

The Gateway

Member of the Canadian University Press

Editor-in-Chief - - - Branny Schepanovich

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Managing Editor | Bill Winship | Associate Editor | Dieter Buse |
| News Editor | John Jay Barr | Fine Arts Editor | Bev Gietz |
| Sports Editor | Barry Rust | Features Editor | Lynne Greason |
| Copy Editor | Susan Gathercole | Proofreading | L. R. Clendenning |
| | Photo Director | Con Stenton | |

EDITORIAL—Alan Meech, James Foster, Robin Hunter, Paul Jensen, Peter Sharpe. Cutline editor, Jon Whyte; CUP editor, Adriana Albi.

STAFF THIS ISSUE—Lois Lane, Bruce Ferrier, Larry Krywanuk, Pat Mooney, Wendy Caywood, Janis Kostash, Mlle. Robin Hedley-Smith, Esq., Aimee Dechene, Bev Bayer, Don Sellar, Gerry Ohlsen, Lorne Larson, Lawrence Samuel, Marion Raycheba, George Yackulic, Rich Leland, Judy Mills, Wayne Krywolt, Barbara Way, Veneta Augustynovich, Charles Copeman, Allan Shute.

Final Copy Deadline
For Tuesday edition 7 p.m. Sunday
For Friday edition 7 p.m. Tuesday
Advertising 4:30 p.m. Monday
Circulation—7,000
Office Phone—433-1155

The Gateway is published twice weekly by the Students' Union of the University of Alberta. Opinions expressed by columnists are not necessarily those of the editors. The editor-in-chief is responsible for all material published herein.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1963

PAGE FOUR

Council Getting Behind

Students' Council is getting a little behind in its business, in spite of the fact that extra meetings have been scheduled during the past few weeks.

We should point out initially that the business load is quite heavy; the students' union president has shown a desire to go beyond routine council matters. But some other councillors have not taken his example, and the result has been a great loss in efficiency. A few examples of inefficiency follow:—

- Almost every council meeting this year has started late. This is mainly due to tardiness on the part of individual councillors. Some have been as much as an hour late in showing up at meetings.
- Councillors have not received an agenda before a meeting on at least two occasions. When councillors finally received agendas three days before a meeting scheduled for last night, the meeting was cancelled.

- Ideas well-expressed by one councillor are often needlessly rephrased by another. One member of the executive is particularly guilty of unnecessary and time-consuming reiteration.

- Inadequate time is spent on principles. Valuable hours are wasted discussing petty details which could be dealt with before council meetings begin.

The problems are not easily solved, but some steps can be taken to expedite matters.

- Council meetings should start on time, and each seat should be filled on time by a councillor or his representative.
- Each councillor should have an agenda at least two days before a council meeting.
- The president should have complete control of debate and not permit useless repetition.
- Generally speaking, council should concern itself with principles, not mechanical details.

Marking Term Papers

"And the paper will be due in about the middle of November." The words fall frequently from the mouths of professors this time of year.

The conscientious professor marks his own papers. He wants to; he needs to, if he wants to know anything about his students. Goodness knows, not all of them speak up in class.

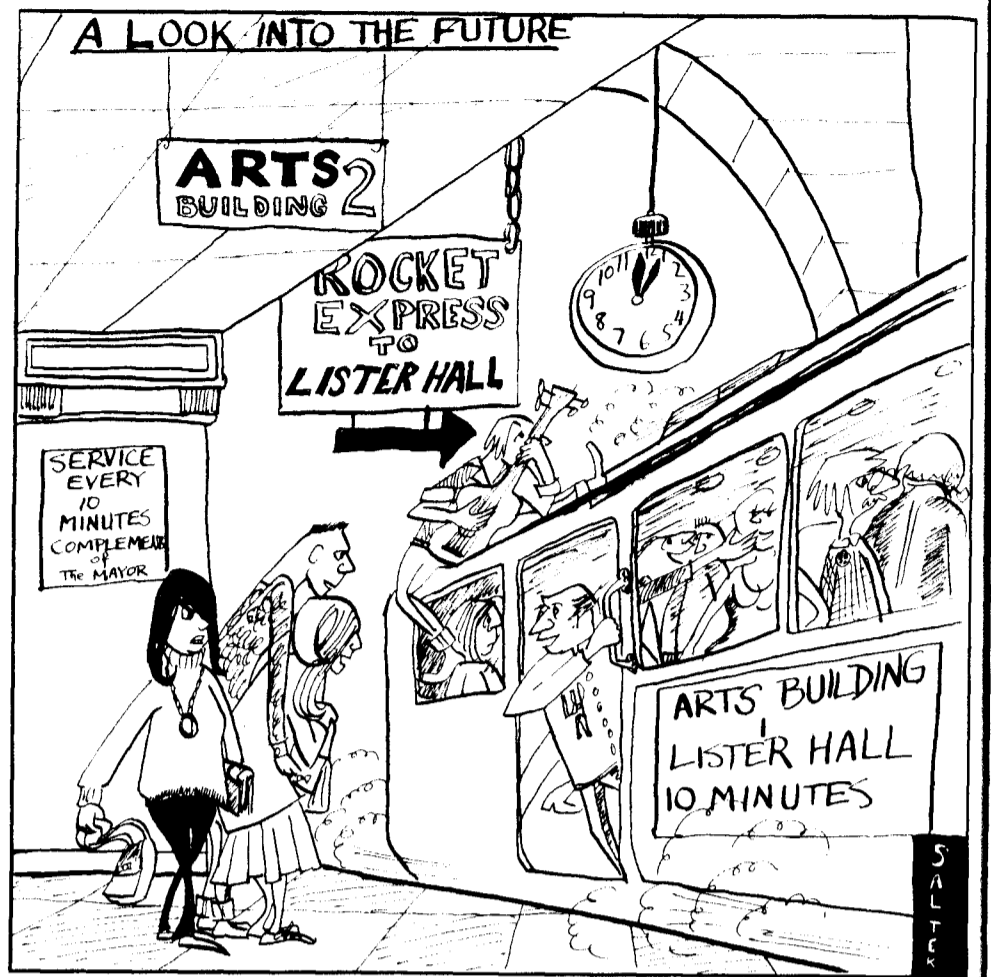
But not all professors can mark their papers. The marker is a part of our system. The professor takes in the papers, makes sure they are in on time, then hands them to another person to evaluate.

It is a widely held opinion that younger persons tend to be stiffer markers. Education students for example, have told us that while they are student teaching they tend to be much rougher on pupils than the teachers are. It is no disgrace that they have high standards of evaluation.

But we feel that if a university student is judged by a peer rather than by a professor, the marks he will receive will tend to be lower. This sort of inequality can work against a student, particularly if the course is taught in more than one division. And split courses seem to be springing up with more regularity with each passing year.

There are more irregularities on which we could elaborate—the biases of markers, their limited experience in marking, their lack of complete comprehension of the specialized fields with which papers are often concerned.

We cannot point to a definite solution of these irregularities, but if students could be certain that the professor checked at least a portion of the papers and seemed more ready to accept complaints, the situation would be improved. And certainly all students have the right to know when the paper is marked by the professor and when it is not.



"TRAIN 2 FOR NISKU, RED DEER, CALGARY, AND LISTER INN NOW LEAVING ON TRACK 1."

After Midnight

I would like to elaborate on our policy as regards letters to the editor.

In the Oct. 25 edition of this paper I stated that we "regard letters to the editor as vital to The Gateway." Later, (Oct. 29 edition), at the top of our letters page appeared the following words of H. L. Mencken:—

The volume of mail that comes into a magazine or newspaper is no index of anything except that you happen to attract a lot of idiots, because most people that write letters to newspapers are fools.

My statement in the Oct. 25 edition was Gateway policy, as well as my personal opinion.

Mencken's statement, on the other hand, was **not** Gateway policy—nor do I personally feel that "most people that write letters to newspapers are fools." The statement was placed on the letters page to provoke some thinking on the part of letter writers past and future.

On the whole, letters-to-the-editor this year have been thoughtfully written, well-constructed and often entertaining. But there have been a few letters based on error or personal invective. These last have been irresponsible, and it is to irresponsible writers that Mencken's words were directed.

Serious responsible criticism of Gateway policy, reporting or commentary is most welcome. Opposition to our editorial views is valuable in that it speaks for "the other side," and one of our aims is to present differing views. We have had numerous letters to date illustrating re-

sponsible criticism.

But letters of a nature similar to one written by Omayia Al Karmy I do not regard as responsible. As you may recall, (the letter was entitled "Editor Attacked"), Mr. Al Karmy resorted in his last paragraph to a derogatory personal attack on the editor.

I did not take too kindly to the remarks, and consequently an unflattering editor's note and picture of Omayia Al Karmy appeared below his letter.

Here I should say that our wish is to publish all letters to the editor. We are limited here by the laws of libel, our ideas of good taste, and the practice by some writers not to include their true names with their letters.

We will print pseudonyms under letters, but require the writers to sign their true names as evidence of good faith.

Branny Schepanovich

Looking Back through The Gateway

November, 1940

Students in the men's residences at the University are protesting the increase of \$2.50 per month in the board charged to them. The Men's House Committee took over a petition circulated by a group of students and signed by approximately 90 per cent of the 250 students in residence. The petition has also been circulated and signed in Pembina Hall.