

CUP Briefs

U of Sak gets nukes

Canadian University Press
SASKATOON—Students at the University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon may have good reason to worry about a nuclear "China syndrome" becoming popular on their campus soon.

The university will be the site of a Slowpoke-2 nuclear reactor in 1980, according to the Saskatchewan Research Council.

The \$2.5 million reactor will be used for commercial testing purposes. It will be used to reduce raw uranium ore into yellow cake uranium, which is a concentrated, low-radiation emitting form of uranium.

The production of yellow cake will lead to production of radioactive waste materials, according to the Research Council. The waste material will be temporarily contained at the university before it is taken away for disposal by Amok Corporation, the first contractor signed up by the council.

The reactor project is not merely for scientific investigation but will serve as a service to industry, with the council expecting to receive 40 per cent of the province's ore analysis business, according to the *Financial Post*. Currently Saskatchewan has no major ore analysis industry.

While the main focus of the project is commercial, Research Council officials stated they hoped that university researchers would have access to the reactor.

Construction is to begin immediately, with a completion target date set for July 1, 1980. However, uranium mining in Saskatchewan has become a controversial issue in the past two years and protests against the reactor are likely.

School spirit examined

CALGARY (CUP)—What happens to school spirit between Frosh Week and Bermuda Shorts Day became a burning issue to the University of Calgary's senate this summer.

So senate decided to take a page from the federal government and set up a five-member task force to investigate spirit on campus.

"We're not looking at manufacturing spirit," Bruce Ramsay, president of the Student Legislative Assembly and task force member, explained. But he said the task force will look at apathy on campus and concentrate on discovering ways and means of encouraging spirit.

Task force chairman Brian Norford says he hopes to investigate claims that spirit is high among some faculties and low in others and to see how serious the discrepancies are. He also wants to compare the U of C's spirit with that of other universities and determine how other campuses are dealing with the crucial situation.

Gay ban reversed

TORONTO (ZNS)—Santa Claus, always merry, can now be gay too in Quebec.

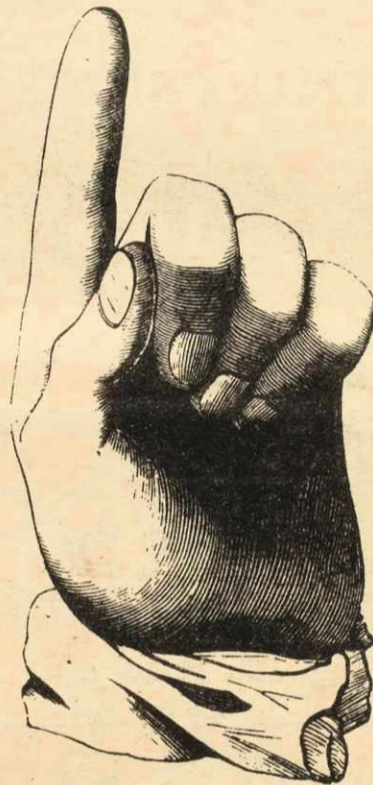
The gay magazine *Body Politic* reports that the Association of Santa Clauses in Quebec has officially reversed its policy of banning gays from the job of being Kris Kringle in local department stores during the Christmas season.

The policy change came after last year's anti-gay bias triggered a discrimination complaint to Quebec's human rights commission. Now Santa Claus Association president Henri Paquet is whistling a different tune.

Paquet admitted that such a ban "contributes to the myth that homosexuals are child molesters."

"During the next holiday," says Paquet, "any person of good morals, notwithstanding their sexual orientation, can be considered to be a Santa Claus."

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