

Campus policeman penalizes motorcyclist too harshly

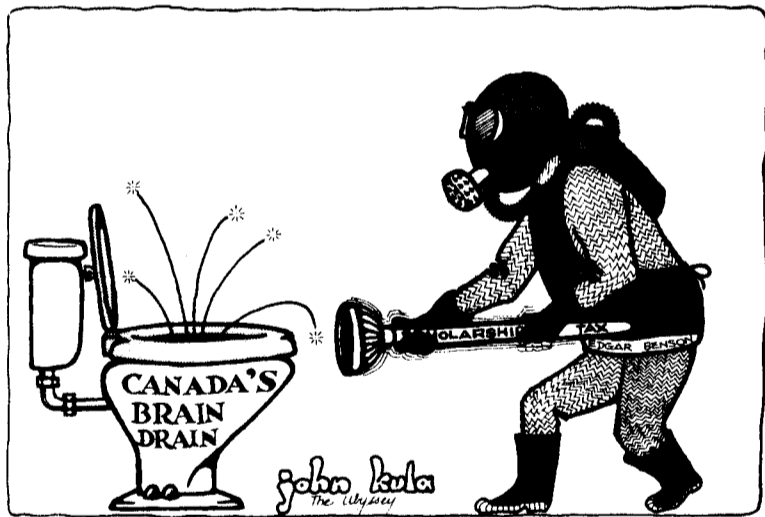
This past Thursday, I observed the Campus Security police using a tow truck to haul away a motorcycle which they found parked beside an empty meter. I don't dispute the fact that a parking ticket was due but I do not see why the motorcyclist must be penalized in excess of car drivers for the same offence. The police officers were probably unaware of the fact that motorcycles bend easily. When a motorcycle, especially a large one, as in this instance, is picked up using standard tow truck equipment (heavy rubber straps), bent exhaust pipes, scratched paint, and ripped seats are common occurrences.

These damages can easily run up to \$75, which students find hard to pay when also facing a parking ticket and towing fees.

This particular motorcycle was carted away at 5 p.m., so it was not taking up needed parking space. Does the book always have to be followed to the letter?

Instead of removing motorcycles in such a manner, why not raise the value of the parking ticket a suitable amount? This would aid relations with a large number of students if for no other reason.

Pat McMahon
eng 1



The Arts Students' Association needs both student support and enough money

It's good to see some organization on campus is working for the students. The Arts Students' Association is starting negotiations shortly with the Faculty of Arts to determine the number of students there will be on the committees where they have been given representation. The eventual goal is for parity. After the Christmas holidays the ASA is planning to start an educational program to let students know what these committees are, and how they function. They are also planning a rally for the purpose of electing people to sit on these committees.

This program requires two things for its success. The first one is student support. Approx-

imately 100 positions will be open on the committees and that's a lot of people. Secondly, money is needed to pay for the expenses incurred. Last Monday the ASA petitioned the students' union council for a loan of \$2,500. The motion was tabled until after the report from the Reorganization Committee was put before the council. This will probably be in the middle of January. What do they expect the ASA to do until then? Office supplies, letters to arts students, posters, advertising in The Gateway, all cost money. I thought the council's first priority was education, and I certainly feel the program of the ASA falls into that category.

Fred Lemieux
arts 2

Research suggests marijuana effects change according to length of usage

(reprinted from Scientific American, February, 1969)

Marijuana is a relatively mild intoxicant that seems to affect habitual users and those who are new to the drug differently. In a neutral laboratory setting smoking a large dose had few subjective psychological effects on naive subjects, although chronic users became "high" on the same dose. Whereas the performance of the nonusers in simple tests was somewhat impaired by the smoking, the performance of chronic users was unimpaired or even improved. None of the subjects had any dangerous adverse reactions; the effects that were observed were of short duration.

These are among the findings of the first carefully controlled attempt to study the clinical and psychological effects of smoking marijuana. The investigation was carried out at the Boston University School of Medicine by Andrew T. Weil, Norman E. Zinberg and Judith M. Nelsen, who report their results in *Science*.

The naive subjects, nine men between 21 and 26, were cigarette smokers who had never tried marijuana. After a trial session at which they were taught to smoke properly, they were tested in three experimental sessions, at each of which they smoked two cigarettes. The cigarettes were of three kinds: high-dose (one gram of marijuana in each), low-dose (a quarter of a gram of marijuana plus tobacco) and a placebo (tobacco). Neither the subject nor the experimenter knew which type of cigarette was supplied at each session; the odor of marijuana was masked by mint leaves in all cigarettes and by a scented spray in the room. The eight subjects who were regular smokers participated in one session at which they smoked only the high-dose cigarettes.

When asked after each session what they thought they had smoked, eight of the naive subjects could tell the difference between marijuana and the placebo. Most of them called the high dose a low one, however, and none called the low dose high.



grass is green
cops wear blue
pot is illegal
here's a flower
for you . . .

This reflected the generally unimpressive quality of their subjective reactions: some time distortion, very little euphoria, no visual or auditory distortions or confusion. Chronic users, on the other hand, said they were almost as high as they had ever been. Marijuana increased the heart rate in both groups moderately, had no effect on respiratory rate or pupil size but did cause reddening of the eyes.

The volunteers took several tests before and after smoking. On a written test (pairing digits and symbols) and on a psychomotor test (keeping a stylus in contact with a rotating spot) the scores of naive subjects dropped significantly more after the low dose than after the placebo, and still more after the high dose. The performance of chronic users was good before the high dose and tended to improve after smoking. The users had worried about how they would perform after smoking and were surprised at how well they did. This situation is in sharp contrast, the authors point out, to the false sense of improvement people have with some other drugs that actually impair performance.

Eulogy for a fallen comrade

Fred Hampton is dead, slain by a pig bullet and the repressive society it protected.

Two weeks ago, Fred Hampton walked on the campus of the U of A and told us about the people's struggle in his part of Babylon. To many of us would-be revolutionaries, Chairman Fred's words brought us closer to the fact that the struggle was not just something that happened in the glib jargon of SDU meetings.

Since the inception of the man Fred's fellow panthers had been buried. To him, the struggle was real. Somehow, he knew, we all knew that he would meet the

same fate. And yet, only two weeks ago, he was real, alive—the object of fawning hero-worship and venomous hatred.

Somehow, here in Edmonton, 2,000 miles from nowhere, the struggle seemed like just empty words. Everyone cheered. Few really cared.

Today, Fred Hampton is dead. Not an especially significant event, yet his death brings us closer to the horrifying reality of the system in which we live.

Fred Hampton is dead. You can kill a liberator, but you can't kill liberation.

Allan Stein

Come on let me light your garden

As everyone knows, plants need light to grow, but what type of light is best for plants? The foliage plants, mentioned last week, usually do best in indirect light, light that is diffused by some material before reaching the plant. These plants usually produce a paler color when placed in direct sunlight. The reason for this action is that foliage plants are native to tropical forests and only receive light that has been diffused by the overhead leaves. Flowering plants on the other hand require direct light that is found in front of windows. An exception to this rule is, in the summer, direct sunlight may cause "burning" of the plants from the heat.

The signs of improper lighting conditions are as follows:

1. Low light intensity
 - leaves start appearing smaller
 - stems elongate, increase in size between nodes or leaves
 - a paler color appears.
2. High light intensity
 - leaves appear smaller as above
 - stems shorten between the nodes
 - a very dark color appears.



For flowering plants insufficient light will cause failure to flower. Also the above symptoms are only general and some plants may produce different signs, specific to themselves.

In summary it would be best to suggest that foliage plants can be placed in places away from a light source. Flowering plants on the other hand should be placed close to the light source.

Next week there will be an article on *Ponsettia*, for those lucky enough to get one for Christmas.

Gerald Umbach
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