

Boothroyd's lament: "campus apolitical"

At the moment, said Peter Boothroyd, "The campus is as apolitical as I've ever seen it." This was a rather unpopular statement.

Other speakers at "The Student Movement--From Action to Fragmentation to Where?" panel discussion were Delores Russell and Brian Ruttan, Ron MacDonald, who was also to speak, had been called out of town.

The three represented radically different positions on the state of the student movement. Russell stated coolly that the gap left by the demise of the

SDU in 1969 initiated the birth of the woman's movement as an independent social-political entity.

Small groups dealing with current issues led gradually to a "quietly strengthening movement not dedicated to saving the world", rather to the extension of female consciousness and advancement of individual male/female relationships, she said.

The most controversial speaker, perhaps, was Brian Ruttan. In the past, he stated, the student movement has organized around two main fronts: issues, of which current examples

would be Amchitka and the Indochina war; or ideologies, traditionally Marxism.

Chastizing many issue-fiends as "dreamy-eyes idealists" in search of a "psychological crutch", he cited the need for a "rational, disciplined, long-term study of the basis and spirit of Marxism, analysis of Canada in terms of Marxism, development of a political and cultural self-image among Canadians, and unity among the student left."

The ensuing argument between Ruttan and members of the audience,

particularly SU Arts rep Mark Priegert, over the true nature of issue protestors involved numerous accusations, retractions, and confusions.

Exception was taken also to Ruttan's references to Amchitka and the war as U.S. problems. Priegert maintained that, far from being dead, the student left had merely gone underground, and that Canadian imperialism and contribution to war research and weaponry marks it as miserably as the US.

Mr. Boothroyd had the last word, stating: "The future will take care of itself. These discussions have always been and will always be. The student movement will simply go on as it has."

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Garneau go-ahead sought

The Commonwealth Games Society is now ready to apply to the Board of Governors for permission to build a cycle track in North Garneau. Commonwealth Games Committee director, Hal Pawson, made the announcement yesterday at a special SUB showing of the hard-sell film which helped attract the 1978 Games to Edmonton.

Although he would not reveal who specifically had requested that the joint university-games facility be built, he said that it was a university proposal.

If the track were built, the University would convert it into a 10-15,000 seat stadium like the one described in the long-range plan for campus development.

Pawson revealed that the only alternative presently under consideration is a portable wooden track which Pawson deems "pretty unsatisfactory".

The proposed site between 110th and 111th Streets and north of 87th Avenue is zoned by the city for residential use. However, the city zoning office emphasizes that it has no control over the use which the university chooses to make of the area. As one man put it, "the city has given them a free hand." to the extent that the university may ignore city zoning decisions.

Since the area in question is now provincial Department of Public Works "development area" the zoning office

suggested that those who wish to protest against the plan should contact the provincial government as well as city aldermen and the university planners.

The Department of the Physical Plant revealed last week that "a few" other houses which are "in bad condition" will be demolished after the Humanities building is occupied in the new year and grad students are moved from Garneau to Assiniboia Hall. Other houses, in better shape will be available to organizations like the Autistic Children's school, which already has one house, and the Graduate Students' Association. A "protest meeting" has been called for 7:30 tonight at 11011-88 Avenue.

council winks at second look

As soon as Student's Council meeting had been called to order last Monday night, Saffron Shandro (commerce rep) challenged Mark Priegert's right to sit on council. Shandro referred to bylaw 100, section 5, subsection c, which states that a faculty representative must be registered in that faculty during the year.

Priegert admitted that he was not now registered in the faculty of Arts but rather the faculty of Education. Priegert added that he had not expected to

graduate in the faculty of Arts last year but apparently the faculty of Arts has graduated him with a B.A. Priegert therefore enrolled in the faculty of Education in the PD/AD program.

Steve Snyder, who occupies the speakers chair, ruled that Priegert would not have a vote at that meeting, but should council request it, he would allow Priegert to participate in the debate.

Shandro then introduced a motion which would ask Priegert for his immediate resignation. This motion was

passed 13/10, but left council with an unworkable motion since Priegert mentioned that he had no intent of submitting his resignation.

Steve Snyder said that as a matter of personal clarification he would ask DIE board for a ruling on this case.

Gerry Riskin (SU President, gold embossed, etc) was not so fortunate in his motion to suspend the operation of Second Look Project. In defeating Riskin's motion council has given a vote of confidence to Shandro to pursue the project. The vote of confidence was limited, however. When Pat Delaney introduced a motion which asked for Shandro to bring before council a status report on the committed and projected advertising revenue and with "friendly amendments" also called for a meeting of the Second Look Commission to be held during this week, without professional consultants, to discuss policy and also called for a motion to be put on the agenda of Student Council which will enable council to discuss the project at some length. This motion was passed.

During the debate Riskin silenced Saffron by saying, "I don't care what you think." This statement drew much support from council in the form of desk thumping, cat calls, etc.

Council agreed that no position would be taken regarding the proposed location of the Commerce Building. This was in agreement with a proposed (non) position submitted to council by Darryl Ness (SU General Manager).

There was some concern however that in taking this stand council may not have the opportunity to present a brief to

the commission which is considering the location. Riskin mentioned that any proposed site would have to be forwarded to the Board of Governors and as a member of that Board, he could offer the opinion of students' council at the time of consideration.

The only other highlight of the meeting came in the form of comments from Wayne Madden, Ed rep on GFC, who was upset at the lack of student participation in the GFC tenure debate. He suggested that students engage in guerilla warfare against the university administration. When questioned what form this warfare might assume, Madden suggested that 500 students should attend any future GFC meetings which deal with tenure.

The agenda for the meeting was fairly long and with the seating challenge by Shandro, the slide show by UAVAC, and the Second Look debate, most of the agenda was not covered.

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finance in brief

A report on student finance in Alberta prepared by SU executive v.p. Rob Spragins and others will shortly be submitted on behalf of the students of the Universities of Alberta and Calgary (to the Cabinet Committee on Education). This report proposes some changes that could be made to the present system of allocating loans. As persons who have been caught up in the difficulties of obtaining loans will already have an understanding of the present system, only the proposals need discussion.

Amongst the more revolutionary proposals that this report makes is the "Educational Opportunity Bank". According to the brief, this proposal entails the acceptance that the post-secondary student is an adult who is responsible to himself and who should not have to go to his parents for financial support in any manner.

If the Bank were established, students would receive not only what they would need but what they want. The source of these loans would be the bank which would recover the loans over a number of years according to the borrower's ability to pay. A possible basis for collection would be the income tax that you began to pay upon graduation. If the suggestion were accepted you would have from 30 to 40 years to repay the loan. What this would in effect mean would be equality of opportunity for all, the brief claims.

Another proposal calls for the postponement of tuition fees. A scheme based on the idea that 30 dollars repayment a year for each 1000 dollars fees would not impose undue hardship on your pocketbook. Rapid calculations indicate that if a person was to 'hang in' for two degrees the total tuition at present rates would be \$3200 dollars. This means that the student would only be required to pay back 90 dollars for forty years. (In fact, this might have the good effect of allowing those students who are borderline liars to become eligible for student loans.)

But as is the problem with all proposals the government must have a say. The report goes so far as to make a concrete suggestion on their behalf - an "education tax". This tax would tax a person for the distance he went in grade school as well as for the degrees that he received in post-secondary education. The principle involved here is paying for benefits received. Thus, for large benefits you would be placed in a position of 'high' tax. This tax would remain constant throughout the person's earning lifetime and would increase proportionally to the amount of income earned.

This is in general what the report proposes as far as the student is concerned. As far as the public is concerned there is the suggestion that a sales tax on consumer non-essential products be implemented. This money would pay for the buildings in which we seek our education.

The brief has not yet been approved by the students' council.

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Priegert, after being ousted from council, pens his "Open Letter" of self defense.