

Our part of it is a "large, lonely place where someone left the refrigerator door open"

The world according to Dr. Foth

by Heather Moore

Allan Fotheringham was in Edmonton last Thursday promoting his new book called "Capital Offences: Dr. Foth Meets Uncle Sam". The book is a collection of his musings on Canadian-American relations. Fotheringham has been stationed in Washington by Southam News for two years. He is the reason that many Canadians read Maclean's — sometimes from back to front to see what he's been up to.

Fotheringham's scathing attacks on American and Canadian politics, relations, the people, the capitals and especially the leaders are funny, often hilariously side-splitting and all too often very true. Washington will never be the same.

In his speech, Fotheringham claims that the book is to "destroy the myth of the longest undefended boring border in the world." He also stated that the "reasons Canada and the United States are so friendly is because of mutual ignorance."

Canadians do not know much

about the States and the United States know even less about us. We are the "large, lonely place where someone left the refrigerator door open."

Fotheringham's speech was mainly a recap of parts of his book but that was not wasted on the audience. His wit and satire hold their own in both written and vocal forms. His book is a satire on everything that could possibly be satirized within both Canada and the United States. It's interesting to read as Fotheringham weaves the most offbeat ideas and references into the context — and it works.

Although Fotheringham does tend to be very cutting in his ideas and thoughts, he does have his moments. There is a tremendous piece on the differences between the two capital cities, Ottawa and Washington, that is thoughtful and whimsical.

"... I am perhaps an unusual Canadian in that I don't think there's anything wrong in American ignorance of Canada. I've always thought this was a silly,

juvenile feeling from Canadians who are always complaining that Americans don't know anything about us. They don't. If I were American, I wouldn't be interested in Canada either — we're docile,

we're peaceful. We don't make waves, we don't complain, we're simply here. And when I would get worried is if Americans did become interested in Canada. Because when I look at the track record and

I look at the countries they have been interested in: Chile, Vietnam, Iran, Lebanon, poor little Grenada, Libya, Nicaragua. And I say, let this ignorance lie."



Edits by John Watson

Parking bothers me. Of all the issues that are brought to my attention in this office, parking is the most common. Off the top of my head, at least 3 stories have been written (and published) on the subject this year.

Perhaps I'm biased, perhaps I'm insensitive, but most certainly I am concerned.

How could a university population — if I may presume, an intelligent population — expend so much energy on something so trivial?

Have you got nothing better to do?

Does this campus need more parking? No, it does not. Stadium, Windsor, and Education car parks are a major portion of the about 6,500 parking stalls on this campus. And they are lovely buildings too, aren't they? They are certainly on my list of favourites.

Oh, while I'm on the subject of scenic beauty, have you noticed the Fine Arts parking lot? It's lovely this time of year. The one behind HUB leaves a bit to be desired, but the lot in front of Chemical Engineering has a nice view.

Have I forgotten Jubilee? Of course not, an eyesore that size can

hardly be overlooked. It almost makes me wish they made the But-terdome just a touch brighter — to catch your attention you know.

So what is my point? Simply, a parking spot for everybody would leave very little space on this campus for anything else. Not to mention the rather displeasing aesthetics of asphalt.

Thankfully the university has decided future car parks will go underground. I'd prefer they didn't bother to build any more at all — it seems they just attract more cars. And cars stink.

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ning to restrict spending growth to transfer payments, which may lead to a budgeted loss of as much as \$6 billion within five years. Transfer payments to the provinces, arranged through Established Programs financing, are earmarked for education and health.

Vaughan said students at Memorial, the only university in Canada's poorest province, face problems heavier than most other students.

"The number of students has increased nearly 50 per cent in the last four years, without a significant increase in the operating budget," said Vaughan.

"These postcards come from a province with the lowest per capita income in Canada, the highest unemployment rate, lowest paid professors, and the list continues," she said.

CFS chair Tony Macerollo is enthusiastic about the Memorial campaign. "I think it's just wonderful," he said.

"It's a great example of a student union that is organizing a national campaign on a local level."

Further stages of the Memorial campaign include a rally at the provincial legislature in March to protest the Peckford government's record on education.

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