

U of A perpetuates scrip black market

by Brad Karpinka

"One individual has bought and resold an estimated \$10,000 of scrip resulting in approximately a \$1500 profit" says Don Kennedy, president of the Lister Hall Students Association (LHSA). According to Kennedy, "the marketing system for scrip in Lister Hall has deteriorated to a point where the individual tenant can only receive 50 per cent return on any excess scrip purchased originally at face value."

Gail Brown, Director of Housing and Food Services, denies that the present scrip system has deteriorated or that there is a large surplus of scrip circulating. She says "it is more likely that people will run out of scrip before the year is over."

Nevertheless, as Kennedy points out, "the (LHSA Scrip) Marketing Board bought \$3000 worth of scrip in the first 20 minutes of operation." The Scrip Marketing Board Kennedy refers to buys excess scrip in Lister Hall to stabilize the scrip market.

Housing and Food Services reports that scrip holders who have a maximum of \$7.63 to spend per day, actually spend \$8.30 per person, per day. Consequently, the report concludes, scrip holders will prematurely run out of scrip.

The report's conclusions are based on cheque receipts from the cashiers. The \$8.30 per person reflects the cost of eating three times a day, not the actual average. The possibility that many scrip holders eat elsewhere (i.e. restaurants or friends' and relatives' places) during the week is totally ignored in the report.

Occasionally eating elsewhere would certainly save a lot of money and more than make up for the small discrepancy between allowable scrip expenditures and receipts; students who occasionally eat elsewhere have more money to spend per day at the cafeterias.

The LHSA recently supported a change proposed by the Pembina Students Association at a recent Housing and Food Services Administrative Council meeting to deal with the problem of surplus scrip. In the proposal, the present three tier scrip purchasing system would be expanded to allow more flexibility in choosing meal programs.

At present, the three tier system is very limiting; the difference in cost between the lowest and highest levels is only \$91 over the whole year. The new proposal would increase the divi-

sion of allowable purchase of scrip.

But Gail Brown does not think that the proposal to expand the limits would be effective in creating a balance. She says, "people would not choose to buy the highest priced tier. This would leave scrip holders with an even greater shortage on their hands."

Don Kennedy recalls, "there has never been a shortage of scrip while I've been here."

SU drives out communists

by Eric Blaring

Imperialist totalitarian suppressor of free speech, SU VP Internal Peter Block yesterday mercilessly crushed a brave but small voice calling for social justice in the wilderness.

Block stentoriously forbade Andre Vachon, a member of the Communist Party of Canada-Marxist Leninist (CPC-ML) to peacefully distribute his non-revisionist party literature in SUB.

Block, like the opportunistic lackey of oppressive capitalism he is, invoked a little known clause of the SU's evilly revisionist Building

Services Code.

"Any non-registered club or group is allowed to set up an information booth three times so they collect the ten signatures required for SU registration," whined Block, the bourgeois representative of suppressive bureaucracy.

"Once they, (the CPC-ML) are registered, they can set up a booth any time they like," backslided the would-be jackbooted fascist aggressor, Block.

Vachon calmly explained that

membership in any organ of the CPC-ML is a serious matter which requires dedicated effort, and is not something to be taken lightly.

He elaborated by saying that the members of the CPC(ML) do not want mere signatures, but members completely dedicated to the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism. Therefore, club status would be difficult to attain.

Block, fearing for his running dog revisionist lackey ass, said he didn't want the situation to "get out of hand" with too many non-registered organizations setting up booths in SUB.



A member of the RCMP drug squad (centre) infiltrates the grand opening of CJSR-FM on Saturday. Members of many local bands attended, including Moe Berg (right) of Facecrime. CJSR-FM went on the air at noon on January 7.

CFS cards available

by Marie Clifford

Now the University is officially a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), students are eligible to reap financial benefits.

CFS is presently distributing its StudentSaver Cards at the U of A. The cards entitle holders to discounts on various services and merchandise.

"I don't really know how many we have but it's over 1000," says Students' Union Vice President Peter Block. "I'm expecting about 2000 more from Toronto."

"Actually, U of A students aren't entitled to the cards yet, because we haven't paid our fees," says Block.

This means that although students do not have to pay their four dollar membership fee until September 1984, they can immediately take advantage of price cuts at 27 outlets in Edmonton.

Places where discounts are available are the Saxony Motor Inn, the Convention Inn, and various stores, ranging from clothes boutiques to hairstyling services. There are hundreds of outlets across the country which accept the cards - particularly in Montreal and Toronto.

Block is certain that the number of local retailers subscribing to the CFS discounts will increase in the near future.

Since CFS is new on campus, more canvassing must be done.

The International Student Card can be used in 59 countries - everywhere from the Soviet Union to Uruguay.

StudentSaver Cards are available at Store Plus More in SUB or from Peter Block at the SU Executive Offices.

A bridge too far

Civil Engineers awoke Saturday morning to find their bridge missing.

Until Friday night, the model bridge was on display in the basement of CAB as part of Engineering Week. Between midnight and 1:00 AM, some Geophysics students dismantled the bridge, and kidnapped the parts.

"It was Geophysics hour," said one student. "We're a small department, we can't have a whole week."

The Geophysicists are demanding \$50 for Telerama '84 and a keg of beer for themselves.

As of yet, the Civil Engineers have not paid the ransom.

Remission revamping proposed

by Brent Jang

The U of A Students' Union suggested the Students Finance Board move to a one-year remission system, in one of five presentations given to the Minister's Advisory Committee on Student Affairs at University Hall last Friday.

The Minister's Advisory Committee on Student Affairs is one of six educational committees that advises Advanced Education Minister Dick Johnston.

At present, students who receive loans have to apply for remission after they graduate.

With a one-year remission system students would know each year how much they have to pay and how much they will get back. More importantly, if remission were granted each year, the total amount of interest paid on the loan would be less.

SU v.p. External Andrew Watts said the "real clincher in this one-year remission money is that it's going to be paid out anyway. So why not do it on a yearly basis? This way, we know exactly what our debt load is going to be."

Remission is the part of a student loan that the government pays back - on behalf of the student - to the bank.

Watts also suggested that 50 per cent remission be given to students who are applying for loans the first time. He said the present situation, with 50 per cent remission to first-year university students, 40 per cent to second-years, and 25 per cent to third and fourth-years, is a disincentive to save.

"The government is penalizing the person just out of high school who has saved money," said Watts. "A student could save up enough to go to university for one year, but suppose the student has to apply for a loan in his second year. Despite the fact that the student financed his own education in the first year, he is eligible for less remission than someone who had applied straight from high school," explained Watts.

SU President Robert Greenhill co-presented the one-year remission proposal and he was asked by the Advisory Committee's chair, Mark Gibson, whether education was a right or a privilege.

Greenhill replied that "accessibility to education is a right." He said higher education is a necessity in Canadian society because it is what "supports our political and economic system."

Gibson asked the same question to the other presenters.

Jim Pratt, who presented the Senate's Task Force Report on Mature Students with Mary Totman of the Senate, said, "We're

very fortunate in Canada. We have a pretty high standard of living and that's partly due to our educational level being very high."

Totman, executive officer of the U of A Senate, compared Canada to Great Britain, where "education is a very restricted privilege." She reserved comment on whether education was a right in Canada, saying that it was inappropriate for her to give her personal views.

Pratt's report focused on a group comprising one-quarter of full-time university students - mature students. The majority of part-time students enrolled at the U of A are mature students.

There were three other submissions to the Advisory Committee on Student Affairs. The three presentations were given by Patricia Kushnir, director of the engineering placement office, Blaine Jensen of Lethbridge Community College (LCC), and four students from the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT). Kushnir's brief dealt with the growing U of A engineering co-op program. Last year, 225 students enrolled in the co-op, making it of comparable size to two more established programs at Memorial University and the University of Sherbrooke.

Students in the co-op program are required to complete twenty months of engineering-related work and the degree takes five years. The work experience is broken into two eight-month terms and one four month term.

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Poet's Corner

Pigs in summer dancing in the moons clapping cloven hooves humming piggy tunes.

Robert Burn-out

Newsriters Meeting.
Today at 3:30 in SUB 282