

The Gateway

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—How about showing up for those Friday meetings? It's getting too quiet around here at 1 p.m. Fridays. These people showed up last Friday and were given assignments: Malcolm East, Helene Chomiak, Linda Strand, Al Bromling, Sue Hill, Irene McRae, Brian O'Neil, Joe Will, Carole Linda Sue Kaye, and yours truly, Regina Rat.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1965

We Deserve What We Get

The local Canadian Union of Students chairman has suggested the board of governors should reconsider its decision to maintain the current tuition fee structure. He may be right.

There can be little doubt the board would be justified in changing its mind. Even with an extended time period, the CUS student means survey on this campus must be considered a failure. Little more than one half of 796 U of A students selected to participate in the survey bothered to complete a simple questionnaire.

Indeed, education should be considered a right rather than a privilege. But at the same time the financial burdens of university education are heavy. If those receiving the immediate benefits of higher education are capable of shouldering a greater share of university costs, then why should they not?

A large number of students and student organizations have been working industriously and unselfishly for several years advocating hold-the-line policies on fees. Their efforts have received much public at-

tention and have been seriously considered by university and government officials in this and other provinces. The CUS survey has been given wide publicity in The Gateway, and other college and professional newspapers throughout the country. Apathy at this point can only indicate a lack of financial need by a very large segment of the student population.

We hope response to the survey has been greater at other universities. In any event, we hope response has been sufficient to allow some valid appraisal of student means in Canada.

But we can not escape the facts. Alberta has failed the survey, CUS, countless student leaders, and, most of all, ourselves.

Perhaps our student leaders were wrong. Perhaps student fees should be raised. Regardless, unless there is an immediate change in student attitude, university officials have been given complete freedom of action on the fee question. If the measures they adopt seem unjust there can be no grounds for student protest. We will deserve what we get.

Bruce Ferrier

Says Beatle Music Ain't So Bad

On Pop Music

Give me a laundry-list and I'll set it to music.

—Giacchino Rossini

If popular appeal were the accepted index of fame, the Beatles stand to get as big a chunk of history as Shakespeare, Goethe, and Dante combined.

Of course, Beatle music is not "art" and therefore has no intrinsic value—or does it?

Beatle music has an exuberance and vigor that few other forms of music seem to have captured. It can lift an entire auditorium full of young people to a pitch of frenzy normally found only in combined human sacrifice-fertility rites. It can make the staidest third-year co-ed shed some of her pseudo-inhibitions and bump and grind with the best.

Popular music is, on the whole, a great thing to have. After all, where else in our work-at-work, work-at-play society do we find anything like the genuine freedom given by sixteen electric guitars and five drummers playing full blast?

Popular music has several qualities which endear it to me. For one,

it is always apt. How often the phrase "I wanna hold your ha-aand!" has run through my mind!

Popular music has topicality. Since the last time that I fell off my scooter, the hit tune "Leader of the Pack" has had special meaning.

Finally, it has variety. As soon as I can't stand a hit song any more, it has moved to Number 106 and they only play it every hour or so.

Perhaps all this does not mean much to the Bach and Beethoven adepts here on campus, who each day fill the Students' Union Building to hear the pleasant strains of Radio Society Sophisticated Music.

Radio Society, it is true, avoids rock and roll not because most people don't like it, but because "those who don't like it would probably get indigestion."

Perhaps so. When Jon Whyte innocently sang some Shakespeare in the best Country and Western manner in the Tuck Shop not long ago, several people were carried out on stretchers.

On the other hand, several others thought he was the juke box.

