

The Gateway

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—Press night was just like the morning after the night before. Those who suffered Sunday night in The Gateway office were Maureen Love, Monica Ulrich, Sheila Ballard, Andy Rodger, Marion Conybeare, Ed Marchand, Geddes Wilson, The Shadow (was he ever!), Lee Morrison, Bill Beard, Roger Davies, Eian Galper, Jackie Foord, Jean Bailey, Vanessa Gavia, Nick Riebeck, Marcia Reed, Marilyn Fix, Howard Meger, Dave Wright, and yours truly, Harvey (call me Chester) Thomgirt.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1965

an action program begins

National Student Day is only one week away, and already there are indications that the student body will not support education policies formulated by national student leaders.

There are also indications that the student body does not understand what these policies are, and why National Student Day is being held.

Moreover, the concepts of universal accessibility to post-secondary education and free education have been misunderstood and confused.

CUS is in favor of universal accessibility—not free education.

Universal accessibility is like motherhood—everyone should believe in it. It is a concept which merely separates the academic requirements for university entrance from the possible economic and social factors which bar some Canadian students from post-secondary education.

We are not suggesting there are large numbers of Alberta students who do not attend universities or technical schools because they cannot afford to or because they are victims of social barriers.

It is possible, however, that there are some students whose academic futures are made bleak by these factors, despite ever-increasing amounts of money being spent by governments in the field of education.

Free education is not like motherhood. CUS, in supporting the elimination of tuition fees as a first step toward universal accessibility, has quite rightly rejected the idea of free education.

Free education refers to free tuition, plus provision of living expenses, books, transportation to and from university and room-and-board charges.

better service needed

Long experience with the university bookstore has conditioned undergraduates to accept frequent delays and red tape. When a book is not in, one philosophically drinks yet another cup of bad coffee and goes to class without.

But it seems faculty departments are not so conditioned. Rather than use the services provided, and allow students to take advantage of the university bookstore's five per cent discount, they have turned to Free Enterprise—Hurtig's Book Store.

It appears that poor service at the university bookstore and poor communication between that organization and faculty departments are equally to blame for the problem. When the bookstore is unable to

We do not believe a system of free education would do anything more than produce spineless loafers among the Canadian student population. A tuition-free educational system, on the other hand, would force students to apply their summer wages toward the areas where more than two-thirds of their education expenses originate, namely in living expenses, books and so forth.

We do not subscribe to the belief that tuition fees should be eliminated merely as a favour to students. Students must retain the initiative which previously characterized their efforts to obtain an education. Governmental recognition of the importance of education in a country's future is something to be encouraged, and lauded when it occurs. Pressure must be brought to bear on all governments, both provincial and federal, to recognize the importance of education to the country's welfare.

In the next few days, members of our student government will begin to carry their education policies to you, the students. They will be promoting the concept of universal accessibility to post-secondary education, hopefully in the context that this "day of awareness" is only a small event in a long-term action program to achieve their goals.

National Student Day is only a beginning. The work which lies ahead in the education field will be both arduous and frustrating. It cannot be carried out by only a few dedicated persons, no matter how much time and academic standing they sacrifice.

Students should be concerned about the quality and quantity of education young Canadians are receiving. Here is a program which students will have to participate in, if governments are ever going to be convinced the cause is just.

meet departmental demands, as often as not the department is to blame as much as the bookstore.

Those who laud the efficiency of Hurtig's should also remember the downtown competitor handles only a fraction on the course books obtainable at the bookstore, and is subject to the same delays when publishers are unable to supply needed texts.

Certainly there are improvements which could be made. A department making the proper order at the proper time should be confident the bookstore will supply the needed texts, and on time.

If this can be assured, then no department should be permitted to order books anywhere but at the university bookstore.



"He's promised us so much money, we've asked him to rush."

another era

by doug walker

I am sure few people are aware of a little book called **My Forty-five Years on the Campus** by the late Reg Lister. It is published by the University of Alberta printing department, and the few copies left are available in the bookstore.

The book is a chronicle of Mr. Lister's service at the university, starting in 1910 when he was a laborer digging the basements for the staff houses, and ending with his retirement in the middle 1950s as superintendent of residences.

The book gives an idea of some of the university's traditions in its earlier years, and describes a number of hilarious incidents and pranks perpetrated by former students.

Initiations, for instance, were one dreaded part of freshman introduction ceremonies. New students arriving on campus were given a haircut (in the original form of a cross), a hat, and a bib, and were required to wait on upperclassmen day and night. They were not allowed to use the front doors of the residences. They were subjected to frequent tubbings and other hazing. Covering people with flypaper was another favorite trick. When the final initiation ceremony finally came, they found it consisted of more intense hazing.

Living in residence in those days, one seldom knew what would happen either. One student returned to his room one night to find his bed suspended by ropes between Athabasca and Pembina Halls at the

third floor level. Others would find the complete contents of their rooms—furniture, clothing, pictures—all arranged very neatly in the bathroom. Firing of the university cannon, stolen from one of the city armories, was another favorite stunt. The report could be heard all over the campus, and often signaled an attack on Pembina through the ditch carrying the steam pipes. The ditch was used for other things also. Every afternoon the steam pipes would rattle to signify tea was ready, and the boys would go down and spend a pleasant half-hour.

According to Mr. Lister, liquor was little problem in the early days of the campus. After the First World War and the introduction of prohibition, however, liquor became more common, but misdemeanors were overlooked or excused as a result of the war. Unfortunately, regulations have since become more strict.

When the snow began to melt in the spring, empty bottles began to appear in the snow behind the residences, and it was quite a chore to haul them all away. And although Pembina Hall was the women's residence, more bottles appeared there than anywhere else.

There appears to be little of the spirit or tradition of Mr. Lister's time left on the campus these days. Admittedly, we still take the professors for coffee before Varsity Guest Weekend, but few of the outlandish incidents or pranks ever happen any more. Perhaps this is because the authorities now take a much dimmer view of such activity. Perhaps loyalty is now divided among the smaller faculties or many fraternities. Perhaps we have just become too large and too academic. In any case, if Mr. Lister came back today, I am sure he would find it pretty dull.