

letters, letters, letters
International Union of Students
a Bassek cartoon
that's what is on page 5
except for a quote:
"Public schools are the nurseries
of all vice and immorality." Fielding

letters

instant sculpture?

To The Editor:

It's miraculous! Instant sculpture! Magnifique!

I heartily commend the artist who, through his forthright expression of talent and inspiration, has contributed immeasurably to the beautification and artistic integrity of our campus. Indeed a chef d'oeuvres.

But why stop here? Where are the rest of our budding masters? Where is the untold resource that manifests itself in comic art on Varsity Guest Weekend? Why not some permanent work to grace the administrative seat of our campus to distinguish it as the capital, as it were, among buildings.

The first blow has been struck. Leave us not retreat in timid apprehension of the consequences. We must continue the effort to vindicate our campus as the artistic center of Western Canada.

Peter Fubar

price guarantee

To The Editor:

The Journal recently reported Provost Ryan's request for suggestions about how the proposed new bookstore, to be included in the new SUB, ought best to be operated.

From my experience of the planning of this store and judging from the finally approved space allocation, there ought not to be any problem carrying a broad enough range of books. The administration, I can testify, has consistently sought to provide a store in which a student can freely browse and acquire reading tastes (as well as a personal library) after buying required texts with a minimum of inconvenience.

It has always seemed to me, however, and it seems more important now, that what is lacking is some form of guarantee that price policy will be kept in line with student interests.

The SUB Planning Commission sought originally to provide such a guarantee by pressing the administration to turn over operation of the bookstore to the students. A co-operative, or profit-sharing bookstore, such as is found at many other universities, could then have been established.

I think the administration feared, however, that the students' union, were it to have control, might try to make profits in the bookstore, which could be applied against other union expenses.

It also feared that the union would not be able to afford the additional extra space for the bookstore, and did not want to see textbook costs kept high because of the need to pay off the cost of the space.

These were, I think, reasonable arguments: in any event, they were accepted by the administration, and the Board of Governors was persuaded of their merits, so that the university retains control of the bookstore. There seems no further issue on this point.

What is at issue is whether any profit-sharing system will be worked out and implemented in the new bookstore. There are many ways this could be done, but by whatever means employed, the effect would be to secure availability of books to the student at the lowest possible cost.

If the students' union, after all, might have been motivated to make

money from the bookstore, surely the university is at least as vulnerable.

There is to be, on my understanding, a committee representing various consumer interests responsible for recommending bookstore policy. It seems to me that the students' union ought now to ensure full student representation on and participation in that committee. It ought to be clearly established what the authority of the committee is to be: whether its decisions are to be mandatory for bookstore administrators, or whether merely advisory.

And it ought to begin to press for something more substantial than verbal assurances of low-cost price policy. The way in which such a policy can best locally be implemented deserves immediate attention.

Iain Macdonald
grad studies

pile of rubbish?

To The Editor:

What is that pile of rubbish out in the quad?! I recall a letter in a recent issue of The Gateway from one Peter Fubar imploring us to get out and sculpt, but this is ridiculous. Perhaps Peter knows something about how the junkpile got there, whoever he is.

I don't pretend to be a connoisseur of the arts, but who can possibly call that structural failure art? I suppose that next, one of our self-styled artists will order a truckload of broken up concrete to be dumped in the middle of the quad, and then insist that it is a work of art.

John McDougall
eng. 3

female football

To The Editor:

We, the women of the physical education football team, were a little upset about your degrading article on the female football game in The Gateway of Nov. 5.

The article sounded much like something the Edmonton Journal might publish. Obviously your reporter was not in attendance at the game or has a very shallow appreciation for football.

The reporter's treatment of our opposition and their coach was both cruel and unnecessary. The ladies involved in the game neither scratched, bit, clawed, nor screamed. There was no "biting of forearms," "kicking of referees" nor was there "scratching of cheeks."

The article did not acknowledge the tremendous number of hours put in by both teams in preparation for



RHODESIA: 1970

"By Jove Troutshaw, equality does have advantages . . . now we have our own melting pot of races . . . eh what?"

the contest. All of the players had thorough knowledge of at least 16 football plays similar to those used by the University of Alberta Golden Bears football team. All of the girls now have a much better understanding of the game of football.

Should it be a policy of The Gateway to distort in an attempt to provide humor?

Sincerely,
The Distaught Team

liquor in res

To The Editor:

At a recent residence sing-song, Wayne Glass, president of the Men's House Committee, in the course of some announcements, made the

statement. "We'll show the rest of the university that Lister Hall doesn't have to get its spirit from brown bottles." This, of course, was greeted by cries of derision from the male members of the audience.

As your editorial in the Nov. 17 Gateway pointed out, no good cultural activities exist in res: perhaps this has something to do with the liquor situation. If more worthwhile activities were in operation, less people would be driven to drink. The occasional drink helps to spice up the admittedly lethargic life here in res, so much that many men (and women?) find it almost necessary to drink.

I would also like to comment on the article about the possibility of police being called in to check the use of liquor in res. Isn't this perhaps a bit unrealistic? In the event the police are called in, someone would have to lodge a complaint before a search warrant could be issued. As far as I know, no one has ever gone so far as to lodge a complaint.

The one major instance in which people were fined for having liquor was triggered by a smashed beer bottle in the tenth floor stairwell. Members of the house committee then combed the residence until the offenders were found. Who complained? No one. Generally one would not complain unless undue noise was being made by the drinkers. This is unlikely: people drinking in res tend, on the whole, to keep fairly quiet.

In closing, I would suggest that the attitude being taken by the house committee and others is somewhat idealistically puritanical. Res would be a much happier place if they just left the status quo as is.

Robin Walker
sci 1

liquor in ads

To The Editor:

Ernie wants us pure . . . Ban liquor ads in The Gateway. This foolishness should be carried one step further . . . Ban Tampax ads in The Gateway. We are all fully aware that university students are not sufficiently mature to run their own lives; and the advertising of Tampax, well! any young impressionable, irresponsible, hot-blooded male student who sees these advertisements is, without exception, impregnated with the seeds of suggestion of something far more immoral than drunkenness.

Clean up Campus! Vive Quebec!
Peter G. Kevan
grad studies

canadian students look at

international student groups

By CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

The International Union of Students with its headquarters in Prague seems an unlikely body to interest Canadian students; but recently the organization has been stepping up its relations with the Canadian Union of Students, as well as with the Union Générale des Etudiants du Québec.

The IUS was founded in 1946 and originally included student unions from Western countries as well as those of Eastern Europe.

But following the Communist takeover of Czechoslovakia in 1948, the body fell increasingly under the dominance of Soviet block countries.

This became very clear when the Yugoslavian union of students was expelled from the IUS as a result of Tito's rift with Stalin. Such developments led Western unions to withdraw from the organization.

Most westerners felt that the IUS was Russian-dominated and noted that its congresses have been carefully managed affairs producing resolutions that somehow always concur with current Soviet policy.

More recently even the Chinese, as a result of the Sino-Soviet split, have troubles in such gatherings.

In 1950 the International Student Conference was established by Western European and North American student unions.

Since that time the two bodies, with their respective Moscow and Washington lines, have battled for supremacy in the student world. The central goal of each union has been the adherence of students of the developing countries.

Meanwhile, both the ISC and the IUS claim to stand for world student unity and publicly they each favor the creation of a single international organization.

But somehow everytime either body suggests a broader forum, the other finds something objectionable about the proposal.

CUS, hopeful that the breach may someday be healed, has always maintained observer status in the IUS while being a full member of the ISC.

But at the recent CUS congress a large number of delegates favored dropping to observer status in the ISC while maintaining observer participation in the IUS.

These delegates argued that both ISC and IUS were instruments of the cold war politics of Washington and Moscow and that if Canadian students wished to work for a broader international student forum, parallel to the United Nations, they must not be members of either rival.

Only a plea from Doug Ward, CUS president-elect, that the union retain full membership in the ISC for one year to give the organization a chance to reform, caused the scheme to be defeated.

Since then the congress of the Quebec student union, UGEQ, has voted to seek parallel status in the two international bodies. What status the Quebec union will apply for will depend on negotiations between UGEQ, the ISC and the IUS.

In the midst of these developments, the IUS secretariat in Prague has begun to show greater interest in Canada.

José Venigas, a Cuban vice-president of the IUS, and Fransisco

Dorticos, vice-president of the Cuban student federation, flew from Prague to Quebec City to attend the UGEQ congress.

The two Cubans then paid a one day visit to the CUS secretariat in Ottawa.

Mr. Venigas said in an interview that the IUS now has 78 member unions and that the organization sponsors such projects as regional seminars in various parts of the world. Topics of the seminars range from peace and disarmament to imperialism and anti-colonialism.

Mr. Venigas said the IUS receives its funds from its member unions and from the profits of bazaars held in the union's countries.

Most western observers, however, estimate that the enormous cost of running the Prague secretariat and of paying travel grants to bring hundreds of students to IUS congresses must be shouldered by east European governments either directly or through each country's national union of students.

Mr. Venigas, when questioned about the budget of the IUS, replied that he could not remember the exact amount.

Turning to the union's activities he outlined the extent of involvement in the various national liberation movements around the world. He explained that the IUS sponsors "days of solidarity" with the students of countries such as Vietnam.

Asked about relations with the ISC Mr. Venigas said the IUS continuously hopes that a broader framework for international student co-operation can be worked out. He is not optimistic, though, that this will come about.