

The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—It was a dead night and we were beginning to wonder if maybe . . . Anyway, there were a few corpses wandering through the dark hallways and most of them came from this office. Along with our gay Waterloo goers (Al Scarth, Joe C, Beth W. and Davey Hebditch), were Beth N. (now librarian as well as everything else), Dave, our friends from The Sheaf, Jim Carter, Bob Anderson, Charles Lunch (back from a rough train trip), Dan Carroll and Dot Constable, and yours truly, Harvey G. Thomgirt (back from isolation after a lonely Christmas in my cage here at Headquarters).

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PAGE FOUR THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1970

Council's apathy pathetic

by Al Scarth

If the concern shown by councillors for the questions outlined in the referenda story on page one is any indication of voter interest over the next month, the union should save its money and cancel the plebiscites.

Over half the enlarged council did not deem it their responsibility to attend the council retreat, recommendations from which will be presented to council Monday night.

For their information, in case they didn't even bother to find out, it lasted for three days and enjoyed at its height of attendance a grand total of 15 participants. There are now 35 council members.

And in case they have also forgotten another responsibility, one of the reasons for the retreat was to inform them on the questions of a three-dollar fee increase, priorities, SUB expansion, and tenure so the information could be passed along to their constituents.

Action-oriented indeed!

In the next month it is imperative that students garner as many facts as possible on the above serious and complicated issues. With that in mind, they would consider it time well spent attending Monday's deliberations in the GFC chambers in University Hall.

The decisions to be faced there are of much greater import than a yearbook, the last issue which raised students' ire.

Solution to a hang-up

The Canadian University Press story in this issue on Carleton University's "baffled" student politicians should be an obvious nudge to this university's student government.

The solution to the *service organizer cum politician dilemma* deserves the attention of all those who still believe in a viable, relevant students' union.

In short, Carleton's council wants to create two bodies: one to run social and service activities and the other to deal with university government and political action.

While the idea would not solve all the knotty problems of "priorities" and just what is a "service," with a few modifications it would aid tremendously in speeding the business of a council hamstrung constantly in debate over entertainment or services and the desire for political awareness or action.

On the wider scene, western universities have got the right idea in their attempts to form Western Student Services, an organization comprising students' union treasurers and business managers, the people most competent to deal with such matters as charter flights and entertainment.

What must be guarded against are any attempts to form a western separatist politically-oriented union. Rather, the new "national" union now comprising only eastern universities should adopt the principle of a body of administrators for services and recreate a truly political body as well.

Student representatives here must pay particular heed to Carleton students' emphasis on the university government division of labor as more and more departments open their governing doors to students and the recruitment problem becomes correspondingly more acute.

Former editor of The Gateway regrets choosing Al Scarth as his successor

Last year in a pre-election issue, The Gateway supported David Leadbeater for president of the students' union, Bob Hunka and Liz Law for vice-presidents, Dennis Fitzgerald for treasurer and Dennis Crowe for student co-ordinator. Further, we selected Al Scarth for editor of The Gateway, a choice I have had much reason to regret as were some of the others.

I write this now because I have had time to read most of the editions of The Gateway this term and have talked extensively with numerous friends on campus. It is not my friends' opinions that disturb me but rather the fact that none of them know—or care to know—what the student government is doing. Further, they have begun to laugh at the student newspaper and no longer read it as a source of campus news, both social and political.

What have the people supported been doing? Not much, if I use The Gateway as a source. Aside from the yearbook issue and another concerning contraceptives, The Gateway has chosen to largely ignore the workings of the student government. A reason may be that the student government is doing nothing and hence The Gateway believes it is not worth covering. The Gateway, under the editorship of Al Scarth, should be looking for reasons why the student government is not working, if that is the case.

If the student government is progressive, why do students not know of it? Every one of these people, including Mr. Scarth, stressed that they wanted better communications with students this year. This apparently, is not the case.

What is The Gateway doing? Nothing. It takes editorials—it has ceased to run its own—from other student newspapers; it takes articles from various publications and this includes copyrighted

material (illegal under international law) such as Arthur Hoppe's column. It is strewn with propaganda which it insists is not propaganda because The Gateway is not fascist, capitalistic, petty bourgeois, etc., etc.

Moreover, and this is by far the most glaring fault, The Gateway is not fair. No matter what political views the newspaper holds for its editorial pages, it news pages should be free from intentional bias. The Gateway is not only biased, it is inaccurate and misinformed. It deals with rumor and innuendo. It sends reporters of known left wing leanings to political meetings and prints the report on news pages.

The Gateway is not being properly edited and much of the copy (what little is written here) is not complete or coherent.

The editor appears to have forgotten that he has the large responsibility of covering campus news. Instead, he has chosen to use the pages to babble on and attempt to indoctrinate. If The Gateway does not accept its responsibilities, it should be discontinued and that is not censorship. Censorship occurs against a free, responsible press, not a biased political press.

Rich Vivone
Editor-in-chief 1968-69
The Gateway

*Editor's note—*I'd wish you a Happy New Year, Rich, but I just discovered in your column in The Red Deer Advocate you're not speaking to me anymore.

Professor Watson was misunderstood

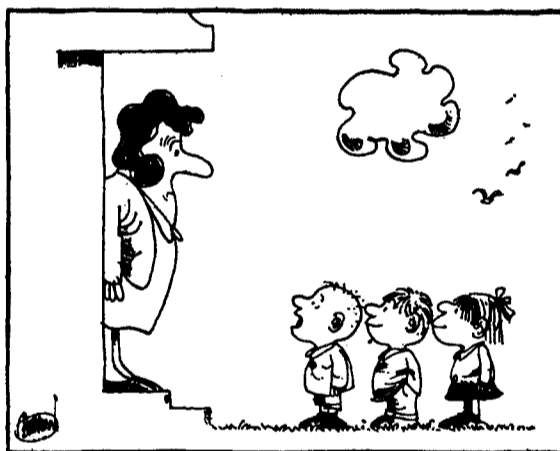
I should like to pat Mr. Howard Beckman on his pretty little bottom for his inane remarks about Wilfred Watson's *Let's Murder Clytemestra According to the Principles of Marshall McLuhan* (L.M.C. for short).

First—the only reputation Prof. Watson has is a reputation for obscurity, vulgarity, and shock. His work has been and will be performed in Edmonton by various people at various times. If the audience doesn't know by now what will happen at a Watson play they deserve the apparent obscurity, vulgarity and shock which confronts them unexpectedly. I would not agree with Prof. Watson's reputation. His plays go to that very real level of tribal culture (greek tribal not the pseudo-African tribal with which North America titillates itself in the name of fashion) that surrounds our conscious life and verges either on the diabolical or the religious, or perhaps both (since they are inseparable on earth). Perhaps Mr. Beckman can't stand religion—if not he should say so.

Mr. Beckman has the stupidity to say that (a) "the criteria for selection of plays for production is at bottom what determines the vitality of the theatre"; and then that (b) "the theatre is political." Is Mr. Beckman so naive as to believe that any political organization can have any use for criteria except as excuses to hide behind for the real political machinations which determine who will do what and for whom. Could Mr. Beckman not see that Dr. Kykoku was using PIAI as a political weapon against Dr. Psi? That's life, baby. Which side of the table are you on? And which side is the table on? L.M.C. is what Studio Theatre is all about. It was a perfect exposition of what happens behind Mr. Beckman's and others' closed doors, and it is precisely for this reason that Mr. Engel, Mr. Burley and others were such cowards in their production of the work. Studio Theatre is basically gutless—self-emasculated to a nicety. Not even capable of masturbation let alone of distinguishing masturbation from purgation.

I am yet waiting for the day when Studio Theatre will do an understandable job of a Watson play so that Prof. Watson will have a chance to develop a more just reputation. Until then Studio Theatre is indeed wasting the resources of the university. But then Chairman Max's every other word seems eventually to point (perhaps without intending to) to the fact that the resources of the university are meant to be wasted.

P. Montgomery
grad studies



—Bierman, Victoria Daily Times
"... may we borrow the baby ... we want to play American soldiers ..."

Wayne Westby preaches self; hung up on his own martyrdom

Congratulations on your good article regarding our hell-fire preacher, Wayne Westby. You made a good point to student intolerance and ignorance. However, I think you made a mistake in saying the students turned Westby into a fool. Westby made a fool of himself by pretending to be God's disciple. The majority of students saw this, laughing and jeering was their way of telling him. You mentioned Westby's brand of reality and that is exactly what it was. Westby wasn't preaching Jesus Christ; he was preaching Wayne Westby, making a name for himself. He was actually proud of the fact that SFU called him a lunatic. Westby is hung up on the glory in being a martyr. Don't interpret Westby's Monday performance as being indicative of true Christianity.

It's unfortunate that an incident like this happens; the psychological ramifications outweigh ten positive incidents accomplished by Christian ethic.

Christianity is something beautiful, a way of life that can bring happiness, satisfaction and pleasure. It most certainly does not allow you to "fly through the air with the greatest of ease" quoting Mr. Westby.

Ken Ewing
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