

# The Gateway

member of the canadian university press

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**STAFF THIS ISSUE**—Apologies to Terry D. for not attending his party. It was not personal, lots of people didn't want to show up. Lots of people didn't want to show up for Sunday press afternoon either, and lots showed up late. Curse them all. Those who came are Hiroto Saka, Henry Kwok, Jim Muller, Bill Kankewitt, Dennis Cebuliak, Marg Bolton, Marie Kucharyshyn, Eric Stephanson, Gail Evasiuk, Judy Samoil, Boom-Boom, Gary Unterschultz, Ron Yakimchuk, Pat Mulka, Rich Vivone, and your old party-pooper, Harvey G. Thomgirt.

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## that recommendation . . .

The Board of Governors did it Friday. Of course they warned us and gave the students' union a chance to write a brief—nice guys, the B of G boys.

But it must have been decided months ago that no matter what students did or said, the residence fees and tuition fees were going to have to go up, and nothing short of a collective coronary was going to stop the board from making its recommendation.

The students' council executive is going to fight the recommendation because the board's decision is not final. But, in all honesty, it's a pretty dark picture.

The saddest fact has to be that many of the students on campus don't really care that it's going to cost daddy about \$150 more to keep them here next year than it costs him this year.

And, if the students don't care, then the executive is going to have to make an appeal to the general public that if they give a damn at all about education, they'll write so many letters to their Social Credit MLA that the guy won't be able to get out of his office for three months.

The Government of Alberta has for a long time been telling the

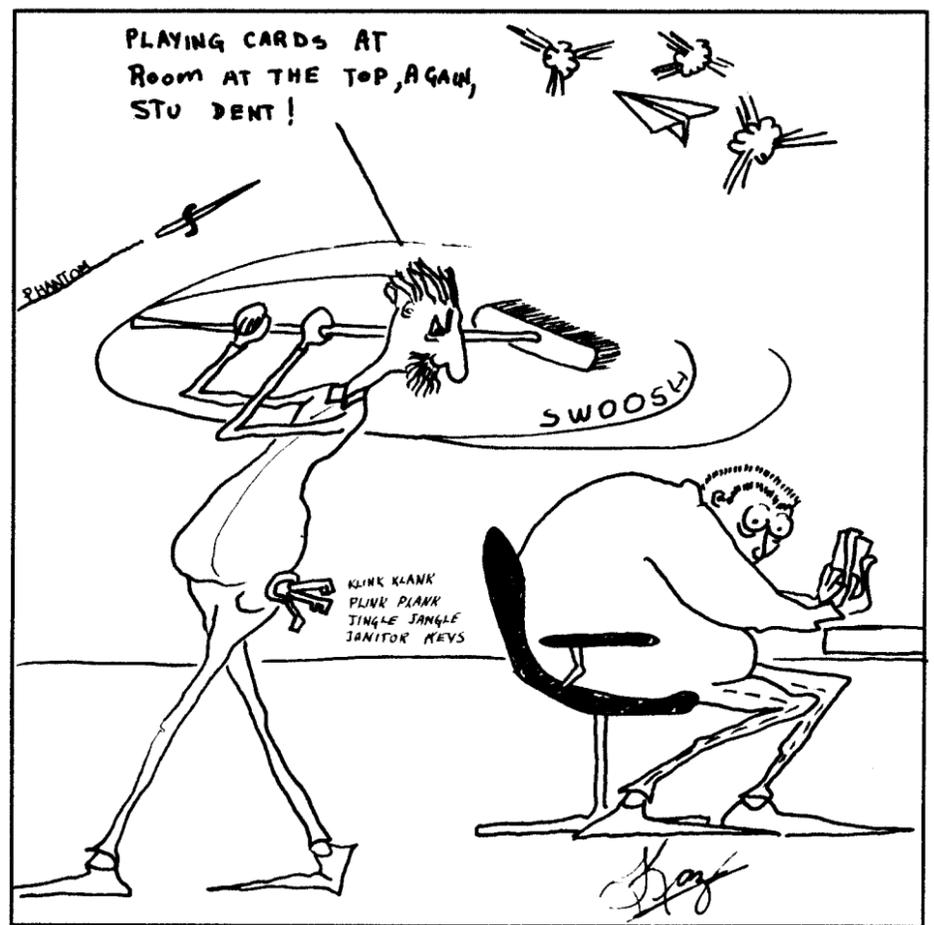
province that the best possible investment the State can make is in the development of human resources, that education is a high priority in government spending, that the right of the individual is of great importance.

These philosophies will be put to the test when the government has to decide how much money to allow for university operating costs this year. The Board of Governors obviously expects the government to fail the test.

We do not advocate free tuition or student stipends. The student, as well as society in general, benefits from a university education. Therefore, he should help to pay for his education. But, the division of the cost of education must be assessed reasonably.

And it is not reasonable that the taxes (tuition fees and residence rates) on students should be increased. The student has one of the lowest incomes and highest costs proportionately of any group in society. His savings from summer earnings on the average are only one-third of his costs of attending university for a year.

Of course, the provincial and federal governments do provide student assistance to help students



## . . . and what it means

meet the cost of a university education. However, increased financial assistance does not compensate for an increase in tuition and residence rates.

Even if students are made aware of the sources and amounts of financial assistance available, they cannot be given the assurance that they will receive the funds they need. Also, many students have a very strong aversion to incurring large debts in order to get an education.

At present, the provincial government and the Board of Governors have a far too complacent attitude toward the problem of availability of post-secondary education. There is no conclusive proof that an increase in tuition fees will deter prospective students from attending university, but it is reasonable to assume that an increase in tuition, added to other continuing increases

in living costs, could affect many a student's decision to continue his education.

An interesting point to note in the fight against the increases is the university's attitude. Dr. Johns, the university's spokesman, has remained relatively quiet. Surely, the administrators of this university must be confused by and/or annoyed with the government's attitude.

The public has a right to know how the provincial universities feel about the government's system of priorities.

The students will not be able to make a dent on the powers-that-be unless the general public and the university administrators join in questioning our government's glorious statements about human resources and its simultaneous stifling of post-secondary education in this province.

## the biggest newfie joke of all

By RICH VIVONE

It was the first time I ever saw the little man who is really very big. He was pictured on the tube and sat half way between the ends of a round table. Around him were many men who were chattering about changing this country from whatever it is into something a shade better. It was the Confederation Conference.

When all the back-benchers ran out of breath, Joey Smallwood, the fresh breeze from Newfoundland, got up and straightened everybody out.

"He was," one newspaperman wrote of Mr. Smallwood, "easily the brightest and most optimistic figure in an otherwise dull and dead conference."

It was also one of the first opportunities for students throughout Canada to get a close look at the demi-god of the island. When one considers that Mr. Smallwood was the star of a feature containing the swinging Pierre Elot Trudeau and the laughable W. A. C. Bennett, it

is significant that he deserves the praise of any diety—living or dead.

The reason Mr. Smallwood should rate examination by university types is that he instituted at Memorial University of Newfoundland, a monetary system designed to keep kids in school.

In an age when tuition fees are escalating everywhere and when fees at some Ontario universities are more than \$500 for arts, Mr. Smallwood's move has to be considered radical, challenging and other words that say what he did was not common.

The present situation at Memorial University is this. Third, fourth and fifth year students pocket \$100 a month if they rent apartments or live away from their parents. If you live with mom and dad, your salary is cut in half. That has to be one of the finest moves in history at any time. As I've written before, university students should not live at home. It's not good for them.

Plus the salary, tuition is waived. You go to class free of charge.

That, in this small space, is Joey's Jungle. A guy should think that it's a great way to live. I don't.

Consider this. An extra \$100 a month for eight months is \$800. Even engineers can figure that. Add the money you didn't have to pay for tuition. That comes to about \$1,200 EXTRA to spend in a school season.

With that, I could get out of my crummy basement suite and move into one of the sweet, luxurious high rises. My radio would go out the window and a 27-inch color television would enter. In one corner would be a well-stocked (if not overloaded) liquor cabinet. The sun porch could be used for a barbeque pit and my garage would host a new car.

Wonderful. Maybe even beautiful. It's Utopia of the highest order. We're secure, satisfied and contented. We'd be selling our souls for something not worth more than a glass of hootch.

When you receive money for services, in effect, you are an employee. You owe somebody something. You must abide

by regulations and you have a boss. In order to insure arrival of the next cheque, you must show that you earned the last one.

This means you can't cut classes. You can't take the extra day off when you are fed up with the whole bit. You have to be nice to profs and say the right things at the right time. You can't make trouble though people like Irving Layton have said that the one thing this country needs is a trouble-maker of the highest order.

You, as a student, will be obligated to learn. No longer do you learn because you want to learn. It's compulsory.

On the affirmative side, the needy students should be considered. There are students who really do need the money and who are honest students. The system would be a boon to them.

When I look at the parking lots around this university and visit the pubs at various hours of each day, I can't say that students here need the money.

I do think they would sell out for a few bucks.