

The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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STAFF THIS ISSUE—The following INDIVIDUALS (in deference to royal preference) could have used some help from all you lazy slobs out there somewhere: Grant Sharp, Steve Rybak, Christie Mowat, Allen Wolitski, Ron Yakimchuk, Elaine Verbicky (riot-monger from Calgary), Canada's Unemployed (on the desk tonight), and yours truly, Harvey Thomgirt.

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who should pay for what?

Students' council Monday night went on record as supporting the idea that the provincial government should finance the construction of student residences.

At present, financing for student residences is done through a 50-year loan from the Central Mortgage and Housing Company, at a preposterously-high rate of interest.

Since residences are supposed to be self-supporting, we assume that students are paying for the capital expenditure and the interest on the loan which went into the building of the Lister Hall complex.

If the students who live in residence for the six-and-a-half month academic term are paying for the capital expenditure and interest, each resident is paying approximately \$185 per year.

This means that about one-third of the resident student's rent goes to

paying for the building in which he is living.

The capital expenditure for student housing should be paid for solely by the provincial government, not by private individuals.

And the idea that university students are paying 5 1/8 per cent interest on a \$3.2 million loan is abhorrent.

The provincial government pays for construction of every building on campus except residences and the Students' Union Building.

Residences and the students' union contribute immeasurably to the attitude which a student has toward the university and toward himself.

Since they are an integral part of the educative process, we maintain the government should pay for them.

Students in residence should pay for the operating costs only.

only the source is changed

Our self-professed small 'c' conservative students' council made it known Monday night that it was in favor of parental means tests for student loans.

The parental means test essentially spells out that parents and students are expected to contribute an amount "commensurate with their financial standing, income and earnings."

This means that a student, especially if he is under 21, is expected to accept parental support to finance his education, if this support does not place an undue financial burden on his parents.

Some students have decided not to accept available money from good old mom and dad, have not made enough money during the summer,

an invitation

Students' council has allocated half an hour of each meeting to allow students to question council on any issue, but not many students are aware of this.

Next council meeting, Feb. 13, come out and ask all sorts of contentious questions. Or just heckle.

and have applied for a student loan.

We feel that if a student makes this decision, he thereby takes the responsibility upon himself to make enough money to support himself while going to university. Too many make the decision but do not take on the responsibility, then have the audacity to ask for a student loan.

It is with these people that the government should be stingy, so that money allocated for loans can be distributed among those whose parents cannot give them a hand without going into hock.

After all, if a student and his parents don't pay for his education, then taxpayers take a lump when he gets a loan. Take a look at your income tax returns this year to see how much you are paying. Usually, you will think it excessive.

And it will become even more excessive if students who can get their education paid for with the aid of their parents if they so wish, continue to expect the government to pick up the tab on a loan.

Before students pick up a loan form, they should consider this carefully. Also what is the difference between a loan from parents who can afford it, and a loan from the Canada Student Loans Plan?

Nothing but the source.



"then again, if we had a truly mixed residence—the money might be worth it."

bill miller

what is relevant around here?

There are not many people around who can adequately define the function of a student newspaper.

And after Gabor Mate's column in *The Ulysses*, reprinted in today's *Casserole*, I'm not sure I can either.

Mate says *The Ulysses*, number one student newspaper in Canada for the last six years running, is trivial, "contains no message, no information which has the slightest bearing on issues which are important, significant and real in this world. It says nothing which is at all relevant to the life of any one of us."

He gets carried away with his argument, but he has a point.

It is almost impossible for a student newspaper to survive without printing some articles which Mate calls irrelevant, although these types of articles (club news, promotional stories, etc.) should be played down.

Certainly news of any club is relevant to the people who are active in that club, but to how many others? This newspaper, or any other student newspaper, should not cater to this type of news—the paper should be a major force for making necessary changes and reforms in the community it serves—whether or not members of that community give a damn.

Bearing this in mind *The Gateway* will attempt to print all promotional stories and articles which we consider of low priority on page two, and devote other news pages to articles we consider of significance.

This way, anyone interested in club activities can turn to page two, read the short shorts and club news. He doesn't have to bother to look all through the paper for articles that interest him. On the other hand, conscientious students will know that

stories on other pages are relevant and are of some significance.

Articles we consider of relevance will find their way to page four in the form of editorials and to *casserole* in the form of comment. Thus, the most significant sections of the paper will be the editorial page and *casserole*. Their significance will be based, of course, on the material on the news pages.

Only by keeping the news pages relevant can we succeed as a student newspaper. That is why articles that used to be played up are now played down and articles which would not have appeared five years ago are now top news. We are trying to become relevant.

And every student should try to become relevant. Maybe this is asking too much, but too many students on this campus come to class and go home again, spending their time here as vegetables. Of course, each student has the right to do this. But what good does it do him? There are certain important areas within the students' union that are striving for students with a helping hand.

A minimal amount of time should be paid to service functions of students' council, both by council itself and by *The Gateway*. More time may then be spent on what we call the more relevant issues; even though council is mainly "small 'c' conservative" in its point of view, discussion of these issues is important. Most councillors have already made up their minds on most of these issues, but a forum in council chambers will at least air the issues and a stand would likely be made.

The Gateway hopes to concentrate the majority of our time for the remainder of the year on the relevancies; we welcome comment.