

Canadian University Press DATELINE

UGEQ blasts Bladen report

MONTREAL—The 55,000 member Union Générale des Etudiants du Québec (UGEQ) blasted the Bladen Commission Report. Condemning the report's main recommendations, the union went on to tell businessmen to get their hands off higher education in Canada.

Pointing out that UGEQ has never recognized the commission, the statement emphasized that "education is exclusively a provincial responsibility."

UGEQ's heaviest criticism falls on the Bladen Commission's attitude to free education.

The statement continues "To wish to maintain an educational system based on social and economic discrimination is to deny the right of all to an education according to ability, it is to reject the democratization of education of which the first step is free education, and it is to show a complete absence of any sense of social justice . . ."

"Universities, now almost wholly financed by the state, should have their affairs taken out of the hands of businessmen who know nothing about the university. To argue otherwise is to show proof of a reactionary and basically capitalist philosophy."

UGEQ draws the conclusion that "the commissioners wish to leave the question of education in the hands of private enterprise, that is to say in disorder, in atrophy and in stagnation."

Canadians should fight

TORONTO—George Grant, head of the department of religion at McMaster University, appealed to Canadians to fight to retain their political sovereignty.

"I speak as a Canadian nationalist and a conservative," said Prof. Grant at the final session of the International Teach-In.

"The United States is a world empire. Its life at home is controlled by mammoth corporations and through these bureaucracies it controls a large proportion of the globe.

"Canada is moving toward being a satellite of that empire. And Canadians live much of their lives under the same imperial bureaucracies. The institutions of Toronto are much the same as those of Detroit."

He emphasized, however, that Canadians have a greater sense of citizenship than Americans and that traditional democratic means such as the vote and support for political parties have more meaning in Canada's smaller sphere.

Laval university unmasked

MONTREAL—The students' union of Laval University has published a book entitled "Laval University Unmasked."

About 100 pages in length and published here Oct. 6 by Editions du Jour, the book is aimed at filling a lack of public discussion on the university caused by a "completely unjustifiable silence" on the part of the professors.

The book claims that a true democratization of education is not limited to providing universal accessibility to education. To have meaning, it claims, this objective must include democratization of the structures of the university, an action which is all the more essential because the very intellectual life of the university depends on it.

The book provides the background for the recent Laval students' demand for abolition of the royal and papal charters of the university, and the modernization of its structures.

UBC students get time off

VANCOUVER—UBC students not qualified to vote in Vancouver will be given time off to vote in their home ridings Nov. 8, UBC president John Macdonald said.

In a press release, Macdonald said students who wished to do so could absent themselves from classes during the days around the election.

But the university will not close said UBC information officer James Banham.

"Students who do go are expected to inform their instructors," he said. "The instructors will make arrangements for them to make up labs later and will see they get notes from missed lectures."

Banham said more than 2,000 students would be involved, but he didn't expect all of them would take the time off.

The cider revolution

VANCOUVER—The taste of cider is slaking the thirst—and in some cases the temper—of many parched persons in British Columbia's beer strike.

With only two small interior breweries still operating, most of the province's beer parlors have been closed for weeks.

But a few have remained open, selling apple cider instead. There are some who have expressed amazement at the result. Others talk of the "cider revolution."

"I haven't seen a row in this bar for three weeks, since we started selling cider," one hotel owner said.

"When beer was the main attraction we spent most of our time settling disputes and ejecting belligerents."



—Credico photo

VICTORIA REGINA—Next Friday the Education students will vote to select their queen. The crown princesses are, left to right, Lorna Richards, ed 2, Annette Amouniar, ed 3, and Una Forth, ed 4. The coronation will take place at the BC dance Saturday, Oct. 23.

Candidates presents views during Law School Forum

Political philosophies from vocalized open-mindedness and student activism to strong central government were the focus of debate at Law School Forum, Thursday.

The forum featured the five candidates running in Edmonton-Strathcona in the forthcoming federal election.

"Politics needs realistic approach," said William Stocks.

Mr. Stocks, an independent candidate, says there should be federal secular schools on Indian reserves, legal abortions and free drugs for addicts.

He thinks gambling through legal channels and a national lottery

would eliminate much of the international crime connected with the vice today.

Terry Nugent, the Conservative candidate for Edmonton-Strathcona, said the three principles of the Conservative party are unity, integrity and competence.

Mr. Nugent stressed need for strong federal control to manage Canada's economic destiny.

"As long as power in Canada is divided between the federal and provincial government there will not be enough power to control Canada's economic destiny," he says.

He says the United States influences our economy too much and

we have only partial power over our economy.

Bill Sinclair, the Edmonton-Strathcona Liberal candidate, cited three election issues:

- The need for a strong national government and the need for all provinces to have representation in that government.

- The need to work with our underprivileged in our country.

- The need to help people in the rest of the world.

"The Company of Young Canadians and CUSO will do much to accomplish the latter," he said.

Sig Sorenson, the Social Credit candidate, says more grants, loans and scholarships should be given although he says he did not believe in completely abolishing tuition fees.

Mr. Sorenson says the fostering of individuality, freedom and security as the main principles of government. To accomplish this, a strong government with a good leadership is needed, he says.

"The natural resources of this province have been cultivated because of 30 years of good government," he said.

General laughter in the audience was the response to this statement.

Bill MacLean, New Democratic party candidate, made a plea for more student action in accomplishing social change.

Something should be done for the Canadian Indian, he says. For this purpose and other social problems the NDP needs active students, claims MacLean.

The present leadership is no good as illustrated in the fact that our prime minister would not get involved in Vietnam.

MacLean feels Canada should have a national education system. Canada is educating too few people, he says.

University students represent only 15 per cent of the high school graduates.

"We are far behind the United States in this issue and something should be done," he said.

He said free education would help to solve this problem.

Club International group knocks Gold Key Society

By LEE MORRISON

Gold Key has turned into just a travel agency, says Gen Ong, general secretary of Club International.

He criticized Gold Key for their failure to provide proper initiation of foreign students to Canadian life.

He claims the grant given to Gold Key should be turned over to Club International.

"Leave the foreign students to an organization better prepared to do the job. Gold Key members only understand the problem at second hand," he says.

"Their idea of welcoming foreign students to Canada is to send a person to the airport to meet the foreign student, taxi him to his place of residence and dump him. That's the last of Gold Key's welcoming committee that the foreign student sees all year," he says.

These foreign students are the best from their country. As Canadians we are their host and should make the first move.

We cannot afford to ignore 10 per cent of the new students.

The foreign student is more lost than the freshman" says Ong.

If given enough money and authority, Club International would set up a program similar to the following:

- Welcome speeches from the Dean of Men, Dean of Women, President of the Students' Union, and the foreign student organizer.

- Tours of Campus
- Introduction to Canadian etiquette and dating customs.

- Lab on the pronunciation of words in Canada, and Canadian slang.
- Explanation of Canadian humour.

- Advice on clothes to buy for our winter.
- Introduction to campus clubs and Canadian sports.
- Films on Canadian life.
- Perhaps a big brother system matching similar interests and university levels of the students.

Ong intends to approach students' council with his proposal.