

Picaro moved off land

by Paul Clark

In "Grapes of Wrath" Steinbeck talks of "tenant men" being thrown off their land without notice by "owner men" who wanted to get more mileage out of their cotton crops.

The Picaro, Mount Saint Vincent University's student newspaper, found itself in a similar kind of situation last Friday as staff members returned from spring break to discover their office had been moved out of Rosaria Hall.

"We arrived back to find all of our stuff crushed, crammed and smashed into cardboard boxes and placed on the second floor of Assissi Hall", said Francis Moran, editor of the Picaro.

Moran said the administration had earlier informed him the move would be necessary in order to begin renovations in Rosaria Hall to form a Social-Athletic complex. He said, however, it was agreed the Picaro, not employees of the university, would carry out the move. "They told us we could move our material, that they wouldn't touch anything. Well, everything was well touched." Moran added that the paper's advertising lists were lost during the move, photography paper exceeding \$100 in value was ruined and documents were misplaced and damaged.



Resetting their office in Assissi Hall, a women's residence, will be so timeconsuming that it will not be possible to produce a newspaper this week, he said. Moran said other groups who had to move include the student council, the bookstore, the student variety store, and the yearbook, who had \$150 stolen.

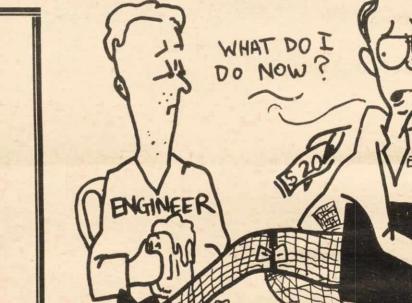
Most students, he said, were unaware that Rosaria Hall would be closed down when they returned from the break.

"They came back to find Rosaria Hall incapacitated and were not pleased."

Moran said Michael Merrigan, executive assistant to the president at Mount Saint

Vincent, has apologized for any inconvenience caused to the Picaro from the move. Moran said Merrigan has also promised to put up walls around the new Picaro office which is presently "enclosed" by open air archways.

Merrigan told the Gazette the administration would not reimburse the Picaro for the damage caused during the move, but said they would not have to pay rent for their new office space.



B.C. engineers charged with sex discrimination

VANCOUVER—UBC's engineers face an investigation by the B.C. human rights branch on a charge of sex discrimination.

Five Vancouver women's groups have filed a complaint with the government agency alleging "the continuing pornographic and sexist publications and activities of the engineering undergraduate society discourage women from entering the engineering department of the faculty of applied science and create a discriminatory climate within the university."

Administration president Doug Kenny, applied science dean Martin Wedepohl and EUS president Russ Kinghorn are named in the complaint, filed on behalf of the business and professional women's club, the council of women, the Vancouver status of women, the BC federation of women and the Canadian advisory council on the status of women.

The engineering student's activities discriminate against women who might otherwise have chosen engineering as a career, Joan Wallace, the groups' spokesperson said in a news release Feb. 23.

Lorette Woolsey, UBC women students' office director, said she is glad there is going to be an investigation. "It is absolutely in keeping with what we've said all along."

Woolsey said the involvement of a wide spectrum of women outside the university shows a widespread disapproval of the EUS' actions, which included the annual Lady Godiva ride where a nude woman is paraded around the campus. The students also publish the Red Rag newspaper during engineering week, scheduled for next week, which has traditionally been filled with sexist and racist comments.

Wallace said the university

administration is primarily to blame for failing to speak out against the engineering student's excesses. But Woolsey said the blame for the situation lies with the EUS and not the administration. "The EUS—that's the group I think must be stopped."

Wallace said in the release that enrolment of women in the male dominated faculties other than engineering has risen dramatically in the last nine years, but the percentage of women in engineering has only risen from one to five per cent in that time.

Woolsey says Wallace's figures are frightening. "That is not a welcoming environment. I absolutely think it's sexual discrimination."

The complaint is based on section 3 of B.C.'s human rights code which prohibits discrimination in any service (including education) which is customarily available to the public.

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