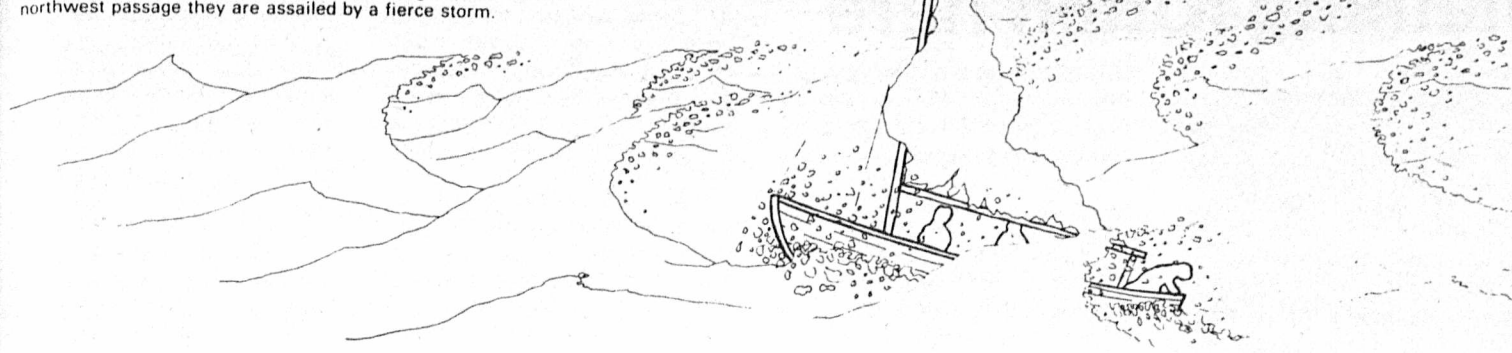
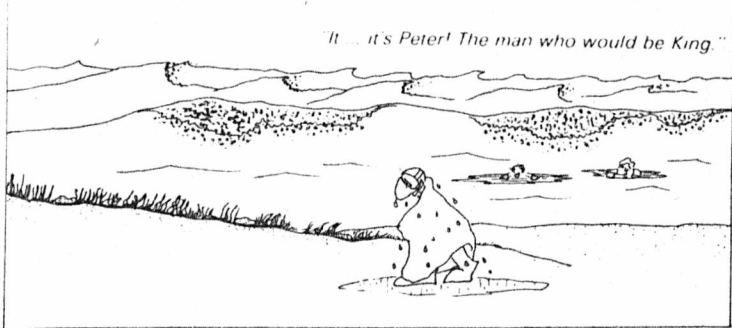


We last left our heroic threesome travelling to the western empire of Prince Peter the Great. Enroute through the treacherous northwest passage they are assailed by a fierce storm.

The Continuing Adventures of Captain Kanute Groundloop



Battered by the cruel elements the tiny skiff finally succumbs. Clinging to tiny fragments of their ill-fated craft, the three are forced to ride the mountainous waves to shore. Groundloop, near collapse, looks up to see a lone weathered horseman approaching.



It... it's Peter! The man who would be King.



You boys and I lookin' for oil is ya?

JUXTAPOSITION OF THE MONTH



RCMP Officer Poses As CP Reporter

Fredericton Daily Gleaner, Jan. 23, 1976

Poo-on us

Had there been a *Campus Life* Magazine (editorial Mar. 10) when I attended the U of A, there might have been a much better *Gateway* today.

It almost seems that Mr. Neiman cannot take the competition.

Ms. E. Wincure, RN  
U of A '71

On Distinguishing an Aggie

You can't always tell an aggie  
By his gracefulness of walk  
Nor the way he combs his hair  
Or the manner of his talk;  
Nor can you always tell him  
By the way he wears his suits  
But you can always tell an Aggie  
When there's mud on his boots.

Hutch  
Agriculture 1949

You can demonstrate at home

by Tom Baker

The Canadian Labour Congress is organizing a mass demonstration to oppose Trudeau's "wage and price control" program in Ottawa, Monday, March 22. In conjunction with this action, the Alberta Federation of Labour has called for a provincial wide demonstration at the Legislative Building at 2:00 p.m. on the same day. The event is intended to show opposition to the involvement of the Alberta Government in the federal program.

What relevance does this have for students? Since Trudeau's Thanksgiving Day speech, students across Canada have been debating such questions as - who is responsible for inflation? Should education cutbacks be accepted as a contribution to the fight against inflation? and Will the "wage and price control" program solve anything?

In the first six months since its institution, this program has only controlled wages, not prices. This is no accident - all wage settlements are public knowledge, and they have been easily monitored and rolled back. However, the price of oil and gas, interest rates, capital gains, land, rents on new buildings, farm and fish products are not subject to the controls. Imported commodities, which account for 25% of goods consumed, are also exempt. The program also enables retailers and wholesalers to raise prices every 90 days to cover their supposed increased costs.

Recent experiences with such programs in Britain and US are instructive. Since 1971, when Nixon imposed controls, the real wages have fallen to their 1965 level, while the rate of inflation has tripled. In Britain, since the implementation of controls the rate of inflation has jumped from 7 to almost 30% annually.

Many campus newspaper editors and other students have accepted Trudeau's assertion that "all Canadians must restrain their rising demands upon the nation's wealth" and change their "attitudes and expectations." Is there any truth to the position that our expect-

tations and especially the wage demands of Canadian workers are responsible for inflation?

A look at Statistics Canada figures are helpful. Between 1971 and 1974 wages as a percentage of national income dropped from 72.9% to 70.5%. On the other hand before tax profits rose from 12.3% to 17% and the rate of inflation jumped from 5% to 12% annually. It is clear that workers are not to blame for inflation. In an extremely wealthy country like Canada with its vast natural resources and high level of technology, why is it inflationary to expect a decent standard of living?

Students have a big stake in the fight against inflation: but Trudeau's policies of wage controls will do nothing to solve this problem, because they do not attack the root causes of inflation. Although it is beyond the scope of this submission, it should be noted that inflation is the product of Keynesian economics. This system of economic theory used by all western countries tries to dampen the overproduction-depression cycle by pumping millions of extra dollars into the economy. This is done in two major ways: first, the expansion of consumer and corporate credit to finance the drive for new markets and higher profits; and second, a massive growth in government spending designed to service the corporate giants. Workers' attempts to keep up with a soaring cost of living has little or no effect on inflation.

Trudeau and his friends who control our economy instituted this program, not to stop inflation, but in an attempt to be more competitive in a situation of international recession in the western world. The wage controls program does this by driving down wages and living standards. Similarly the cutbacks program being carried out by all levels of government, does this by slashing social expenditures - like education, health care etc.

Students will be hard hit by the government measures. With the elimination of OFY, CYC, and LIP programs and other cutbacks in hiring by the government, higher unemploy-

ment faces students during the summer. Jobs upon graduation will be even more scarce, particularly in the social services. Wages for those who do find employment will be far behind the unchecked price increases. When students return to school with reduced or negligible summer savings, they will be faced with tighter loans and higher tuition fees. This will have the effect of restricting further the access to post-secondary education or as Trudeau would say, it will help beat back the "revolution of rising expectations."

A leader of the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS), after their large Jan. 21 action in Toronto said, "The OFS aims to align itself and all students with all the other sections of the community affected by the cutbacks. After all, all cutbacks hurt students. We are also tenants, we are workers, we need daycare, and we get sick and must use hospitals. Students have a big job ahead of them, in convincing people that we are not just concerned about education, but also about hospitals, wages, daycare, and so on."

Student groups like the OFS are calling for students to show their opposition to Trudeau's wage controls and for participation in the actions of labour against them. Students from the U of Sask. played an active part in the recent demonstration of the Sask. Fed. of Labour against wage controls held in Regina.

The Alberta Federation of Labour demonstration to be held next Monday at the Legislative Building should be given strong support by all students. This is the first nationally coordinated opposition to Trudeau's "New order." The labour movement, the poor, those on fixed incomes, the unemployed and students are all under attack.

Opposition to Trudeau's policies and defense of our living standards is a central part of our fight for the right to an education.

Join the rally at 2:00 p.m. Monday, March 22 at the Legislative Building. Show them we're opposed to the wage freeze and social service cuts.

Gateway

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Opinions expressed in the Gateway are those of the writer, and are not necessarily those of the Gateway.

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