

# The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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PAGE FOUR

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## take note, council

So the new left has hit U of A, has it?

It's bloody well about time.

The heart of this "new" movement appears to be the Seminar on the University. This Seminar is finally getting down to some of the hard-rock problems besetting this community of students.

Faculty and administration officials are taking the Seminar seriously. Members of these august levels of the local hierarchy actually attend Seminar meetings. They listen and present their views in an atmosphere conducive to constructive debate and analysis.

Surely this must be a branch of the Academic Relations Committee of the Students' Union?

Guess again.

Has some other segment of the union's superstructure finally become relevant?

No, for the Seminar is not really connected with the union.

But it can't be those lazy, stupid, apathetic students who are doing this?

It sure is, buddy. And do you know why? Because most students aren't lazy, apathetic, etc. They are intelligent individuals who think seriously about the community in which they live.

## a stitch in time...

The power failure in the older buildings on campus Tuesday pointed out a glaring fault with the university's electrical system.

The fault is that there is no emergency or auxiliary power system in the majority of these older buildings.

## izzatso?

Significantly, the issue of The McGill Daily which contained the article on alleged research at McGill aiding the U.S. war effort in Vietnam—the article over which The Daily's editor, Sandy Gage was fired—also contains a full page article by The Gateway Editor-in-Chief Bill Miller on council—news-paper relations. Maybe the McGill students' council should have read the whole paper instead of just the front page.

But why don't these students enmesh themselves in the business of the students' union? Because they will have nothing to do with the petty, sand-box politicking which goes on in the union offices. Such behavior is beneath them.

If our beloved students' union officials would bother to find out what students are really thinking, they would find that it is the union which is irrelevant—not the students who are apathetic.

But now a significant number of the more alive thinkers on this campus are moving in from the fringes of union activities where they used to congregate. They are now tackling student problems in an organized way. And out of this seems to be evolving a new approach to student government—at least new to U of A.

It is fast becoming obvious that the CUS withdrawal was a good thing—but not for the reasons students' council gave.

It is good because all the talk about the nature and purpose of student government sparked by the withdrawal has caused more students to seriously ask themselves if they are happy with the present students' union structure.

And it seems many are not.

Picture yourself on the third floor of Rutherford Library when the power fails. Try to come down the stairs. There are no windows in the stairways. There are no auxiliary lights, or if there are, they weren't operating Tuesday. Pitch blackness.

The only way to be sure of avoiding an accident is to remain on the third floor, even if you have to be somewhere else in two minutes. If you try to come down the stairs, there is a good chance you'll break your neck—which has been known to happen in darkened stairwells.

The university should immediately install an auxiliary power system in all campus buildings, or at least a lighting system which would allow people to leave a building when the regular power system fails before someone does break his neck.

Not to do so is unsafe.

And foolhardy.



do you think western students will support THIS cause?

reprinted from the UWO Gazette

helene chomiak

## modernize our archaic regulations

Throughout Canada and the United States students are demanding a more meaningful role in the university. Their demands relate to curriculum, university government, and regulations governing the private morality of students.

Many universities are meeting these demands with tact and understanding. Those which refuse to listen face the threat of a repeat of the Berkeley riots.

At U of A, the administration still adheres to many archaic rules. One of the most notable examples is the 1933 Board of Governors' regulation of the use of alcohol.

A spate of drinking trouble that year caused them to enact the following rule: "The use of, bringing in or having liquor on University premises, including residences is strictly prohibited."

Although students have made a few attempts to change the ruling over the years, the regulation still applies.

Last year, for example, The Gateway's attempt to carry liquor advertising failed.

While subsection 8 of section 93C of the Liquor Control Acts, 1958, states, "A manufacturer may advertise in the following media: (a) daily newspapers, (b) weekly newspapers, and (c) magazines and periodicals," the Board of Governors was not anxious for liquor advertising to go into The Gateway. The request failed.

Attempts this year have not changed the status quo.

Presumably, liquor ads are not allowed in this paper because it would expose poor, innocent students to evil powers of alcohol.

Yet, drinking is very common on

campus. Every year hundreds of students get drunk in residence.

The Board of Governors has very broad powers in regard to the enforcement of their regulation. Yet, these powers are used very sparingly.

Residence students have few fears of getting caught if they are considerate of other students in the residence. Even if they are caught, the punishment is mild.

Sometimes a fine is levied, sometimes the liquor is confiscated, and sometimes a student is bawled out. Generally the case is ignored.

Only rarely is it referred to higher authorities.

It would seem by its relaxed enforcement of these rules, the Board of Governors is not too concerned in enforcing this regulation.

So the rules should be changed. There is no reason why a student should be denied rights accorded to other citizens. Alberta statutes allow anyone more than 21-years-old to drink in a private residence or a licensed lounge.

Drinking in residence is like drinking in a private dwelling.

Alcohol in a licensed premise is already allowed on campus. Professors legitimately consume large amounts of alcohol in the Faculty Club, though the administration, with this in mind, gets around the 1933 ruling by leasing campus property to the faculty.

Surely students are no more second class citizens than are professors. A pub should be opened in the new SUB.

Not having a pub on campus does not stop students from drinking. They take their business to city bars.

The administration would be clever indeed if it allowed the opening of a pub in SUB, for this would stop student discontent over archaic regulations and give the students' union a large source of revenue.