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our first viewpoint appears this issue. viewpoint offers u of a faculty and students a weekly opportunity to write a signed editorial. submissions to this regular page five feature are to be made to the gateway office, rm 209, sub.

an excerpt from book of nemo

as discovered in the depths of an ash tray in sub by eric schachter

1. And it came to pass in the first year of the rule of Old Shep, begat of Polski, wife unto Gorki, well-favoured by the scribes and scroller and wealthy of the land for his list of fluff,

2. that a decree was issued by the council of sages, revered by all that held henceforth and soeverafter the scholars of the tribe of Gormlez, followers of the profit Earnit, were to withhold their talons of silver and gold from the body of the land of Long Winters.

3. Then cameth forth one Pilkington, a woman righteous in her ways, likened by many, for her fair looks, unto a honey-bee or its kindred beast, and spake she forth in a still small voice, "whatsoever things are true," and all assembled, dozmost drip even unto the broadest broad, were sore amazed and stood as men without a voice.

4. Then cameth forth one Owing, small of wisdom but great of voice,

one held in dispute by all and unto him had God shown great favour for he did know him.

5. And thus spoketh the full thundersome, "Rise up, rise up ye chosen ones, rise up ye scholars, most chosen of all. Break ye free of the sheckels of conscience which oppreseth thee, ye who oweth nought to mankind.

6. Cursed beith he who as much as thoucheth a hair of the children of Gormlez, for ye shouldst know that unworthy art strangers the latchet of your shoes to stoop and undo.

7. Tumultuous was the applaud. Howbeith there were certain among them, hairymen and grumblers, who muttereth wherefore art these things writ? And Owing didst say unto them

8. "Wherefore thoust art here, waxing strong on the fat of the land other than by the will of God?

9. "Have faith and ye will prosper." And Lo, they had faith.

10. Then cameth forth one Samuel, a lewd fellow of the baser sort, one known to keep the company of the iniquitous scholars of the English tongue. So spake this stranger, wrathful was he, (though waxing fat on our food and women)

11. "There are other tribes without the land of Earnit, in foreign parts. For sobeith as I have seen it, there are children who have not to eat whose bellies are as the skins of drums. Let us that have in plenty impart some unto them that hath none."

12. But the multitude didst jeer and did not believe the word of Samuel and black were his looks unto them.

13. Then Old Shep, slimy and smily of visage, said, "Let all be as it may, what must come to pass must come to pass for that is the way of men's lives. It is our fate to toil and suffer for the sin that has been, to bear injustice by man against man.

14. What are we to hold the fate of others; Let each man kicketh against his own prick.

15. But let us to our task; to build our tower with its top in the heavens and let us make a name for ourselves."

16. And he didst smite his rod against the ground and it didst shatter to fragments. And all were sore affeared for they knew the spirit of Earnit was in Old Shep.

the tory wind

During the past six weeks, members of the class in Weather and Climate have made observations on the wind through the breezeway under the tower of the Henry Marshall Tory Building.

In about one quarter of the observations, the wind under the tower was approximately the same as the wind in the open. For another quarter of the observations, the reported wind under the tower was considerably less than the wind in the open. The remaining observations, about one half of the time, the wind through the breezeway was strong even when the outside wind was light. Selecting these times only when the wind under the tower was high, the average speed of wind in the open was seven miles per hour, and under the tower 17 miles per hour.

No attempt has as yet been made to learn the reasons for the marked difference in the wind speed under the tower, nor for the high winds in the breezeway. One cannot, readily, accept the hypothesis that the high winds came through a funneling of the air for the buildings on all sides would seem to prevent a convergence into the breezeway.

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beefs

I wish to remark that The Gateway is really not all that bad a newspaper. However, I have a few minor criticisms you might take to heart.

First and foremost, many of the shorter stories and letters in your paper sound as if they were made up purely to fill space. Since many things are obviously not getting into The Gateway, I would recommend you learn how to measure copy.

Secondly, I wish you would find some way of telling people that the two little boxes on either side of "The Gateway" slug at the top of page one are called ears. Often you have an interesting joke there, but people miss the point if they don't know about "ears".

Thank you for your consideration of my beefs.

chuck miller
arts 5

a union of students or sandbox politics?

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The arguments against CUS activism put forward by the U of A's students' council and by The Gateway, show a very unrealistic approach to student government, and attempt to draw a phony distinction between the concerns of a student and the concerns of a citizen.

It has been suggested that student government has a legitimate interest in educational matters and therefore in systems of student aid and the problem of seeing that everyone who is academically qualified is able to reach university. It has also been suggested that student governments have no right to get involved with the problems of society as a whole.

The idea that merely changing present systems of student aid will open the doors of our university to low-income groups is extremely unrealistic. There are deep-seated social reasons why bright students from a Toronto slum or Saskatchewan Indian Reserve are not coming to our universities.

If student governments are legitimately concerned with seeing that our universities are open to all, regardless of economic or racial class, then they must attack these social problems by such methods as Community Action Programmes. This means social activism, a word which is distasteful to the U of A's council. It means that CUS must attempt to do something about the social conditions in slums and Indian reserves.

This means action programmes and it also means political policy statements criticizing the Indian Affairs Department for its failure to do something about the conditions on Indian reserves. If CUS has a right to deal with educational problems, then, if it is at all realistic, it must attack the roots of those problems, which lie in the community at large more than in the university itself.

As for education, it is supposed to give us a better understanding of the world around us. The person who locks himself in the ivory tower of his own specialized field of study cannot be called a real student in any meaningful sense of the word. Everything that happens in society affects the student and the education he gets. The preconceived opinions and values of society even determine to some extent what is taught in our universities, and this concerns us directly. For example, our history departments concentrate on European history and to a large extent ignore the history of African nations, probably because of the long-held belief in our society that what happens in the backward "nigger" nations is not really important.

If students feel that what happens in these countries is important today, they may want to see a better balance between European history and African history, and may want their student government to do something about it. The student government, if it is to get results, will have to attack these accepted values of society, thus becoming activist.

Despite the fact that it has become a rather trite-sounding phrase, the best definition of a student is that he is a person searching for truth. And the search for truth is by nature an activist activity; that is, the very act of searching for truth implies that the truth does not exist completely in the status quo, and the act of searching for it is a challenging of the status quo.

Because CUS is a union of students, it is by nature an organization which must at times attack the status quo; that it, it is activist by the very fact that it represents students. If it were not activist, it would not be the Canadian Union of Students; it would be a Canadian Union of Sandbox Politicians, debating the merits of red rather than blue dance decorations, while the rest of the world passes it by.

Viewpoint

As students, we protest the war in Viet Nam, and our blood pressure rises when he hear of the apartheid policies of South Africa. The black majority have our support against the white rulers in Rhodesia, yet we complacently sit here on campus apparently unaware of a condition that, in one respect precludes any of those mentioned before.

by
dale
enarson

As education representative on students' council my one vote supposedly speaks for 2,991 students. Yet, the rehab med rep has one vote, although that school has only 90 students, or roughly three per cent of the number of students in education.

Someone has made the snide remark that the education faculty deserves no better deal in this "student democracy" since they have no interest in student government anyway. They cite the recent election in which only 288 bothered to cast their ballots for ed rep on council. Last spring, nominations closed twice without a single applicant bothering to file nomination papers. Any faculty that is that apathetic doesn't deserve a better deal, he says.

This however, is confusing the cause with its effect. Why should education students show any interest in student government when they are so grossly discriminated against? When the education faculty outnumber any of the faculties or schools of dentistry, house ec., law, nursing, pharmacy, or rehab med by at least ten to one, and yet is given no greater recognition, can anyone expect them to show any greater enthusiasm.

Although education students form nearly one-third of the students' union membership, they are given only one direct vote in the body of 23.

This problem of disproportionate sizes of faculties is by no means a problem unique to U of A. Other campuses at least recognize these larger faculties by multiple representation. Isn't it about time that we "got with it" on this campus?

(Dale Enarson is ed rep on students' council.)

