

Protest against W5 grows

by Portia Priegert

Approximately 150 students turned out yesterday to confirm reports of "blatant racism" contained in *The Campus Giveaway*, a W5 documentary aired last fall.

A videotape of the show, presented by the Ad hoc Committee of Chinese Canadians in Edmonton against W5, portrayed foreign students in general, and students of Chinese origin in particular, as parasites on the Canadian education system.

Randy Wong, a spokesman for the ad hoc committee, said there was a fallacy in W5's basic assumption.

"They equate foreigners with people with oriental faces," he said. However, he pointed out that many of the allegedly foreign students shown on the program were later identified as Canadians.

"They picked the Chinese today," Wong said. "Who knows what group they will pick

tomorrow?"

The ad hoc committee has organized a protest march on Saturday at the CTV affiliate station CFRN.

Wong says the committee wants to pressure CTV into making a public apology and providing equal time to correct inaccuracies in the program.

As well, he wants CTV to guarantee that other discriminatory programs will not be shown. W5 is producing a second part to *The Campus Giveaway* which may be shown sometime in January, according to Wong.

The committee's future plans include a letter-writing campaign to the government, the presentation of a brief to the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission, and if possible, initiation of a court action in Edmonton against W5. Court cases are already underway in Toronto.

Wong says he hopes Saturday's protest, part of a national

demonstration against CTV, will show that there is widespread dissatisfaction with W5.

Pledges of support for the demonstration are pouring in from various groups and organizations.

The U of A foreign affairs advisor, Ruth Groberman, has called the program "inaccurate and misleading."

"There were no foundations for the show's allegations," she says. "There is no evidence to suggest international students are taking the place of Canadian students."

U of A Students' Union president Dean Olmstead has said that he agrees with the protest against W5, and has written a letter to CTV.

Lake Sagaris, executive officer for the Federation of Alberta Students, has also expressed support saying that international students should not be blamed for problems in post-secondary education.

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photo N. F. Goode

You don't know how lucky you are, boys...

the Gateway

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1980

...back in the U.S.S.R.
John Lennon



The Students' Union Art Gallery features Photographs by Brian Wood and Mattie Gunterman January 25 to February 10. Gunterman, whose photo is featured above, was a turn-of-a-century amateur photographer who recorded pioneer life in the British Columbia interior.

English 30 is not enough Schools lax

by Julie Green

Achievement in English 30 is not a reliable measure of language and writing skills of freshmen entering university, says the report of the Writing Competency Committee (WCC), revealed Monday.

Nearly 80 freshmen who obtained a mark higher than 70 per cent in English 30 failed the university's writing competence exam. A third of the 326 students examined failed to meet the required standards of English usage, said Pat Hayes, Chairman of WCC at the General Faculties Council (GFC) executive meeting.

The correlation between English 30 grades and the test grades was .38.

"The low correlations of English 30 with the two standardized tests (essay and grammar) indicate that English 30 should not be considered a reliable measure of language and writing skills of entering freshmen," the report states.

Because the correlation was so low, the report suggests "the measure of competence used by the university should be independent of English 30 results."

This new information requested by GFC executive committee at its last meeting has been added to the original WCC report which was released January 7.

GFC executive committee was unable to decide on further measures to take with the report's results. The report has been referred without recommendation to the February meeting of GFC.

Jobs up, bucks down

OTTAWA (CUP) — Students who rely on the federal government for summer jobs this year will suffer lower average wages, according to the National Union of Students (NUS).

Immigration minister Ron Atkey said \$110 million has been set aside to create summer jobs for young people.

Atkey predicted the new Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) will create 70,000 summer jobs, 2,000 more than last year's \$198 million Young Canada Works program.

He said the 70,000 job quota will be reached even though inflation makes a \$2 million increase appear small because his department "is historically pretty good at meeting targets."

But NUS executive officer Morna Ballantyne said the program will meet its quota only

because it will be paying lower wages to student workers.

"Last year the federal government had set a minimum wage across the country which was equivalent to the maximum provincial minimum wage that's in Saskatchewan.

"But now they're going to pay students according to the minimum wage of the province they happen to be working in, so by reducing the total output in wages they'll be able to produce more jobs, she said.

Students who worked in government departments or on federally funded job creation programs last summer were paid at least \$3.50 per hour. Currently the minimum wage in Ontario for people over 18 is \$3.00.

Similar drops will be experienced by students in British Columbia and the Maritimes.