238 SUB for Media Productions. Phone 432-5168, 432-5178, 432-5750. Advertising 432-3423. Circulation 18,500.

Editor - Kevin Gillese
 News - John Kenney
 Features - Lindsay Brown
 Arts - Beno John
 Sports - Darrell Semenuk
 Photo - Don Truckey
 Graphics - Craig McLachlan
 Advertising - Tom Wright
 Production - Lorean Lennon and Margriet Tilroe-West
 Circulation - Jim Hagerty
 CUP Editor - Cathy Brodeur

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Keith Steinbach, Keith Layton, Gordon Turtle, Saxby Phillips, Ralph Nader, Mina Wong, Dax, Mary D., Richard Desjardins, Rene "Westmount Rhodesian" Levesque, R. Former-Bourassa, Nancy Brown, Mickey Marte.

The Editorial space in today's issue has been pre-empted in deference to the Letters backlog. Keep 'm coming anyway.

Bacus enlightens: "no free lunch"

Two things of late concern me. Firstly, BACUS stands for Business Administration and Commerce Undergraduate Society; not "Union of Students" as reported in your Nov. 12 issue. Please, get the name right.

Secondly, two instances of replies to letters in the same issue as the letters themselves. Granted, one letter was a "grievance." But more than a month passed between the time the grievance was submitted (Oct. 6), to the time both grievance and reply were printed (Nov. 12). I'm sure that I would be hard pressed to draft a more charming rebuttal, given that time period.

May I elaborate on some of Eileen's points of what the Students' Union does — "VP Defends," Nov. 12.

"Someone is fighting to get library hours extended." — I can still study at home. How can an executive be elected on this as their *whole* platform?

"A study week in first semester." — A noble idea, but the ski resorts don't usually open 'til mid-November, so why bother? Besides, we'll only have to come a week earlier in the fall.

"Lousy Professors out." — Another noble idea but show me evidence, please!

"Parking for Students." — Then why do I have to park a mile and a half from where my classes are. Also, where do we play intramural sports since the green space at Corbett is being replaced by a parking lot that *isn't* for students.

"To stop tuition increases." — They did such a good job last year, let's try again this spring!

And may I emphasize that

the "Services" spoken of are really businesses (ie. They make a profit!)

- The monthly calendar of events is paid for by the ads that adorn it.- The Gateway also has ads (count the number in this issue!) - The handbook is paid for by its ads.

- 'Telephone directory' — Ditto.

- 'Blotter' (it soaks up spills) — (yawn) — It's covered by ads.

- 'SUB' — The games area and curling and bowling areas are fairly jingling with change, and show me a pub with the devoted clientele of RATT that *doesn't* make money.

- 'Theatre' — The Students' Union does charge rent, doesn't it?

- 'Cinema' — I admit they don't have the mark-up of downtown moviehouses but the films aren't first-runs and it isn't primarily a moviehouse. But you still pay.

- 'HUB Record Store' — SU recently increased the mark-up on records.

- 'Restaurant-PUB' — Ditto RATT

- 'Box Office' — Commission taken off the top of ticket sales.

- 'Games Area' — try to play pool when you have a spare minute - fat chance.

- 'Socials' — Possibly the best deal on campus because no competition is allowed.

This leaves 'Forums, Films and Speakers' and 'Housing Registry' as true services, because even the grants to clubs and Faculty Associations come out of *your* pocket — SU fees or \$34/student allows 75¢/student to come back as a *grant* to your club or association, but only to a maximum of \$2000 (listening Education, Engineering, and Arts?)

I really have two points. Yes, the SU *does* do a lot, but most of it is sponsored by the business community, as well as the profits from their "services." The executive also receives a guaranteed salary.

Secondly, whenever someone responds in a letter roughly three times the length of the accusation, it tends to sway public opinion towards the "more reasoned, well-thought outside." This "Hit 'em with a heavy reply" technique is employed most often by the redoubtable Ms. Gillese. Could her motive perhaps be "P.R."? In this case, the SU comes out smelling of a rose. So, I wish to caution the students at large, in the words of G.E. Pearson (past president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce), who told the tale of the kind who found that the principles of economics when reduced to one sentence of eight words, read: "There's no such thing as a free lunch."

Ken Jackson
 President, BACUS

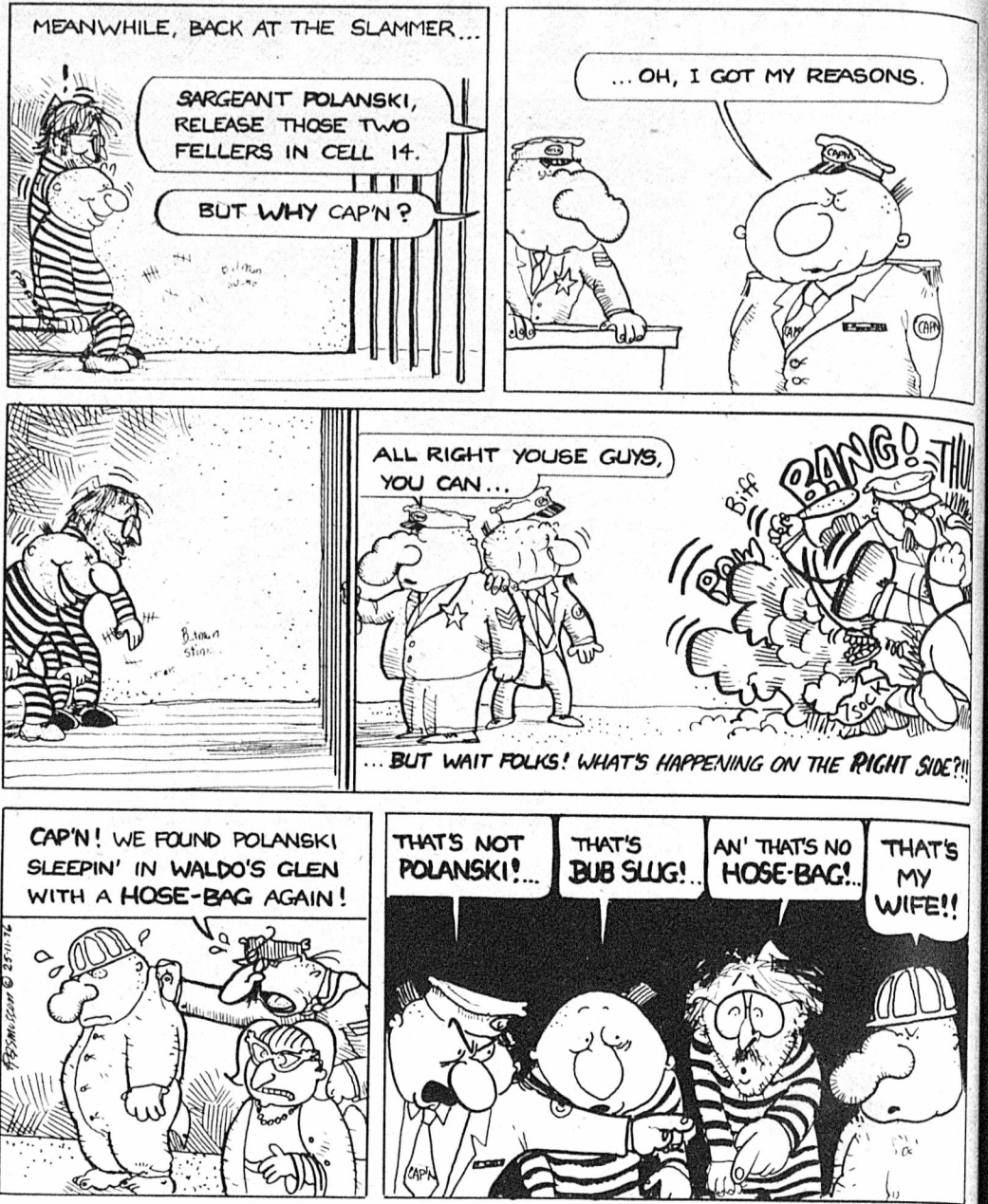
R.M. Lasby
 Civil Eng 4

And they should pay thier way

This letter is typeset as received, spelling errors and all.

I am part of Advanced Education Minister Hohol's conception of "supportive public mood" you refer to in your article titled "Petition Circulated" in Nov. 23's Gateway (front page). I believe that foreign students should be receive subsidization from my, or my fellow Canadians', tax dollars for thier education. Foreign students should pay the full cost of thier education.

BUB SLUG by Delaney & Rasmussen



Look east, young man...

I would like to explain my views on election day, Nov. 15, 1976.

Canada now has a population of some 22 million people. If Alberta, (and the rest of the western provinces) do not become a lot more federally orientated we may have a divided nation of only 16 million strong. Therefore, only through a unified nation can we stand against the exterior forces of world politics.

With respect to the Quebec election, we will see a deterioration in our world political status. The domestic cohesion of

Canada, has a great effect on the policies other nations have toward our country, not to mention our policies towards other nations.

Domestic tension will always lend to an isolationist policy in foreign affairs. In other words, only when a country has it's national unity can it have a practical foreign policy. I also believe that no nation can co-exist within the world circle without a stable foreign policy for any length of time.

If Canadians want to preserve their unique way of life

in comparison to world standards, they must fight for unity. We must realize that our way of life is the common interest of Canadians share. It is this common interest in the face of world change which can be our unifying force.

Alan Lantz
 Political Science

He wants to hear more from elected reps

In response to Mr. Holden's letter in your Nov 16 issue of the Gateway, I would like to express my views and ask some necessary questions.

I find it hard to believe that a Poli-Sci major could be so unaware as to hold no respect for political process. Indeed, there is a marked shortage (understate-

Wham...zang thank y'mam

With the approaching final exams heavy on my mind, my open mouth would fall shut almost every other minute. And each time during that hour of dental care she would say patiently and kindly: open up. Is it not comforting to find that there are some people in the health care who really care?

Bhatt D.N.
 Grad Studies
 Mechanical Engineering

ment of the year) in the publicizing of the views of our elected representatives. I ask, how else are we, the average undergrad, to become informed if we do not hear from them?

That Mr. Holden could be so gauche as to accuse our representatives of "nattering" must be considered an insult to every voting student.

That our politicians "get out of the pages and into their offices" is a blatant support of the ongoing issue of "student apathy." How in hell can one be apathetic about something one knows nothing about? Furthermore, how are we to learn?

These are the problems at hand and I suggest that by the written efforts of Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Janssen, Ms. Gillese and Mr. Zoeteman (all of whom have dedicated an incredible amount of time and effort) we just might become aware of something - anything!!

Patrick Hahn
 Arts 2

Birthright stops tears but not kids

Re: The article on Birthright in the Gateway Nov. 16.

The Director of Birthright, Ruth Liston, is quoted as saying that this organization is not an abortion. Birthright counsels women on alternatives to abortion — this is fine, as women should have the freedom of choice in such a matter. What is not fine, however, is that they ensure lots of repeat business for themselves, by opposing contraception as well.

The Birthright Charter Document, Section 2, Article 1 states that:

"The Policy of every Birthright Chapter and of every one of its members and volunteers, in all that Chapter's efforts shall be to refrain in every instance from offering or giving advice on subjects of contraception, sterilization, and to refrain from referring any person to another person, place or agency for type of advice."

Surely no one needs "type of advice" more badly than women pregnant and in distress.

Gail A...