

The Gateway

Member of the Canadian University Press

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Demonstration Number Two

Whether the picketers from the university community were right or wrong in their case is no longer the central issue arising from Monday's City Hall demonstration against Mayor Hawrelak.

Two closely related points arise as the main issues. In the first place, a number of citizens were prevented from expressing their discontent by a peaceful picket. Secondly, the City Police, for various reasons, did not enforce that right.

The students, it should be stressed, did not start the violence, nor, according to all accounts, did they retaliate. This is to their credit. Passive resistance is not easy to practice, particularly when the passive ones are being kicked, shoved, punched, and spat upon.

The students and faculty members were picketing about what they felt to be an issue of public morality. They were not representing the university. Their protest was legal and completely within the bounds of democratic procedure.

Whether it was well-advised or justifiable is not the main issue. The point is that in a democracy the minority has the right to express its disagreement with a majority decision.

This the crowd was not willing to grant. It denied the right violently. Rather than counter-picket they wrested placards from the demonstrators and tore them up.

Infuriated at the demonstrator's

refusal either to retaliate or to leave, the mob became more and more violent. A full twenty minutes after violence had broken out, the police were able to end the fighting.

But where had the police been all this time?

At the outset of the demonstration about fifteen policemen were standing at the front of City Hall. After the demonstrators had paraded around the steps twice, the crowd became hostile. Even after violence had broken out the police made little effort to keep events under control.

This account is corroborated by several sources. Plainly the police fell down on their job, especially since the police station is only two blocks from City Hall. Reinforcements could have been sent at the first sign of force.

But despite the fact that the blame in this case is clear, it does not solve the further problem: what is to happen the next time?

Plainly, if demonstrators repeat the picket, the same type of riot will ensue. Regardless of the justice of the cause, added demonstration would bring about additional violence.

Legally, of course, citizens have the right to picket again. But in view of the circumstances, should they continue to create conditions likely to result in violence?

The demonstrators must find other ways of putting forward their views.

Student Discount Service

Our Students' Council has spent considerable time this year on contemplating its navel, SUB Expansion and the Canadian Union of Students. But it has done nothing towards bettering the average student's financial position.

Something can be done to save the student a little money, and to this end we would suggest that the council consider the establishment of a student discount service.

The first step in setting up such a service would be for council to find out what firms presently give discounts on sales to students and encourage other reputable retailers to do the same.

Information would then be compiled into a listing of upstanding businesses which would allow discounts to student shoppers. Savings to the individual student would be considerable.

It should be noted that student

discount systems are workable; councils on other campuses have set them up. Lists of firms are published in the equivalents of the University of Alberta's Student Handbook.

A student discount service would be useful and financially helpful to students paying their way through university.

The idea has been offered—it only remains for council to put it into effect.

Reign In Spain

Our history books tell us that the early Spanish government was largely controlled by nobles residing in the central plateau. From this we can derive the statement that the reign in Spain lies mainly in the plain.

ITEM—MOST FRATS ON CAMPUS PRACTICE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN RUSHING.



"REALLY WE MUST DO WHAT'S BEST!"

Spectrum

Monday night's small riot at City Hall, in that it denied the right of a minority to protest in a democratic fashion, was certainly execrable; however, it should not have been unexpected.

We Canadians, beneath an exterior produced by a triumphal mediocrity, bear a subsurface current of brutality and mob action.

This riot tradition goes back at least to the burning of the Parliament buildings in Montreal in 1849, and has since been carried on by the conscription riots of both World Wars, by the firing of the militia on peaceful pickets during the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919, and by the V-E Day riots in Halifax which sacked that city.

Last year: the bush war in Northern Ontario with its consequent dead. And now Edmonton.

As for brutality, most Dutch immigrants to this country would agree that there were more illegitimate children fathered by Canadian than by German soldiers.

More recently, in Korea, Canadian soldiers were infamous among the UN troops as being shooters of those

taken in combat. Relieving forces had to arrive at Canadian lines before the prisoners were shot.

So Monday night was completely in harmony with this submerged tradition.

"With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The true, North, strong, and free,"
Oh Canada, we ought to weep for thee.

Polemia

Need A Summer Job?

Students should start thinking now about jobs for next summer. The sooner you get an application in for the kind of job you want, the more chance you will have of getting that job.

Professors Unfair?

We often wonder whether professors should miss a lecture here and there, crack a few jokes when they don't miss lectures, and in general not make life so tortuous for students in classes by being too staid.

The Paper Makers

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