

International Dateline

FRANCE . . .

Over 1,500 French students recently demonstrated to express their demand a start at least be made with the building of a university town which has been planned for three years. They performed a scene representing the laying of a foundation stone on the building site reserved for the project. The students were afraid they would not have at their disposal the 250 rooms urgently needed to accommodate a part of the expected 800 new students next academic year. At present there are only 339 rooms in the university town at the disposal of 3,500 students.

Did someone say that we need more rooms at U of A?

Well, you know the old adage: "Where there's a will there's a way" . . . any body for a riot? Names and

phone numbers taken at the Gateway office.

CUBA . . .

Minister of Industry "Che" Guevara, in a speech on Feb. 1, apologized to a meeting of award-winning workers that "the youth of Cuba is not putting its back into its work" and, consequently, workers who should be retiring are forced to continue working in order to meet State production goals. Returning to a complaint which he made in a speech a few days earlier, he regretted the disorganization and lack of enthusiasm of the Cubans for the building of socialism through work, adding: "It is necessary to analyze the errors and not attribute them all to the States."

RUSSIA . . .

Soviet table tennis champion, Genadi Averin, a student at Moscow University, has been dropped from the national team, stripped of his title "Master of Sports," and banned from competition for one year. It appears Averin developed "bourgeois attitudes" as a result of his

1960 visit to the US. He lost interest in the Komsomol, plays cards for money, and sold gifts he bought in America because he "wanted to buy a car." The only redeeming feature the paper could find in Averin: he is a good student.

Tut, tut, did not one tell him the "scientific truth?"

BULGARIA . . .

During February, African students in Sofia demonstrated against the prohibition of their all-African association which the Bulgarian authorities regard as illegal, and against the arrest of members of the executive committee of the association. During the demonstrations there were clashes between demonstrators and police when the Africans blocked traffic in the city centre. The number of demonstrators was given by correspondents of American news agencies as about 200, and by Bulgarian sources as only from 40 to 50. The Bulgarian government has expelled seven African students from the control on account of "gross violation of the public order and abuse of hospitality afforded them." These happenings in Sofia have led numerous African students to leave Bulgaria; as Nigerian students who have already arrived in Vienna reported however, students from those African countries which have no diplomatic representatives in Bulgaria are finding it extremely difficult to be able to raise the money for the journey out of Bulgaria.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA . . .

Things are not as quiet in the CS SR as the government would like them to be. Ethiopian students in Czechoslovakia have been complaining about poor living conditions, too much indoctrination, the fact of their having to do manual work in factories and in farms, and, to top it off, having to study languages for eight months. They felt the Czech's retort, to their complaints on "miserable accommodation," to the effect that the Chinese sleep on the floor at home, was rather unjust. (UPI, Vienna)

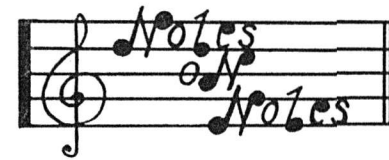
Is this the way to foster good relations with the friendly neutrals? Maybe the Czech's and Bulgarians should go and see Dale Carnegie.

Altmann After African Baboon

Stuart A. Altmann, assistant professor, department of zoology, has received a U.S. National Science Foundation grant to cover a one-year study of the behavior and ecology of baboons in Africa. Dr. Altmann and family will leave for East Africa in May.

The study will include details of the ways in which the social life of these primates is originated, how they communicate and interact with each other, and how their patterns of social behavior adapt them to their environment.

Dr. Altmann is a graduate from the University of California and Harvard University. In 1960 he joined the U of A staff as assistant professor of zoology.



by Ross Rudolph

The University Extension Department and the Edmonton Chamber Music Society are warmly to be thanked for the coaching sessions in progress as of this writing featuring students from Music Division under the tutelage of Mr. Ross Pratt and Dr. Peggie Sampson. The sessions are a boon not only for the participants, but for listeners who get a chance to experience music "from the inside" in the case that they otherwise are not performers. It also provides an opportunity for students to display their abilities to critical but sympathetic audiences, while it affords the listener a chance to hear that repertoire which he is ordinarily denied in so remote a bastion of musical culture.

The format of the series was designed for the instruction of the performer rather than the pleasure of the audience. Even so, we wonder why Dr. Sampson, herself a distinguished chamber performer would not comment on the performances by the string partners in the duos that we heard? Mr. Pratt quite rightly relinquished the criticism of the string members, presumably on the grounds that he is technically unfitted for such a task. Yet criticism of the pianist by the criterion of the violin performance (unless unimpeachable) clearly violates the principle enunciated in Mr. Pratt's opening remarks about the parity of the parts in many of the works performed.

The coaches' remarks were both musical (suggestions on phrasing, balance, inflection) and technical (fingering, tone production). While they were all instructive, the response to the musical comments was most significant. It is easy to forgive a student performer the note errors of performances; it is understandable that many of the renderings will be tentative because of the artist's nervousness; but it is a serious matter when a student of music will not distinguish between melody and accompaniment, when he does not know what he wants in the music because he does not know that music, or when the results are accidental and he does not know why he achieved the results he did. This was the unfortunate case with many of the youthful instrumentalists, outside that cadre of exceptionally gifted and accomplished students.

The Music Department staff can certainly not be blamed for all this superficiality. And while in the last analysis the buck may stop there, the society in which it works largely militates against the graduation of well rounded, literate, practicing musicians as well as musical scholars. The product of the Alberta system probably compares very favorably to that of other Canadian schools outside of the large centres of the East. But "learning" in general, and music in particular for the purposes of this discussion, are devalued in our system. While in Salzburg this past summer, I had the exhilarating opportunity to hear two concerts by an orchestra of students all approximately my contemporaries. There was a searing intensity about their performance of the Schumann Rhenish Symphony and a virtuosity in the final of the Beethoven Second Symphony that the Edmonton Symphony could never duplicate. And these were students! But, we are told, because of the differences in values we should not expect more. I disagree to the extent that such indifference and complacency will preclude the situation's ever improving.

Such a demonstration as we saw in Convocation Hall is heartening evidence that we are moving in the right direction. Of course, we must give credit to the instructors, but they

are brave musicians who will undertake the Brahms A major (op. 26) Piano Quartet or the Debussy Violin and Piano Sonata or the String Quartet. Bravo, but in the case of the last two named at least, not foolhardy for the performance of the Sonata was carefully planned and unanimously executed in thoroughly idiomatic fashion. If Dr. Sampson's remark about the length of rehearsal for the quartet is accurate, it was a real *tour de force*. Again it is an index of infectious enthusiasm, that structural weaknesses, and stylistic lapses did not overly detract from a performance of conviction, even with shaky ensemble. And excepting the lasted named performance, the eye was as attentive as the ear.

The students will do themselves and the listening public a great service by such performances in greater frequency; themselves by improving the standards by practice; the audience by transforming Edmonton from a wasteland.

New Seminar For Leaders

In an attempt to ensure continuity in student activities from this year to next, the outgoing Students' Council has planned a special "changeover" Leadership Seminar, to be held Sunday, March 17th.

It is hoped that all new student club executive will have been elected by that time, and that the old and new president will be able to attend the morning sessions of the seminar.

In past years, continuity too often has been a haphazard affair for many clubs. It is hoped that club support of this seminar will provide the continuity that has often been lacking.

Problems of clubs relating to campus communications, promotions, budgeting and relationship to Council will be discussed.

Students Wet Feet

CALGARY (CUP) Political science students at the University of Alberta at Calgary are going to learn politics is not all theory.

The students will be aiding the four political parties in their campaign "to get their feet wet in practical politics," says political science professor Dr. E. Burke Inlow.

The students are allowed to choose the party with which they will work, and party campaign managers will be asked to evaluate the work of each student. The work will be considered in arriving at a final year mark, the professor said.

He said the academic work load will be lightened and he is considering cutting down the length of the final exam so campaign work will not "overburden participants."

To Our Readers

Next week's Gateway will be the last regular editor of the year.

A L L ORGANIZATIONS should turn in:

NOTICES to the end of the year; names of NEW EXECS

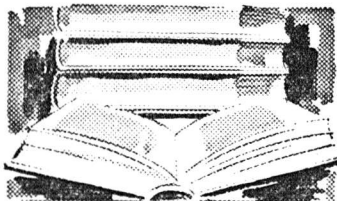
to Gateway News Desk by 7 pm, Tuesday, March 19.

Smoothest thing on paper

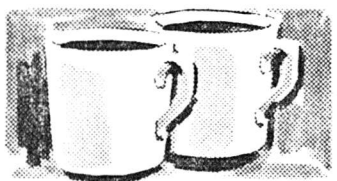
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