

Museum urged for university

Part of the university's \$5.5 million historical collection is in a state of disintegration warns James Parker, university archivist.

Parker told an executive meeting of general faculties council Monday that there is an urgent need for climate-controlled storage space, preferably a museum, for perishable items. He presented a report that recommended appointment of a full-time director paid a salary of \$20,000 to co-ordinate museum activity on the university. The report said the collections are in such a neglected state "that their condition casts a reflection upon the status of this university."

"It is time for this university to take its place with other outstanding universities which have developed and supported active university museums," Parker said.

Parker termed the tentative \$5 million price tag on collections as "conservative and unrealistic" because many of the items are irreplaceable.

Parker listed a Mexican beetle collection, Chief Poundmaker's teepee and Elizabethan storage box for tapestry as examples.

Council executive, decided to refer the matter to GFC and ask faculties and departments whether they favoured centralized control of the collections.

Several GFC councillors voiced support for establishing a university museum, but they were concerned about the money and space required of such a project.

Max Wyman, U of A president, suggested that the university keep those collections used for teaching and research and give the rest to the provincial museum.

The collections committee identified some 41 collections scattered across campus, of which 23 are administered by a curator; the others are administered by departments and faculties.

They require about 50,000 to 70,000 square feet of storage space.

Lack of a university-wide policy and administration prevents the university from taking full advantage of the collections, the report stated.

A director would help remedy the situation.



Irreplaceable Elizabethan storage box for tapestry

Responsibilities of the director would include centralization and acquisition of collections.

The collection of Mexican beetles whose habitat has been destroyed, a collection of Eskimo artifacts and another of Alberta Indian artifacts, purchased in 1919 for \$5,000 are among those considered irreplaceable.

Another collection of dinosaur bones purchased in 1921 for \$2,000 has an estimated worth of \$100,000.

The memorial organ in Convocation Hall dedicated to U of A students killed during the world wars, has a replacement value of \$80,000.

Parker also said there is a shortage of personnel and inadequate cataloging of historical items.

Salary increases for SU execs approved in principle

Salary increases for the future executive amounting to 40% for the president and 50 % for the vice-presidents were passed in principle at last night's student council meeting. Wayne Madden (Education) had proposed that the executive be paid \$5000 per annum, his main arguments being the cost of living and "fair pay for fair work."

A one hour heated debate followed with many councillors vehemently against the motion. In opposition to Madden's hypothesis, Jim Talbot (Science) argued that the increase in money would stimulate many profit minded people to run, and a lower quality executive would result. David Allen pointed out that a \$150,000 deficit budget (see center pages) does not feasibly (in the eyes of students) allow for such large increases.

On the other side, George Mantor (SU president) demonstrated his debt after one year of studies. He pointed out that the President's salary was actually decreased over the last 4 years and stated that he was going to leave university after this year just to pay off debts he has incurred this year.

As debate was dwindling, it was brought to Council's attention that this motion would require a bylaw change anyways. Mantor observed that the motion could be passed in principle and urged councillors to do this for the future, as it didn't affect this year's executive.

Garneau home threatened

by John Kenney

Mrs. Mildred Burke's property on 108 St. and University Ave., is facing expropriation.

Her house is the only one left standing on a proposed site for the Strathcona Senior Citizen's Residence. She won't sell and doesn't intend to.

Most of this came to light at a city council meeting Nov. 26. John Patrick, the lawyer representing Mrs. Burke was quite clear as to his feeling on the matter.

Mrs. Burke is 87 years old, she's lived in North Garneau since 1962, she's comfortable, and doesn't want to move.

She was forced out of her last home in South Garneau "by what she felt to be high pressure type developers."

The circumstances surrounding the case deserve further consideration. City developers first approached Mrs. Burke in "late 1970 or early 1971" said Mr. Patrick in a telephone interview.

They offered her just over

\$20,000. But as Mr. Patrick reiterated money is not the point here, she just wants to continue living in her home.

As for the expropriation "if a private developer does this he's stymied" said the city lawyer.

Mrs. Burke has been sick and is resting in a nursing home. Partly because of this city council delayed consideration of an expropriation bylaw for two weeks.

Then the issue will probably be decided by a vote, regardless of circumstances, according to Patrick.

When asked if the bylaw could possibly serve as a 'test case' for other threatened homes in the Garneau area, he was reluctant to commit himself. "It's just a point of view involved," he answered.

If you have the chance, attend the next city council meeting. See the compassion and concern of the aidemen as they vote according to conscience. They have surprising 'points of view.'

Foster recommends colleges in Peace

An interim report released by Advanced Education Minister, Jim Foster, recommended the establishment of a system of "Federated Colleges" in the Peace River district of Alberta and British Columbia.

The purpose of establishing these regional colleges would be to offer local residents an opportunity to fill available skilled jobs requiring vocational training. Currently only half of these jobs are filled by local residents due to the lack of training facilities.

The major problems raised by the report are the equal distribution of students in the colleges to be established, and the transfer of programs from low enrolment to high enrolment areas.

There are several alternatives to the proposed system, and the report lists six of them, including the creation of an inter-provincial education board to establish these colleges.

Recommendations have been made regarding the issues. Copies of the report are available from The Department of Advanced Education, Devonian Building, 1160-Jasper Avenue, Edmonton.

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SUB policy battle over

The battle over building policy and commercial tables in SUB has finally ended. At Monday night's council meeting,

the Building Policy Review Committee brought forth two recommendations involving club and commercial space. Both were passed.

The first limited the space available to a 120 foot strip for tables and booths.

The west end of the mall

will have the booths which are already present plus 40 feet of tables beside it. Two 20-foot tables will be placed near the east entrance.

The second recommendation provides for information sheets and floor plans to be available at the information desk. According to the second recommendation, "failure to comply with any of these regulations may result in suspension of table/booth privileges."

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