

gateway

Tuesday, March 13, 1984

How many Education students does it take to screw in a light bulb?

One. But he gets three credits for it.

Johnston "really abrasive" in meeting with SU

by Neal Watson

Students' Union Executive members are angry after Friday's meeting with Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston.

"It was the most frustrating meeting I've ever had with an elected official," said SU President Robert Greenhill.

Greenhill charged Johnston

with being "belligerent and confrontational."

VP Academic Barb Donaldson said she was "outraged" with Johnston's behaviour and accused him of being "really abrasive."

Johnston was unavailable for comment.

The Executive presented the Minister with a list of proposals -

including a \$22 million increase in funding for post-secondary education and a Board of Governors' approved student loan remission program.

The Students' Union also proposed special funding allotments of \$2.8 million per year for 3 years to accommodate students that according to University pro-

jections will be denied admission next year, though they meet the academic requirements.

According to Greenhill, "Johnston rejected these proposals outright."

Johnston disagreed with the University prediction that up to 1500 students would be refused admission.

Greenhill said it was Johnston's opinion that all qualified students would obtain post-secondary education.

VP Internal Peter Block said Johnston maintained that at the outside only 250-300 transfer or foreign students would be denied admission.

When requested to reveal statistics backing up his claim, Johnston refused. Greenhill expressed his amazement asking, "how can Johnston be talking about Alberta in 1984?"

Block said when Executive members pressed the Minister to furnish them with his statistics he refused, saying, "it's not that I refuse to share them with you, it's that I won't."

When asked about Johnston's estimate of the number of students the University would turn away, University President Myer Horowitz said that Johnston's figures were "wrong."

Johnston accused the SU and the University of being premature and "setting off false alarms."

President Greenhill slammed Johnston's "whole attitude" and his lack of commitment to communication with students.

Peter Block said that Johnston's attitude was arrogant and patronizing.

However, Block feels that Johnston is "feeling the pressure" and that the SU Executive and concerned students must continue to put pressure on MLA's.

Robert Greenhill said students must challenge Johnston's comments directly - to make Johnston "justify what are unjustifiable comments."

Greenhill said Johnston was responsive to proposals that the Alberta Heritage Savings and Trust Fund Library Development Grant be reinstated for three years and a similar policy for computing facilities be initiated.

Johnston was also sympathetic to a proposal that a special fund be allotted to provide for renovations of old buildings on campus.

Greenhill summarized his frustration by saying the two problems of advanced education are funding and the minister.

Friday was the third time this year that the Executive had met with Johnston.

According to Barb Donaldson, there is "no point in meeting" any more this year.

Women's march a success

by Gilbert Bouchard

Balloons, streamers, grease paint, banners, and songs set apart this year's International Women's Day Parade from other years.

"The reality of a woman's life in Canada is not the clenched fist and screaming, it turns people off. We wanted the broadest variety of women possible. We wanted to celebrate, to have fun,"

said parade organizer Kris Farkas.

Over 250 marchers attended last Saturday's march despite the cold and snow. "Over double the number we had last year and having somewhere warm to go into at the end was smart," said Farkas.

The parade started at noon in front of the Legislature and wound its way downtown ending in front of the Centennial Library. There were 50 or so peace marchers who went onto City Hall, continuing their protest. The rest of the parade participated in a woman's fair in the Library.

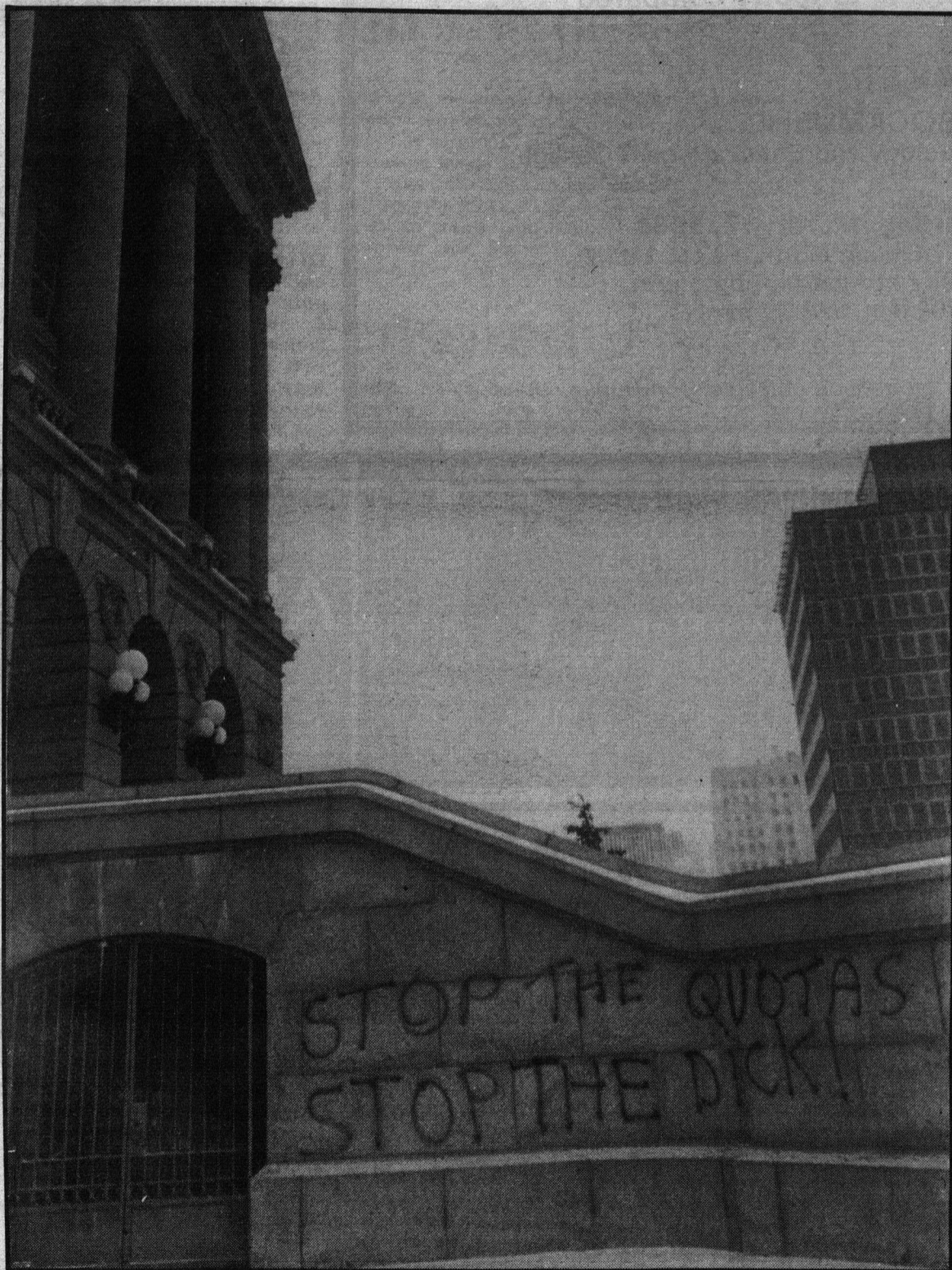
The fair like the parade, was organized by the International Women's Day parade committee. Sipping coffee and juice, the marchers milled about, taking in the entertainment or visiting the booths.

Booths included Every Woman's Place (a co-op house), Edmonton Working Women, Woman's Space, and the U of A Women's Centre. Volunteers sold t-shirts, buttons, and handed out pamphlets between entertainment events.

The entertainment consisted of singers Lynne Weeds and Cathy Palm; a demonstration of Wen do, a woman's self-defense system; and a children's concert. Women were encouraged to bring their children along to both the march and the fair.

Singer Weeds was especially well-received. She is an avowed lesbian and sang songs such as: "It's only a wee-wee", "Fight back", "Gentle Angry People", and "Alberta Cruise". Another crowd pleaser was a humorous rendition of "5-foot-2," where Weeds sings of her "Dyke" with "eyes of blue."

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The Alberta Legislature received a stamp of disapproval this week-end for Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston's cutbacks in post-secondary education.

photo Barry Steeves

Candidate's banner violates Canadian law

by Brenda Waddle

Chief Returning Officer Ninette Gironella recently ordered the alteration of VP External Candidate Rainer Huebl's banner in CAB.

The banner, featuring a large Canadian flag, was 240 feet square, and in violation of Election Bylaw 300, which states "Banners cannot be larger than 200 square feet."

But Gironella stated her primary reason for ordering the alteration was because the banner violated the Canadian law.

The banner had campaign lettering on the flag, which is illegal according to the Office of the Secretary of State, which states that a name may not be superimposed on a flag or on an image of a flag.

"I didn't know it was against the law... it was down and changed within 24 hours," says Huebl.

Huebl's campaign manager, Ken Bosman, added: "A significant number of man-hours went into making the banner," and

"over three cans of paint were used."

The banner has now been shortened, and the lettering altered.

When asked why a Canadian flag was used on the banner, Bosman stated, "there are eleven candidates running - to get noticed, you have to do something different."

Bosman added, "it is a symbol people identify with, and represents how education is

representative of the future of the nation. It also stands for the domain of the VP External."

The only candidate who commented was Paul Alpern, who said, "I didn't know Rainer was running for Prime Minister."

The VP External by-election will be held Friday, March 16.

The position was not filled during the SU Elections last month because Paul Alpern was the only candidate who ran and he lost a Yes-No ratification vote.