

# Trimester System Doesn't Save Cuts Faculty Research Time

HAMILTON (CUP)—Year-round operation of Canadian universities would yield negligible financial savings and could seriously damage academic life according to a report issued recently by the Canadian Association of University Teachers.

Based on estimated student enrollments and costs for 1970, the report said savings gained through a year-round trimester system would not exceed 4.5 per cent of the \$700 million needed to accommodate the estimated 300,000 students in Canadian universities in 1970. The experience of U.S. year-round universities indicates that savings would probably be closer to 3 per cent.

## MAGNIFY ILLS

At the same time, the report said a three or four semester system might magnify the ills of the calendar system under which Canadian universities now operate. A year-round system would require more registrations and examinations increasing the tensions and fatigue of both teachers and students, the report suggested.

A special CAUT committee under Professor B. W. Jackson of McMaster University spent the past 18 months preparing the report. The study included visits to nine U.S. year-round universities and consultations with teachers and administrators at 51 U.S. and 16 Canadian universities.

The committee concluded that the year-round system deprive faculty members time for research and study, in the long run defeating the purpose of universities. It noted that the large amount of time available for research in Canadian universi-

ties has been one of their chief attractions to U.S. scholars and warned that a year-round system would make competition more difficult.

Many U.S. faculty members, the report said, reported difficulty in getting to know their students in the short semesters which the report said tend to contribute to the students' feelings of loneliness, anonymity, and insecurity.

## NEED FREE TIME

While the year-round system would cut by as much as a year the time necessary to obtain a degree, the report suggested that students need free time to relax and earn money. Seasonal employment factors peculiar to Canada make it necessary for many Canadian students to work in the summer months.

In addition, the year-round system would tend, of necessity, to emphasize facts and memory work at the expense of free thought and investigation, the report said.

The study of nine U.S. year-round universities indicated an increasing emphasis on administrative expediency. There is a danger that a larger, more complex operation might overwhelm academic consideration.

The report noted that relatively few U.S. students attend the extra summer semester and that the tradi-

tional Fall and Winter semesters have heavier enrollments.

The year-round operation of Canadian universities has become a subject of increasing debate in the past year. The CAUT report followed on the heels of an article in Weekend Magazine by Stephen Franklin advocating the year-round system.

## WASTED FACILITIES

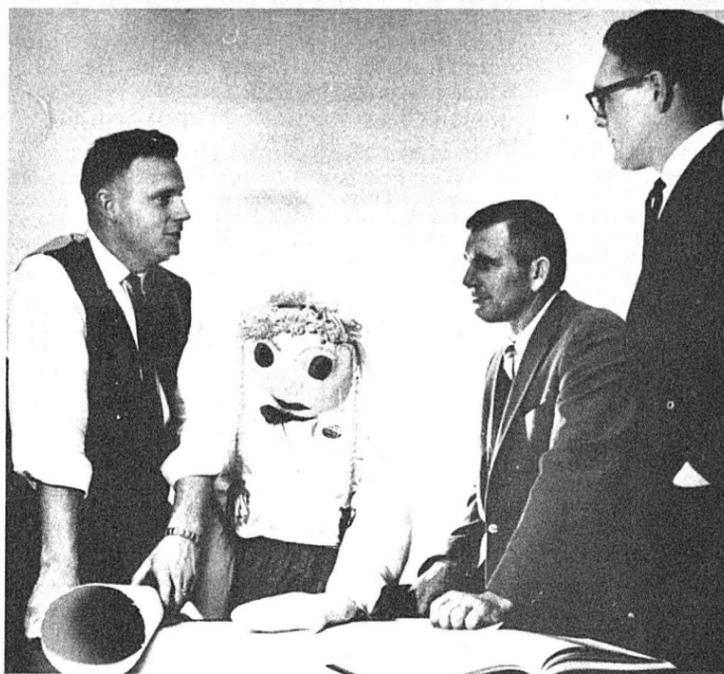
Mr. Franklin was critical of the wasted library and lecture facilities at Canadian universities during the summer months. He pointed approvingly at a system operating at Waterloo University in which engineering students attend lectures and work in industry during alternate six-month periods.

He also noted that students at the new Simon Fraser University in British Columbia will be able to enroll for one, two or three semesters a year.

A recent article in MacLean's Magazine described a report issued in the Spring by the Canadian Foundation For Educational Development (CFED) concerning the advantages and problems of instituting a year-round system in Canada. Generally, the report favored a year-round system.

The CAUT report is likely to cause some debate when the national conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges meets in Ottawa at the end of the month. The year-round operation of Canadian universities is to be one of the main concerns of the conference.

The report concluded that a year-round system should be adopted in Canada only if it can be revised to give first consideration to academic quality. It closed, "It is better to educate the top 10 per cent of the population to the best of our ability than to provide an inferior education to the top 20 per cent."



**EMILY PLANS**—Emily gets together with Blitz Committee chairman Bruce Shields, Neil Armstrong, general manager of the Eskimos, and Dave Wright, blitzer from the Exhibition Association, to plan their attack strategy for Thursday's campaign. Emily provides inspiration.

## Curling, Bowling Facilities May Be Chopped From SUB

Financial consultants for the new Students' Union Building, Clarkson Gordon & Co., have turned over to the Students' Union Planning Commission their final study on finances and recreational facilities.

Their report is not optimistic.

On the basis of their study, one of the following alternatives will likely have to follow, if bowling lanes and curling rink are to be included.

For bowling, participation by the university in one form or other is the alternative to charging close to

full commercial rates.

The Planning Commission has been trying to make these facilities available to members of the students' union at less than full commercial rates, but it now appears they cannot make money unless nearly full rates are charged.

Curling is in the same position as bowling.

In order to come close to breaking even with a period of 30 years, rates will have to be nearly the same as at other rinks, or the university as a whole will have to participate.

## Athabasca Hall Still Exposed To Air Raids

Pigeon-poppers are still needed at Athabasca Hall.

Whether he means no hits or no dead birds isn't clear, but C. Owen Parks, Athabasca warden says there have been "no tragedies yet."

He is referring, of course, to the perennial problem at Athabasca.

The feathered friends are still around, and from the looks of things, either they, or the students are out of practice.

Harried students still dash down the stairs, shoulders hunched, glancing upwards at the miniature bombers.

A lone feather lying on the front steps bears mute testimony of their presence.

When asked about the pigeons, Mr. Parks said, "Last summer we presented the superintendent of buildings with the problem. So far he hasn't found a suitable way of getting rid of them.

"They're slowly increasing in number," he said. "It looks like they're with us for another year.

"We're still trying to get rid of them," he said.

### GATEWAY'S PANEL OF EXPERTS JUDGE LISTER'S MEALS

Friday supper .....	5.3
Saturday lunch .....	5.3
Saturday supper .....	absent
Sunday lunch .....	5.0
Sunday supper .....	6.7

ALL MEALS ARE JUDGED ON QUALITY AND PREPARATION. RATINGS ARE OUT OF 10. BREAKFAST IS NOT JUDGED BECAUSE OUR CONNOISSEURS ARE NOT IN A TASTING MOOD AT THAT EARLY HOUR.

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