

The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—The following loyal souls watched the associate editor practicing to be a drip: Christopher Ouelette, Grant Sharp, Bernadina Goedhart, Elaine Verbicky, Robert Jacobsen (the phantom blob), Pericles Afaganis, Charles Lyall, Kenneth Hutchinson, Maureen "pop" Gunn, Alfred and/or Allan Yackulic, Stephen Zackery Rybak, Canada's Unemployable, and yours truly, Harvey Thomgirt.

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PAGE FOUR

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a wise move

The provincial government has come to the conclusion that planning for a fourth university in the province must get underway immediately, and as a result, it must desert plans, at least for the present, for an inter-denominational university.

It seems the government has become aware of the pressure on the universities to provide more facilities for the ever-growing number of students, and must get to work right away.

We feel a decision to abandon plans for the inter-denominational university, for the time being, is nothing but in the best interests of this province, even though the government feels it would have the support of a substantial section of citizens.

We hope the government sees this, has noted the outrage of public opinion and decides to bury the inter-denominational university.

Keeping a public university out of the hands of religion is the best answer to a true democracy.

the added touch

It is certainly refreshing to hear the campus development office is thinking about building inter-building pedestrian tunnels on campus.

Think of it.

Once installed, the tunnels will put an end to the lame excuse that it is too cold outside to go to class. No longer will students going home by car have to watch out for those obnoxious pedestrians.

Not only that, but campus development officer J. R. B. Jones notes that student health might im-

prove when students go underground and keep warm between classes. A new cure for the winter colds.

The campus may lose one of those things that makes it a campus — ground. But then, you will always be able to tell when spring comes around — students will be popping up all over the place.

Tunnels would be a great improvement to this campus during winter months, and the campus development office is to be commended for its work in this area.

a french plot expo-sed

Recent allegations that Expo '67 is exercising discrimination in hiring executive staff adds to our growing suspicions that the world's fair in Montreal is a French-Canadian plot to destroy English Canada.

Until this incident, where 13 of 14 members appointed to the executive of the faltering youth pavilion were French-Canadian, we brushed this thought off as ridiculous.

But this incident, along with the rather rude treatment senior editors of The Gateway were given by Expo officials in Montreal, leaves no doubt in our minds.

The directors of Expo '67 seem to be using the project to exploit English-Canadians for the benefit of their French-Canadian allies.

All this talk about how great the fair is and other rubbish coming out of the Expo gestetner should be put where it belongs—in the garbage can.

Don't get us wrong. We are not against legitimate centennial projects, nor are we against the centennial itself.

But we are opposed to any so-called centennial project expressly designed to exploit the public by the use of the word centennial.

Bringing in performers as a centennial project for the express purpose of making a lucrative profit, and advertising centennial grocery sales in supermarkets are local examples of misguided centennial celebrations.

Expo '67 is the largest misguided centennial project of them all.

Do not fall into the clutches of these projects. We urge you to boycott Expo '67 and any other event designed to exploit Canadians or to make money under the guise of a centennial project, rather than to celebrate the centennial.



put a tiger in model parliament—and watch the hunt

ralph melnychuk

free tuition -- a revisionist view

(Second of two parts.)

Free education is based on the theory that everyone has a right to a basic education, and that it is in the interests of the community to provide this service to its members.

But what is a basic education? At one time, high school was not considered basic, but today the public school system provides free education up to the end of grade 12.

Today's society is so technically complex that some sort of post-secondary education is necessary for most people who wish to advance beyond the menial job level. Proponents of free tuition argue that this necessity renders all types of post-secondary education basic, and thus the government should provide free education at all levels.

If this principle is followed, I assume it would include apprenticeship programs, technical studies, business colleges, etc. For it would not be fair to subsidize university students and not subsidize those who choose other areas of specialization. I would also assume that this would include students in graduate studies, advanced technical studies, and trade programs past the journeyman's level, for we need these people also.

All this is fine if you accept the premise that the community, rather than the individual, forms the basis of society. But I do not. Society is composed of individuals, who collectively impose over themselves a system of order. The government, as the effective instrument of establishing order, should do just that, and meddle as little as possible in the affairs of the individual.

Too much government intervention in private affairs tends to accelerate the trend to the uniform mediocre society which we all deplore.

And really, the individual is the prime beneficiary of education. If the government feels it must take

measures to increase the skilled manpower output, it should subsidize higher education to an extent, but only to the level and in such a way that would leave the individual the responsibility of paying his fair share.

But why complain now? We already have free education. Tuition fees currently cover approximately 16 per cent of the U of A's operating budget and no part of the capital budget.

The big argument is that free tuition would enable more people who are otherwise qualified to receive post-secondary education. But with the fee level so low, would this really help?

For one thing, part of the additional tax burden would fall on those segments of society we are trying to assist.

Also, the bulk of an individual's expense comes not from strictly educational expenses per se, but from living expenses.

It would be better to institute a system whereby money would be available to those who need it. Such a goal is apparently what the instigators of Canada's primitive student loan act intended. If the loan system were expanded to provide a reasonable sum of money and include more students in wider areas of education, it would not only be unnecessary to eliminate fees, but would be a real assistance to those requiring help. It would not only be intelligent and helpful, but would allow the individual the dignity of paying for what he gets.

I advocate free tuition only in one circumstance. If the government goes ahead with its plan to introduce a compulsory medicare plan, thereby reducing the human dignity of the medical profession by making them some sort of glorified civil servants, the government should have the common courtesy not only to provide free medical education but also pay medical students substantial salaries.