

The Gateway

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—Help. I am being held prisoner in the basement of SUB; but not by the engineers, thank God. But they're going to let me go to the party tonight with Irene McRae (Short Shorts Editor), Geoff Michaels, Hiro Saka, Neil Driscoll, Al Scarth, Carole Kaye, Sue Hill, Janet Orzech, Lawrence Samuel, Rebecca Prigert, Harvey Thombgirt, Al Bromling, Linda Strand, Pat Hughes, Brian O'Neill, Jon Whyte, Etaoin Shrdlu, Helene Chomiak, Al Bromling, Linda Strand, Web Macdonald, Larry Dulgnan, Mary Shearer, Dave Henshaw, Wayne Poley, Obed Ntseo, Malcolm Fast and Joe Will.

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PAGE FOUR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1965

On Cleaning One's House

Tuesday, Feb. 9, we published an editorial entitled "Time to 'Clean House'."

The implications of the editorial seem to have struck a tender spot. It is a moot point whether the reaction to the "implications" justifies the editorial or not.

The fact that executive action was taken on an issue not particularly implied in the editorial (before its publication), and that this action has been pointed to as evidence the executive is acting in good faith (see page one story), is not central to the issue.

A full scale inquiry of one or two instances of questionable behaviour, or as Francis Saville stated, a "witch-hunt," was not the intent of the editorial.

The editorial was not aimed at one, or any, individuals. It was aimed at the entire structure under which many Students' Union projects presently exist. To be specific, the organization of Freshman Introduction Week, Varsity Guest Weekend, and the SUB expansion project, lend themselves to abuses of one kind or another.

The editorial was not aimed at so called "petty abuses," for they exist in any operation the magnitude of the Students' Union. Furthermore, it is hard to legislate against such abuses; and more important, "petty abuses" are very hard to detect and more difficult to prove. Perhaps some controls are necessary in this area, however.

Nor did the editorial intend to picture the Students' Union as a basically corrupt, graft-ridden, organization. Such an assertion would be sheer nonsense.

Students involved in responsible positions must be given the means to have integrity, to be worthy of trust.

Few, if any, students are likely to jeopardize their entire future for a

few dollars, or some trivial remuneration of whatever kind.

The fact there hasn't been any, or more, abuse is not an indication the present procedures are adequate, it merely indicates students have exhibited commendable integrity in carrying out their duties.

The executive exercised good judgment in referring the present instance of "questionable activity" to the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Committee. However, the objective of such action should not be to blacken permanently the reputation of one, or a few, persons. The goal must be broader; it must be aimed at limiting or eliminating the possibility of a recurrence of such behavior.

Moreover, the question is not whether or not certain practices are legal or illegal, whether certain actions constitute malpractice or abuse of privilege, it is whether these practices are desirable or advisable, it is whether or not some internal control should be instituted to check or prevent them.

In view of the present reorganization of the Students' Union made necessary to meet the demands of a new Students' Union Building, we suggest the question of possible abuse of privileges, positions, and knowledge should be incorporated in this study. Possible questions: how much independence do we, and should we, allow individuals delegated authority by Students' Council or its affiliated organizations? What are the lines of authority within the Union?

Is it not time a fresh look at the internal structure of the Students' Union, and its subordinate organizations, was undertaken?

Let us not, however, sacrifice one unfortunate individual and think we have purged the Union of any, and all, avenues of abuse.

Exercise In Futility?

We wonder how much value model parliament campaigns are.

It is very doubtful whether any of the week's activities result in even momentary participation by many students in political discussion.

The campaign, on the other hand, would seem to be an exercise in futility. Most students will make their choice on the basis of predetermined attitudes and prejudices.

It is unfortunate that all parties will in the end be judged on the ineptitudes of the national parties whom they represent. The success or failure of the national or provin-

cial parties should not be the criteria for the choice of any party.

Within the philosophical limitations any party allegiance implies, each party attempts to formulate a policy it feels meets the demands of our present situation. This policy should be the basis of judgment. Other considerations should be secondary.

We doubt if any of the few who vote will do so on the basis of the platforms presented by each party. In other words, are model parliament campaigns merely popularity contests entirely predictable from recent Gallop polls?



"HEY GEORGE, DO YOU OWE SOME FINES AT CAMERON LIBRARY?"

Bruce Ferrier Less Undercover Than On On Book Covers

I hear that Radio Society has acquired a new stereophonic pornograph on which to play its classical sexophone records.

Sex, since its invention a few years ago by Madison Avenue copywriters, has taken over a good portion of the popular market.

Market research in a well-frequented bookstore reveals that out of twenty-four "new releases," fourteen are not on sex, but we assume that they are intended for children or elderly spinsters.

Titles are sometimes deceiving though. I was unsure about the contents of *The Power of Positive Thinking*, until I saw *Becoming a Mother* right next to it. Somehow Russel's *Our Knowledge of the External World* had slipped into the display, right beside *Muscle Beach Party*.

Just the covers were interesting to read. There was the occasional "superb," but, more often, "shattering and passionate." Topics ranged from "heartwarming" through "passion and intrigue" to "lesbian love slave."

There was the occasional critical comment also. They went from "bestselling author" and "heroic" to, more often, "intimate, sensational and unexpurgated."

Some covers had a brief summary of the contents. One seemed particularly topical:

A college town blazes with suspicion and fear when a professor's book is called obscene . . . and becomes the center of bitter courtroom controversy.

Most come-ons, however, were more blunt:

Thorn Smith's sexiest novel.

Books are not the only item found in today's popular bookstore, of course. Magazines of every variety are available for anyone with stomach enough to get through them.

Oh, there are some for the connoisseur—if you happen to like boats, cars, guns, hi-fis, cameras, skiing, or horses. There is one on muscle-building, sub-titled "How I built 20½ inch arms," which assumes that the reader knows whether this is length or circumference.

Probably most of the sales are made in the same area as for books, however. For example, I heard a 13-year-old girl exclaim ecstatically, "For Teens Only!—that's me. If I can't read *For Men Only* I'll read *For Teens Only*."

I include the titles of several other publications in this class for comparison purposes: *Laffboy* ("the topless, bottomless swimsuit"), *Dude, Escape, True, Man, Gent, Rogue*.

But the magazine rack is not given over completely to this sort of literature. There are other publications intended for the fairer, weaker sex, no doubt full of elevating material: *True Romance, True Love, True Story, True Life Secrets*.

The only fitting comment to make on all this is contained in what passed between the bookstore owner and me. (The owner, I might insert, takes what he gets from the supplier and keeps what will sell—it isn't his fault.)

He asked me what I was doing, and I told him I was gathering information for an article. Was it all right with him? Well, yes, he said, "as long as it isn't for that controversial publication *Edge*."