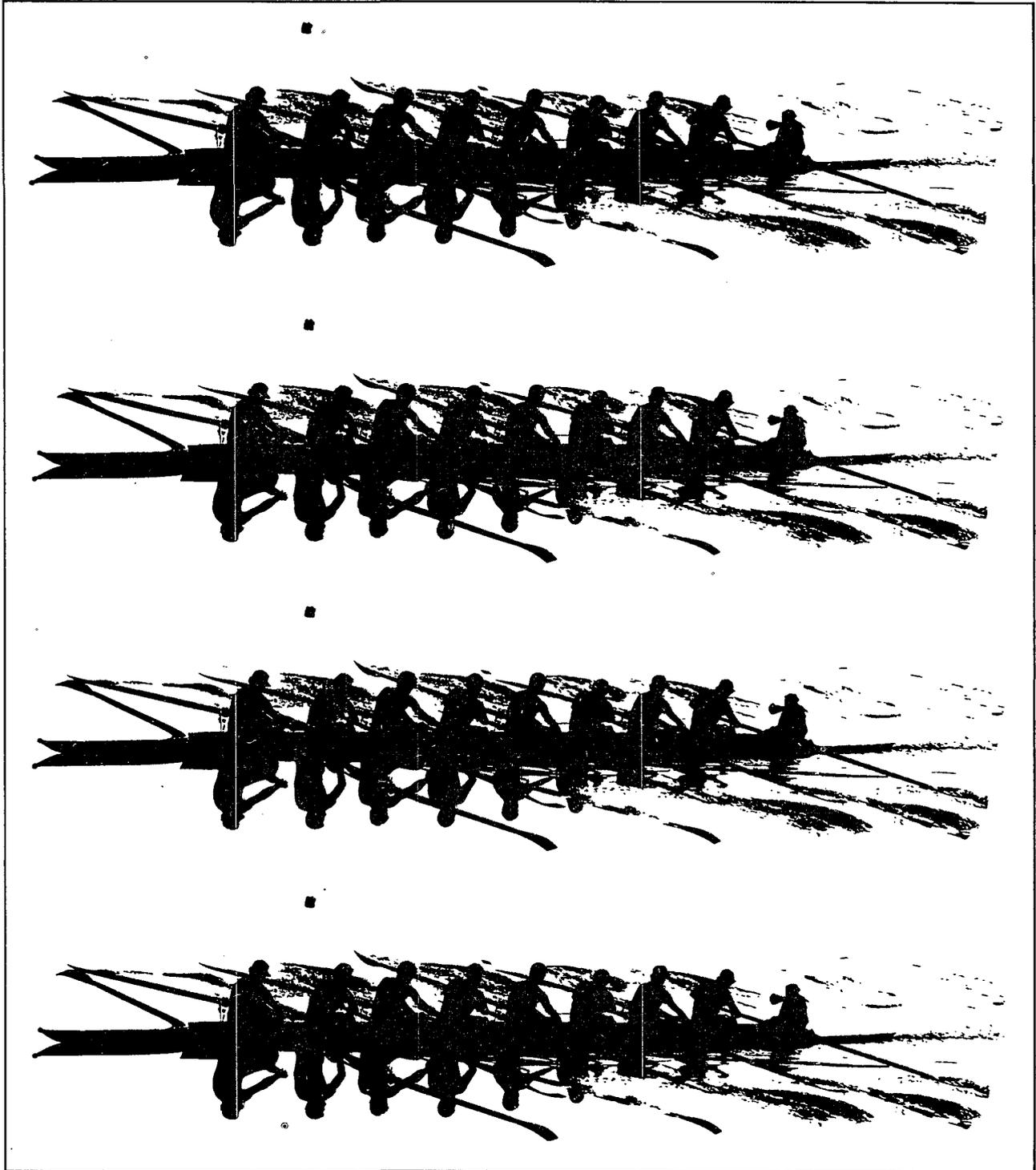


# UBC ALUMNI Chronicle

AUTUMN 1979



THE AGONY  
AND THE ECSTASY  
OF ROWING

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An elegant shape  
is very often a reflection  
of quality.



Carrington: a whisky of outstanding quality.

# UBC ALUMNI Chronicle

Volume 34, Number 3 Autumn 1979

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# THE SHRUM BOWL

When **Simon Fraser University Clansmen** meet the **UBC Thunderbirds** in the **United Way Charity Game** **Friday, October 19, 1979,** **8 pm at Empire Stadium.**

UBC will be defending the trophy won last year. Net proceeds from the game are donated to the United Way Campaign. The 1978 game drew 12,000 fans and realized \$35,000 for the United Way.

**Tickets:** \$6, \$4 and \$3 (students) from the Vancouver Ticket Centre.  
*(A special student rate of \$2 available only through school and campus sales.)*

UBC supporters have seats on the west side of the stadium and SFU on the east.

## Come early and attend the ALUMNI PRE-GAME WARM-UP PARTY & DINNER

6 to 7:30 pm, Sports Hall of Fame, B.C. Building, PNE grounds.

The Dogwood Room will be serving dinner cafeteria style, so plan to bring the whole family. For reservations call the alumni office, 228-3313.... Come, give a cheer...

**Canadian college football  
at its best....**

# The Agony and the Ecstasy of Rowing

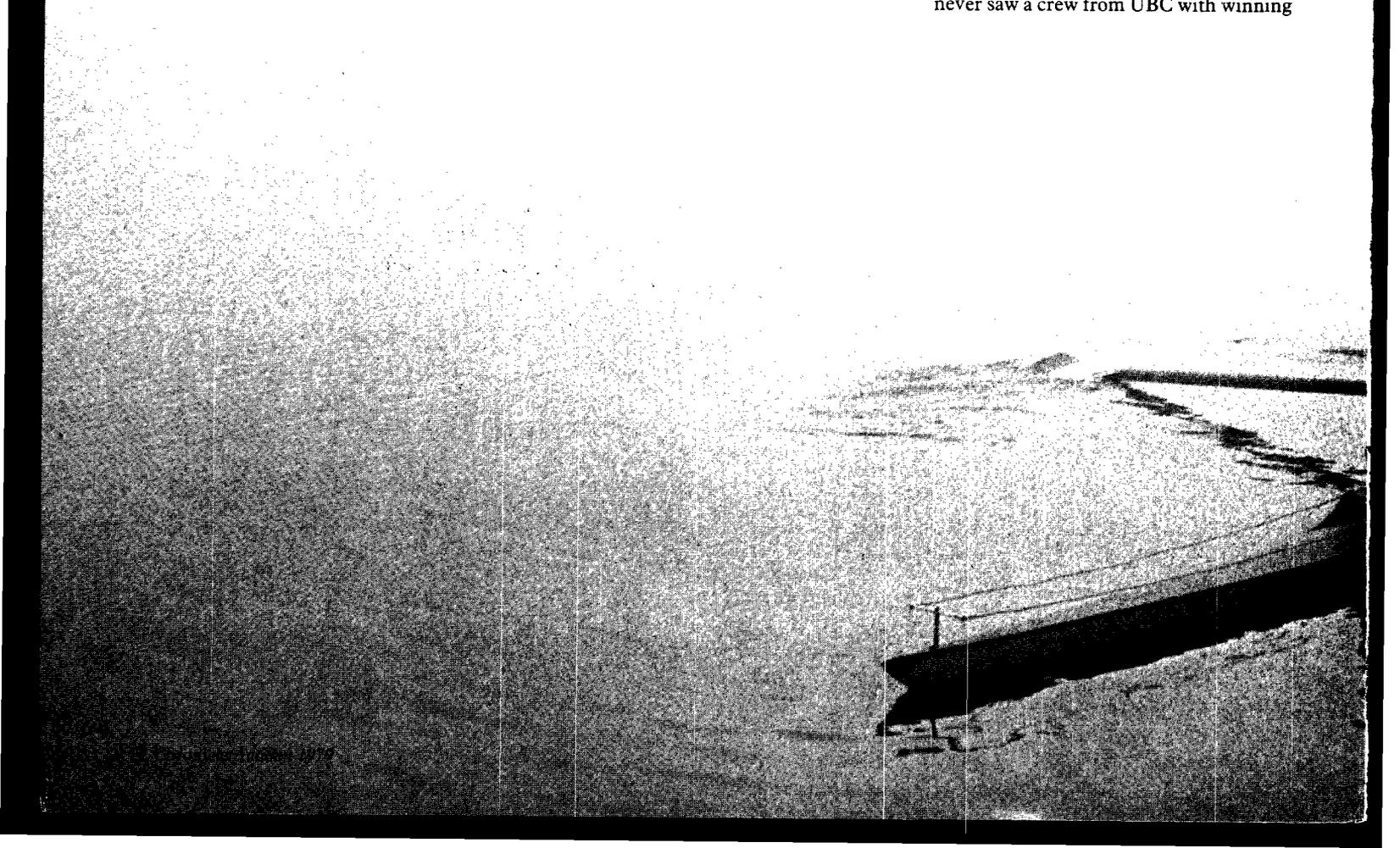
Sheila Ritchie

*"Friday evening, July 30, 1954 was a proud moment for Vancouver; athletes of 24 countries marched into Empire Stadium to open the British Empire and Commonwealth Games.... What thrills the next few days provided. On Chilliwack's Vedder Canal, the untried UBC boat upset mighty England in the 8-oared event. This was the beginning of a decade of growing rowing achievement."*

—CBC Sports—

**N**estled comfortably in the protective lap of Stanley Park's Coal Harbor, the Vancouver Rowing Club (Vancouver's oldest athletic organization; established in 1886) was the early training ground for UBC oarsmen. There, with borrowed VRC equipment, training facility and coach Frank Read (a VRC international rower), an inexperienced yet grizzly bunch of rowers delivered their oars to the chilling harbor waters. The next 10 years — the Frank Read era from 1950 to 1960 — saw the development of fledgling oarsmen into top-flight UBC crews. And to extend the progress beyond the collegiate season in April, Read mobilized the famous VRC-UBC combination, a pooling of collective rowing power, establishing a string of international victories to include three gold and four silver medals.

It seems somewhat ironic that UBC rowers, by tradition, have never been athletes. Many came from limited aquatic programs in the interior regions of the province and some couldn't even swim. "I never saw a crew from UBC with winning



potential” comments Read. “Most boys came out for crew when they found they couldn’t make any other team. I had a group of boys whom I helped and guided. They showed up and did the work.”

The team’s successful reputation began to attract a horde of aspiring oarsmen to the daily practices. The grueling fitness program — Frank Read’s McDonald’s Abdominals, soon renamed McDonald’s Abominables — was a series of 16 strenuous, gut-wrenching calisthenics which discouraged all but the most dedicated. Four sets of 40 squat jumps, arms fully extended above the head, with a total of one minute’s rest has to this day, become a practised ritual.

“For land training we used one corner of War Memorial Gym,” recalls Lyle Gately, BEd ’68, MA’71. “And because the sweat used to peel the varnish off the gym floor, it had to be refinished every year. Worse than that was the muscle soreness. We couldn’t walk downhill without collapsing and one week later we were still walking backwards.”

Training twice daily year-round on the water was even more rigorous. The junior and varsity crews assembled promptly at 5:30 a.m. in VRC’s dark, damp changing room where the Stanfield longjohns, stiff from salt and sweat, hung like boards and the incoming tide used to rise above the narrowly-spaced flooring.

After lighting a coal stove to warm the water supply for after-practice showers, the coxswain directed the team to the drying room to manoeuvre the shell, a reluctant 16 foot centipede, to the water’s edge. “Above heads — Up — Inside grips —

Over and down — One foot in — And away — Number off from the bow when ready — Sit up — Ready — Row.”

A morning weekday row to Second Narrows Bridge was typical. The punishing 36 strokes per minute at periods from one to five minutes were interrupted only by the leisurely flick of Read’s cigar ash as he followed behind in the coach boat.

“On weekends we never knew how far he would push us,” recalls John Cartmel, BPE ’66. “The point of no return was Second Narrows Bridge. When Frank finally said ‘easy all’, we were grateful. But looking around, we found ourselves 50 feet from Port Moody’s beach — a total 36 mile row.”

The final touch to every workout was the 2,000 metre race (the standard distance for all men’s events) from the CPR dock past the memorized landmarks — oil barges, pilings, the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. Then the wheezing cry of “Taconite” (a yacht moored 20 strokes from the clubhouse) echoed across the harbour and ushered in an exhausted crew.

Weather was never a problem; that is, practices were never cancelled because of it. Flimsy singlets and shorts were often mean targets for cold, unrelenting winds and pelting hail and rain.

Don Arnold, BPE ’62, remembers breaking a skiff of ice to clear the the shell past Coal Harbour. And for Lyle Gately, the memory remains clear. “From the bow of the longboat, looking down the backs of the men, bent and rasping over their oars from fatigue, I can still see the steam rising as the snow falls. It was a

built-in sauna right in the heart of an iceberg.”

On good days the crew witnessed a priceless scene of splendid sunrise colors — golden yellow and blazing red, Canada geese honking in flight, inviting brewery smells wafting over the water and the changing energy level of a city coming alive.

While few oarsmen enjoyed the hardships weather provided, many still reminisce about the beautiful memories of the 8-oared boat. To them it was the epitome of the sport and, if not the only event (others include single, double and 4-oared events), it was certainly the one in which UBC specialized.

“The cohesiveness and aesthetic feeling of 8 men swinging through the full span together, lifting the boat out of the water and flying was magnificent,” notes Bill McKerlich, BEd’60. “People talk about highs today. As far as I’m concerned, nothing has ever compared to the feeling of being in that boat.”

Phil Webber, BCom’68, LLB’69, a later rower, agrees. “It’s the total togetherness with nature and the feeling of eight guys getting it on with 250 strokes over 2,000 metres; a symphony of wood, water and humanity and a harmonic sense of the physical surroundings with mind and soul.”

The mastery of such an intricate skill requires the perfect orchestration of every instrument — blade catch, pull and recovery — a cloning of every oar’s movement in time to a finely tuned machine. The frustration of coordinating all oars with the shell’s precarious balance and





Ken Mayer



maximizing the run of the boat (space between the last stroke and the new one) was borne out by miles of fatigue and mental and physical preparation. One-eighth inch mahogany shells the consistency of a match box occasionally broke in half or were swamped by the wake of passing tugboats which chugged toward the bridge. With half the crew bailing and the remainder rowing, power took a back seat to survival. And infrequent capsizes, though short-lived, were long remembered.

When backside blisters the size of strawberries chafe against wet, salted shorts, blood poisoning and staph infection become of major concern. Scraping oar handles against thighs and knees with bruised, cut hands (which weren't allowed to be bandaged) ensures a bloody initiation and certainly slows progress. Rowers could lose up to 10 pounds in a practice from dehydration, a condition which waned an oarsman's energy and upset his sense of balance in the shell. Through ineffective handling, an oar might then "catch a crab" (enter the water at the wrong angle), orbiting a surprised rower out of the boat.

Don Arnold, stroke of the "Cinderella 4," was part of the championship crew which set an unofficial world record at the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne. "We did well due to guts and determination more than style," he notes with conviction. "After the first 200 metres the pain becomes unbearable. Legs burn and a numbness sets in until the 1500 mark. Then it's just a matter of mind over body to finish the race. With every crew in such superb physical condition, the group which wins has to have the best combination of technique and attitude."

Whatever the elements of a winning crew, the initial success story for UBC rowers has much to do with coaching. Many oarsmen believe Frank Read was ahead of his time as a coach both in strategies and in the psychology of sport. If not the instigator, certainly he implemented many techniques before they became vogue. For example, UBC coaches are still using binder twine running the length of the shell (a quarter-inch outside the ear) to stop unnecessary movement of rowers' heads; fatigue barriers and peaking during a performance are now coaching tools of the trade. Read once ordered an oarsman to "break that oar" so that he would apply a proper work force through the water.

"We'd do anything for Read," laughs John Cartmel. "That rower broke two 14-pound oars, one right after the other."

Frank Read's philosophy was directed toward people, not rowers; individual development became more important than winning, though medals were always cherished. Adds Read, affectionately, "I cracked a big whip; I made those boys dig right down inside and see what was there. And I think I instilled a *desire* in many of them to go after what they wanted in life. Surely, this is what teaching is all about."

The appeal of rowing seems to go well beyond the physical skills, the conditioning, fellowship, co-operation and trust in every crew member for a good result. David Helliwell, BA '57, regards rowing "as the best learning experience I ever had. It made me realize that there are no limits to what I can do."

"I've applied what I learned in rowing to every day life," adds George Hungerford, BA '65, LLB '68, an Olympic gold medalist with pairs partner Roger Jackson, MPE '67. "To go beyond your capabilities, to set goals and complete them successfully, gives a person a real sense of accomplishment."

The gratefulness of many oarsmen for a lesson well learned is evidenced by the

number of alumni who have been involved in the UBC program since 1960 (when Frank Read retired from coaching). Whether as referees, assistants or coaches, they continue to contribute their time and expertise to the success of UBC crews.

Rod Bell-Irving, BSc '73, alumni oarsman and 1979 men's team coach looks forward to continuing the UBC tradition. "UBC offers an excellent, concise and challenging program in terms of on-land/in-water training and competitive exposure to other teams," he says proudly. "And with many practices now at Burnaby Lake, a rated Visa Class "A" course, we have some exceptional training opportunities."

On-land sessions from October to the end of April include strenuous weight exercises, distance runs averaging 40 miles per week and exhausting rows on weekends at the lake. In April crews row twice each day — 16 kilometres in the morning and 20 kilometres in the evening. Both types of training emphasize a pacing, rhythm, speedwork and endurance exerting fully over periods up to six and one-half minutes (the estimated race time for the 8-oared event).

"It's difficult to communicate an understanding of what the dedication is all about," notes Bell-Irving. "The only consideration is total commitment to the sport in order to rise to such a level of expertise. While most athletes peak in their early twenties, oarsmen don't mature until their late twenties or early thirties — after thousands of miles of rowing experience. Traditionally, rowers are graduates, are working and/or are married by this time. These responsibilities can be very distracting. While this might apply to other sports, I can't see a majority of alumni athletes committing themselves to the same kind of training routine."

John Richardson, LLB '71, 34-year old stroke of the 1980 Pan Am Games VRC-UBC crew is a case in point. Rowing since

1963, he is somewhat "addicted to the sport" because of its challenge and comradeship. However, he recognizes that the training and self-discipline are brutal and because of family commitments considers 1980 to be his last year.

As usual the sacrifice, dedication and punishment have paid off again in recent months. UBC and VRC-UBC crews proved that they can compete on equal terms with some of the top American rowing artillery. At the Nile Regatta last December, the UBC Invitational in March, the San Diego Crew Classic in April and the Pan Am Games in July the oarsmen collected an enviable number of medals.

At the Canadian Championships in Welland, Ontario, the Canadian Henley in St. Catharines (the biggest club regatta in the world), and the World Championships in Bled, Yugoslavia later this year they are considered among the top contenders.

But regardless of the power of the 1979 team (averaging over 6 feet and 200 pounds), coach Bell-Irving intends to stalk campus during registration to recruit the biggest and tallest rowing potential he can find.

"Given that a taller athlete has an appropriate attitude, which isn't always the case, his stroke (the length with which he can put the blade into the water) will be longer. That's not to say a comparatively shorter man can't make a boat," he points out. "But, in most cases, that's a faster shell."

Since 1972, the national team has consisted of individuals (not club crews) selected to attend the national training camp. A majority of these oarsmen continue to be UBC athletes.

John Gjervan, a third-year commerce student recognizes the advantage of west coast training and he hopes to be a part of the 1980 Moscow crew. "I haven't been rowing very long," comments Gjervan, "so my ultimate goal is the 1984 Olympics."

To make the national team in an Olympic year, the competition will be fierce. The University Varsity program, VRC and Burnaby Lake clubs act as feeders to

the Canadian team and there's no question that UBC oarsmen have a decided advantage over eastern rowers who hope to be selected. Adds Bell-Irving, "on paper, this isn't the university function, but in reality it's exactly what happens. This year there will be a migration of rowers to the west coast and Vancouver will be the centre of rowing activity for both men and women."

Established in September 1976, the UBC women's crew is a dedicated group whose newly-acquired credits are fast approaching those of the men. Not to be upstaged by the long established success of the UBC oarsmen, the women are goal-oriented and, judging from an impressive number of victories since 1976, deserve to be taken seriously. This year at the Western Sprints in May at Los Gatos, California against some of the top-flight American crews, they became the Western Intercollegiate Rowing champions. And at the North West Women's Regional in Seattle, the Junior 8 captured the gold and the Senior 8 (Varsity shell) squeezed the silver. (All women's crews race 1,000 metres and are classified as Junior until they win a Junior event or qualify for the national team.)

A hard-driving training program schedules land work five days a week from September until the end of February. Calisthenics, jogging and weight work are routine and weekends are devoted to rows at Burnaby Lake and Coal Harbour. After March the twice-daily water workouts combine long distance rows using interval, fartlek (a variation in heart and stroke rate) and tempo (overspeed) techniques.

At an early morning practice on Burnaby Lake, coach Glen Battersby, BASc '71, corrects technique as the crew paces through a fatiguing 16 kilometres (eight lengths of the lake).

"That was only 20 strokes per minute," barks Battersby from the coach boat after looking at his stop watch. "Take it up to 24."

As the shell turns for a repeat performance, every rower checks her heart rate to ensure that the aerobic training is on target. At this endurance workout athletes

push themselves at 70 to 80 percent effort for one and one-half hours and try to maintain a heart rate between 140 and 160 beats per minute.

Battersby cautions one of the rowers. "You're working too hard at 170. Knock your power by 10 percent."

With six novice rowers in the Varsity 8-boat, Battersby boasts the best Junior collegiate women's crew in Canada and "probably the best Senior 8." The rowers in this shell average 160 pounds and are six feet tall, many with as little as 13 percent body fat. Tall, lean and lightly muscled, they project grace and femininity. Inside the shell, their unfaltering rhythm is maintained by an efficient and powerfully coordinated effort.

"That's right," prompts Battersby. "Finish off the stroke. Work the handle round and take it to the tape. Use those legs now. Don't slip the clutch."

His pride in an relatively inexperienced crew is obvious. He predicts that "women's rowing will be one of the most competitive sports UBC has ever seen."

Cathy Girvan, a third-year physical education student, believes there's a strong future in rowing for many of her team mates. "The basic motor mechanics can be mastered in a month," she says. "But the finesse of the sport takes years to develop. We all have aspirations for 1980 and our goals go well beyond the collegiate regattas we row in."

Adds team captain Diana Harris, in fifth-year education, "the beauty of a team sport like rowing is that there are no stars in an eight. The final outcome depends on the efforts of a cooperative crew. And it's nice to know that when I graduate, I can continue to get in on the action by rowing for VRC."

The combined VRC-UBC effort has maintained an enviable standard of excellence in UBC open events and has guaranteed a vital west coast rowing base for the future. Both groups have a good thing going. After 25 years, the marriage can only get better. □

*Sheila Ritchie, BPE '72, teaches school in the winter and writes in the summer.*



# The University Chaplains

## Generalists in an Age of Specialization



Eleanor Wachtel

What's been characterized as "loitering with intent," provides 24 hour-a-day service, and seldom wears black? The man from Glad? A post box? The Wreck Beach Flasher? No, the answer is campus chaplains.

What's more, none would be shocked by such a glib description. Contrary to the prevalent notion of men of the cloth as fusty, other-worldly figures who preside over life's serious rituals of birth, marriage and death, UBC ministers are variously women, political activists, enthusiastic scholars, health food aficionados, pinch-hit plumbers, teachers—people, in short. However, despite their diversity of interests, ideologies and aptitudes, several features unite them and set them apart as a group. All share a concern with value, display a surprising flexibility, and encourage self-questioning. "The unexamined life is not worth living." Socrates' words echo from the borders of the campus.

The University of British Columbia, without historical roots entwining church and college, has adopted an essentially American model of the separation of church and state. The university is secular, but accommodates the presence of church-sponsored clergy at its perimeter.

"Chaplains are on the fringe of the university—both figuratively and literally," agrees Don Johnson of the Lutheran Campus Centre, a low-lying sprawling building at 10th Avenue and Wesbrook. At the University of Western Ontario, campus clergy are supplied with a suite of offices; at Simon Fraser University, they're given a single office; UBC regards them with benign neglect. "We exist in a kind of limbo," puns another. To George Hermanson, BA '64, of the Anglican-United Church Campus Ministry, "Marginality means you can ask questions that no one else can, but it also means that you're not necessarily heard." Is there a prophet in the house?

Things used to be even tougher. The first minister on campus and the longest-serving chaplain in Canada, John Ross came to UBC 22 years ago. "Everyone wanted to know what I was doing here. Did the church regard the university as an area to be missionized? Being Presbyterian, I generated the image of Calvin and the Calvinist ethic; and also as a Presbyte-

rian, it was such a small denomination in the West that I was a nobody, a mouse that might try to roar." Ross' major role was as an apologist, trying to justify the place of religion on campus and more broadly, in a secular world. Now he finds greater openness to a variety of viewpoints. "I'm a translator, a bridge between the university and theology."

The last few years especially have seen something of a return to the fold. Along with today's neo-conservatism is a greater acceptance of establishment institutions like the church. Where a decade ago a solitary undergraduate might attend the Lutheran Sunday service, today the 90-seat chapel is jammed and a double service planned. Yet few chaplains are heartened by increased attendance alone. Religion has become privatized; for many, it is enough to attend services without any further involvement.

"This return to religion, a turn towards dogmatism is a passing error," notes Rabbi Daniel Siegel. "I'm not so excited when a lot of kids become Orthodox." Siegel, Hermanson, and Johnson are unrepentant children of the '60s. Social activism was a vehicle—often ahead of or impatient with its time—for expressing concern about others, a consciousness of world problems. But even Neil Kelly of St. Mark's College, a gentle, older presence, acknowledges that today's students are looking for an established orthodoxy with everything settled, "an active spiritual life in a narrow sense. They see the priest as one whose job is to put things in place definitively, though I never did."

Ross too finds a greater pragmatism nowadays. Personal politics (of dating and marriage) have replaced more metaphysical questions. He's not displeased when a student barges into his office, flops into the big easy chair, and demands, "What is life all about?" Without hesitation, Ross replies, "It's about students who come into my office and ask what life is about. We offer process, continuing discussion, not final answers."

Chaplains see as their constituency not just students, but the whole university—faculty, staff, and interested members of the community. "When Margaret Fulton, MA'60, (former dean of women, now president of Mount St. Vincent College in Halifax) first came to UBC, she found it so challenging," describes Bernice Gerard, BA'62, MA'67, of the Pentecostal As-

semblies of Canada, "we used to meet regularly and pray together." Geraldine Fordyce, MSW'73, works with Gerard as executive secretary of the Pentecostal UBC chaplaincy.

Campus ministries are accessible to inter-denominational and non-denominational clientele. "We are not here to protect the faith of the students," emphasizes Hermanson. And while once they may have been perceived as a kind of refuge for the lonely undergrad, a home away from home, by the late '60s there was a shift in focus and the university itself was being called to a proper vocation. To varying degrees, chaplains still view that as part of their role: raising questions. Last spring a seminar on bioethics was held; this winter there will be an international conference on theological process and the aesthetics of Alfred North Whitehead. Ross is currently completing a book on theology and technology.

Formal counselling occupies a relatively minor place in the chaplain's repertoire. Here the problems raised by students are the same as ever: disorientation on a large, anonymous campus; the crises of unwanted pregnancy, drug reaction or suicidal depression; concern with career choice—finding a job that will be meaningful; questions about personal relationships, although "marriage counselling" is now frequently for couples just living together, and questions of religious identity—brought by people who feel a sense of religion but aren't comfortable or sufficiently familiar with the faith of their family. Some have experienced religious involvement—evangelical movements—but need a "mainline church" to make sense of it for them, to add substance.

More of the counselling occurs informally, in conversation, simply because the ministers make themselves available. And that is important because many cannot frame their questions. Siegel observes that frequently students' most basic problem goes completely unrecognized by them: their shallowness, "a narrowness which is a reflection of the times." If they articulate an interest in student rights, Hermanson points out that it is simply an expression of consumer rights, students acting as an interest group without any wider vision. The approach is to blend comfort and advice with searching questioning, to encourage thought.

The chaplains don't deny the students'

concerns—they are real and often deep. A certain hopelessness, a despair about the future is discerned. It's a frustration that leads to destructiveness and a packed pub every night of the week. So recreation alternatives are provided by all chaplaincies and their student-run clubs. The Lutheran Campus Centre, St. Mark's College (Newman Centre), and Hillel provide a physical arena for social activities, speakers, small libraries, snacks, and so on. Student Union Building is utilized for group activities, and for coffee-cup counselling.

On such a large campus, where faculty in a single department may barely know each other, the impact of a chaplain may be hard to measure. (Don Johnson would like to see the campus carved into imaginary sections that each chaplain would then concentrate on to make contacts.)

Operating in a multiplicity of roles, often their influence is conveyed diffusely. Ernest Runions is also principal of the Baptist residential college, Carey Hall; John Ross is also dean of residence at St. Andrew's Hall. With two pipe wrenches lying on a table beside *Ten Faces of the Universe* in Ross' office, there's an attempt to integrate the physical, social and spiritual.

In an age of increasing specialization, the chaplain is a generalist: neither counsellor nor teacher, clergyman nor administrator, but all. "I think of myself as a professional human being," states Rev. Ross. In a time of frenzied activity, jogging escapism, the chaplain simply is. "I spend my time being," Father Kelly adds. "A spiritual lifestyle," concurs Rabbi Siegel, "means that you get a huge amount of satisfaction just from being rather than doing." No wonder they're an enigma to the rest of us. Chaplains are free spirits, the exact opposite of the stereotypic "church-man." They straddle artificially raised borders and disciplines.

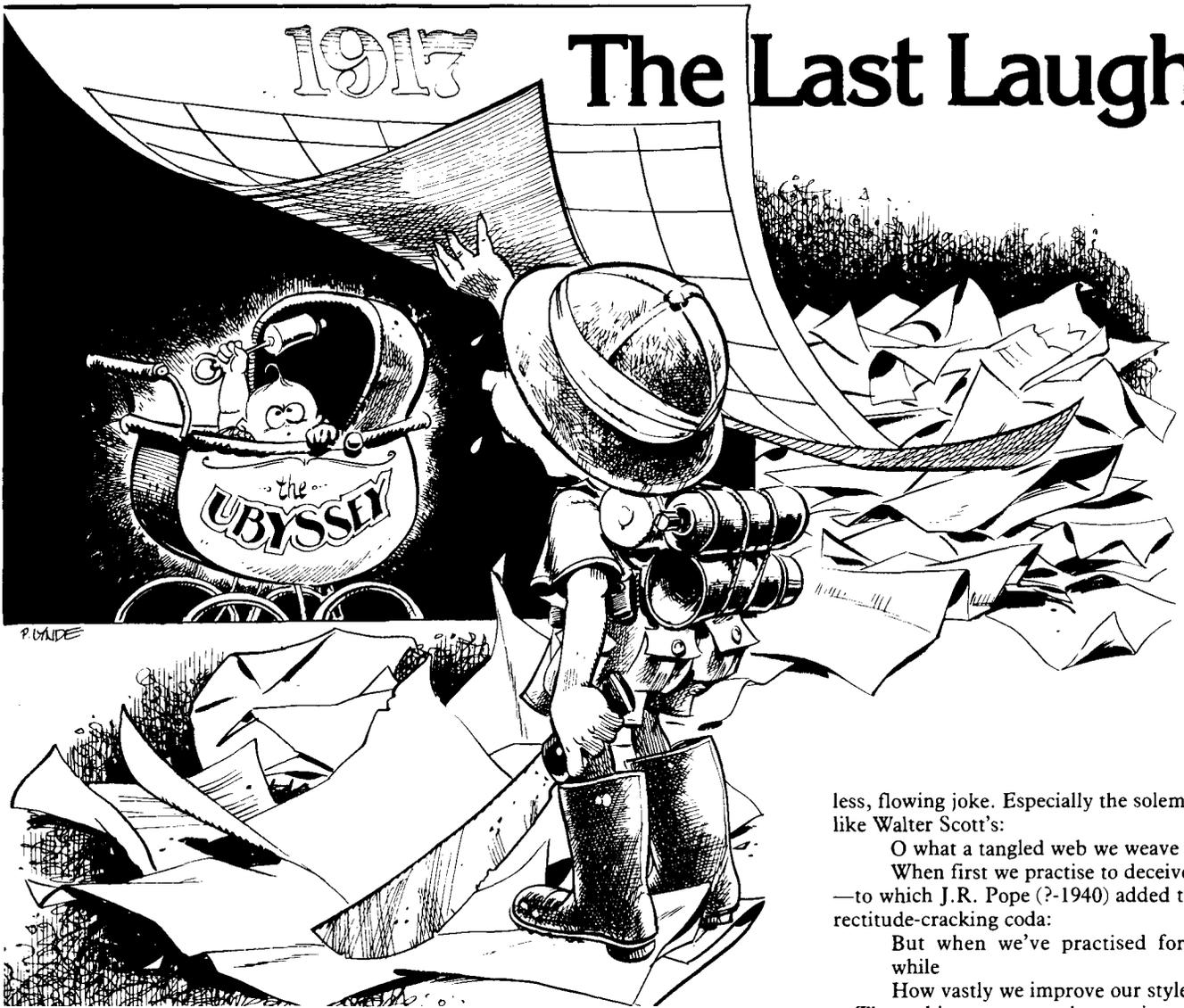
If the university matrix is indeed the primary value-creating mechanism in society today—leaders in politics, science and arts, are shaped here—the chaplain's role can hardly be bounded. Gene Kelly aside, about the only thing a chaplain doesn't have to display an aptitude for these days is tap-dancing. □

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*Eleanor Wachtel is a Vancouver freelance writer and broadcaster.*

1917

# The Last Laugh



**Intrepid explorer  
Trevor Lautens  
invades a jungle  
of old Ubyssseys  
in search of  
that elusive beast,  
College Humor.**

**F**irst: What, then, is humor? We pause for a jillion years' reflection. Reptilian man drowning in the mud of the oozozoic age seizes a twig. "Clutching at straws," hoots a fellow reptilian man, slapping where his knee will eventually form and becoming the first humorist. Maurice Baring (unjustly neglected English novelist) recalling a visitor to the family home who "made jokes so quietly that you overheard them rather than heard them" and who, after going duck hunting, was asked if he had shot any: "Not even a *mallard imaginaire*," was his answer, to the uproarious delight of .04 per cent of mankind, or fewer if including university graduates. The Two Ronnies: "A woman streaker ran through a nightclub in Leeds last night, until she was seized by the bouncers." Oscar Wilde: "Forgive your enemies, nothing annoys them so much." Erica Jong: "The world is a predatory place. Eat faster!" Jack Benny. Erma Bombeck. Cook and Moore. Charlie Chaplin. Doonesbury. Monty Thingumsee. *Reader's Digest*. Your old mother's one funny line. Father. Everything that happens — life's chapter-

less, flowing joke. Especially the solemn, like Walter Scott's:

O what a tangled web we weave  
When first we practise to deceive!  
—to which J.R. Pope (?-1940) added the  
rectitude-cracking coda:

But when we've practised for a  
while

How vastly we improve our style!

These things may, or then again may not, tickle us. All other distinctions — Wit, Irony, Satire, Existential Pornography, Proselytizing Vegetarianism, Politicians — are mere academic conceits, literally fit only for the study of academics or, usually with disastrously unfunny results, humorists out of humor.

We have learned nothing. Let us stand closer.

Ah yes, humor, subspecies college humor. Whither? Whence? Wherefore?

There is an indefatigable human impulse to necrophilia. To mourn the passing of. Men were men then, cloth was cloth, ice cream and maidens were purer, Rome isn't the same as it used to be (and, as someone said, never was). An irony-monger discovered years ago that even nostalgia isn't the same as it used to be, and by the way, why did the world have to wait for me to remark: Who has a greater need of change than the nostalgist?

Thus when asked to limn that staple question of college publications, What Ever Happened to College Humor? your limner experienced two simultaneous impulses. One, to organize a search party. Two, to save a lot of bother and enjoy a good old deadline-stretcher, one of the

few genuine epiphanies of journalism, by asking someone who has been there.

This unquenchable font could only be Mr. Allan Fotheringham, husband of the sometime Vancouver *Courier* columnist Sallye Delbridge Fotheringham. He, one felt, could state precisely when the Golden Age of College Humor, species *Ubysssey*, was on its knobbed legs.

Mr. Fotheringham, claiming a 20 per cent finder's fee, which is still cheap compared with the cost of the pith helmets and insect repellent required for a full-scale search of *The Ubysssey* underbrush, made oath and said:

"The Golden Age of *Ubysssey* humor is..."

(Pure word magic so far).

"...Himie Koshevoy presumably was alive during the mother lode. He once wrote a piece for a 25th anniversary *Ubysssey* wondering why no giggles any more.

"I did too at some later anniversary issue under, I think, Mike Hunter." Mr. Fotheringham then goes on verblessly, apparently an addition to the humor catalogue: "Mr. Justice Nathan Nemetz as sports editor under S. Keate." (The irreplaceable retired publisher of the *Vancouver Sun*, J. Stuart Keate, baseball fan and career *Libra*).

Tears seem to have smudged what follows: "From what little I know, the Golden Age was just preceding the war and just after, that being the extended tenure of [Eric] Nicol as Jabez — the funniest stuff I have ever read this side of Max Shulman. There is a memorial plague [sic, sic, sic!] to Jabez raised by his grateful contemporaries." (This harmless slip of the third digit occasioned a typical weak note from this reporter to Mr. F.: "How unfortunate that the plague wasn't catching.")

"Little known," Mr. Fotheringham continues, mentally fondling his 20 per cent, "is that at the same time, vying for popularity with Nicol as the supreme humor columnist, was one Les Bewley." (As in "Here come de judge," a splendid example of the vanishing whims of humor that ages unborn will frown at in puzzlement.)

"[Pierre] Berton, a maniac, figures largely in stunts and things but not so much *written* humor, if I am correct. He composed the infamous pub board song, suitably obscene, that attracted so many awe-struck freshettes (and Sandy Ross) to the pub board.

"The Golden Age was, of course, the era of Foth (campus chaff) and Chuck Coon, whose colyum was Up a Tree, if you can believe it.

"Sandy (who has since done everything do-able in journalism out of Toronto) introduced the banjo age, about the time of the folk-singing Kingston Trio. Then came a clutch of terribly serious, earnest types" — across whose names we draw a veil, largely in order to forestall legal action. No one can abide the accusation of

lack of a sense of humor, as S. Leacock remarked.

Mr. F. having written the article for me, I was ready to sink into an overstuffed chair, let the royalties pour in, and maybe turn the whole thing into a musical. But, uncharacteristically, the ancient journalistic impulse to inaction left my curiosity unpiqued. Why go? Because it's rumored to be there. Still I resisted. But when a department store held a sale of pith helmets and insect repellent, I saw the hand of God in it.

Thus armed with the rich trove of Mr. F.'s recollections, I have swacked my way clear back to 1917 when the avatar of *The Ubysssey* first appeared. This progenitor was quaintly called *The Ubicee*. (Though even it — Vol. 1, No. 3 — had ancestors. Vol. 1, No. 1 in the year 1916 was called Anon. Its successor the following January was entitled Anonymous. With parentage like that, we see little defence to the perennial charge that *The Ubysssey* has always been run by a bunch of bastards.)

The editor of *The Ubicee* was C.P. Munday, Arts '18, and under his suzerainty the first identifiable shard of campus humor in these parts appeared. It bears the pseudonym Mordax Cynicus, and its title is *The Awts Dawnse*, or *The Sophistication of a Freshman*. Harken to the words that began the wealthy tradition of humor at UBC: "I was just going up stairs when Dink appeared, clapped me on the back, and exclaimed: 'Well, Al, old boy, are you going to the Awts Dawnse to-night?'"

We are not, perhaps, amused, or expecting to be. Maybe it's the ethnic humor. But we shouldn't be surprised. Yardsticks don't come long enough to measure even the distance between the Allens — Fred and Woody — and already some *aficionados* are muttering that the latter's Golden Age has been sold off. And at around \$300 an ounce, why not. Fresh into our explorations, we have already found that humor is the Baked Alaska of writing. Don't expect it to keep till tomorrow. But give Mr. Cynicus his due. He amused, he momentarily relieved pain (what higher good can the cap-and-bells man aspire to?), and I think I will steal his line, "I graduated at the head of my class (the other student failed)." Still, nothing in that seminal issue seemed quite as whimsical as the ad for suits at \$25 from Tom the Tailor.

By 1919 humor's cracked chalice was borne by a column first called Deer Jane — Joe, then Deer Mertel — Joe, using the time-stained gimmick of an illiterate's letter to his lady love. (A hilarious variation, by the way, was Allen Coren's purported letters from Idi Amin in *Punch* magazine a few years ago, which ceased about the time that Amin became too murderous for laughs. Yet one would hesitate to look back even that short time lest the fun has vanished, the knee goes unslapped.)

In the early 1920s the funny stuff ran in



# MUSEUM OF HUMOUROLOGY



an items column called Muck-a-Muck. Example: "Advice to Freshmen: Feed your baby sister garlic so you can find her in the dark." Uh-huh. This column lived on under the rubric Straw from the Stacks. By 1925 it had shrivelled in the guise of More or Less Jokes. A year later it sank with the ashamed alias Kampus Krax.

In the late 1920s it insisted on resurrecting under the tag Muck-a-Muck again. Coleman: "Aren't you wild about bathing beauties?" Pretty: "I don't know, I never bathed one." Yuk, yuk.

A goon issue was produced in 1930 with the title *The Doyussey*. It had all the typographical trick and in-jokes of the breed, doubtless mirth-provoking at the time. We remained unmoved. So, apparently, was at least one member of the contemporary audience, Prof. F.G.C. Wood, whose name liveth. Said Freddy in a critique of the paper: "My personal opinion of the Muck Page is that it is an unhappy reflection of the mental in-alertness of a large portion of the student body. Much of it is strained, and of the level of comic strips in the daily paper."

The Muck-a-Muck did not take the

hint. It quite properly went on with its perishable fun, being no wiser than its age, or ours. By 1934 it was joined by another column, Dirt and Digs From the Campus Garbage Can, which apparently was given to running sly gossipy jibes, such as (under What People Are Saying): "Stu Keate: Nancy has 'Perley' teeth." Ahhhhaaa! perhaps. Around that time Nancy Miles wrote a bright, light column that nevertheless didn't quite qualify as humor. Nothing as amusing as the photo of the young Alex MacDonald, future attorney general, that ran on the front page of the Nov. 2, 1937 issue.

Something vaguely recognizable as the modern era (an arbitrary call that I wouldn't care to defend) began in the late 1930s with the long-run shaggy-dog serial Chang Suey, the epitome of college humor of a certain genre, a phrase so stuffy I will pretend it was written in by the copy editor. It very likely was amusing. One can only guess.

Ah, but then, but then, Mr. Fotheringham's stained map in hand, we find Eldorado. This is the age so dominated by a single fine hand that it merits the name the Age of Jabez.

Jabez was of course Eric Nicol, but the most ruthless scholarship can turn up only one *Ubyssy* story that actually bore that byline. Possibly it wasn't ruthless enough. The scholarship, not the story. In any event, it was as Jabez, author of the column *The Mummery*, that Mr. Nicol lay the foundation of his distinguished career as Canada's premier humorist of the day, three-time winner of the Leacock medal for humor, playwright, columnist ... but we are getting stuffy again.

As advertised, it's true that Jabez stimulated his rivals. We were not prepared for a Les Bewley, for instance, quite as lightheartedly amusing as he was. (Nor for a column by Pat Keatley, long-time writer for London's *Guardian* and a familiar voice from London on CBC radio, under the curious title of *Eating Fruit Salad*.)

These *Ubysses* of the early 1940s, before and around the time the war hotted

up, may be — critics, especially mean, physical ones, will note the qualification — the best of all time. Under the editorship of Jack Margeson, the paper looked more professional by far than for years on either side of the period. And a number of its staff, besides Nicol and Keatley, went on to impressively lose their amateur status: Lionel Salt, Lister Sinclair, Dorwin Baird, and of course Pierre Berton. (Boy, did Pierre lose his amateur status.)

But humor ... Jabez ... ah, there was the Original Tickle. To quote a little would be like eating peanuts — you couldn't stop. It moved (the simile may not impress you) as lightly as one of those spidery waterbugs across the surface of college life. There you had not so much college humor as humor from college. How quickly Mr. Nicol found his mature style — or perhaps, he would indignantly retort, immature style. For it's *The Boy in us* that's the basis of humor isn't it? (Or, to avoid sexism, *The Boy That Girls Have in Them Too*.) The top hat and the snowball and the banana peel. Some forms of writing are thundering gods on thrones, others are the last day of the circus, still others are the stone that must be pushed up the slope. But of all written devices, isn't humor the pet frog and polka-dot kerchief on the end of a stick?

Stay. Stop. Halt. *Arretez*. We came not to analyze or dissect; already we have kept you here too long. We came to worship, and, here in the mouldering volumes, to allow ourselves a frou-frou of tenderness for that brilliant copy of 40 years ago. We came not only to praise the laugh-maker but to imagine the laughes, the boys and girls of laughter of those retreating days. We came for the communism of human fun.

But it would not do to end our journey on this gentle, minor key. Life is allegedly real. Returning from this hallowed ground, we ran into Mr. Vaughn Palmer, *Ubyssy* editor 1972-73 who with crushing cheerfulness said:

"The Golden Age of Humor? That was Jim Davies and Allan Doree and Shane McCune and Ryan Geddes and Paul Knox and Michael Finlay and Leslie Plommer and the infamous parody of Easter in the 1959 goon issue and the fake story that Deep Throat was shown at the faculty club and the take-off on a government anti-drug ad campaign showing W.A.C. Bennett as a pusher.

"Most of it had passed," he added, "by the time I was there."

*Autres temps, autres moeurs*. I sat down and fanned myself with the pith helmet and drank the insect repellent. □

*A bewildering array of UBC degrees and credit lines can be claimed by those mentioned in this article, with the possible exception of Baring, Benny, Chaplin, Doonesbury & Co.... Researcher Lautens, an editor of the Vancouver Sun, is a former member of the Chronicle editorial committee.*

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# when you 'give him a break', you may be giving yourself a bonus.

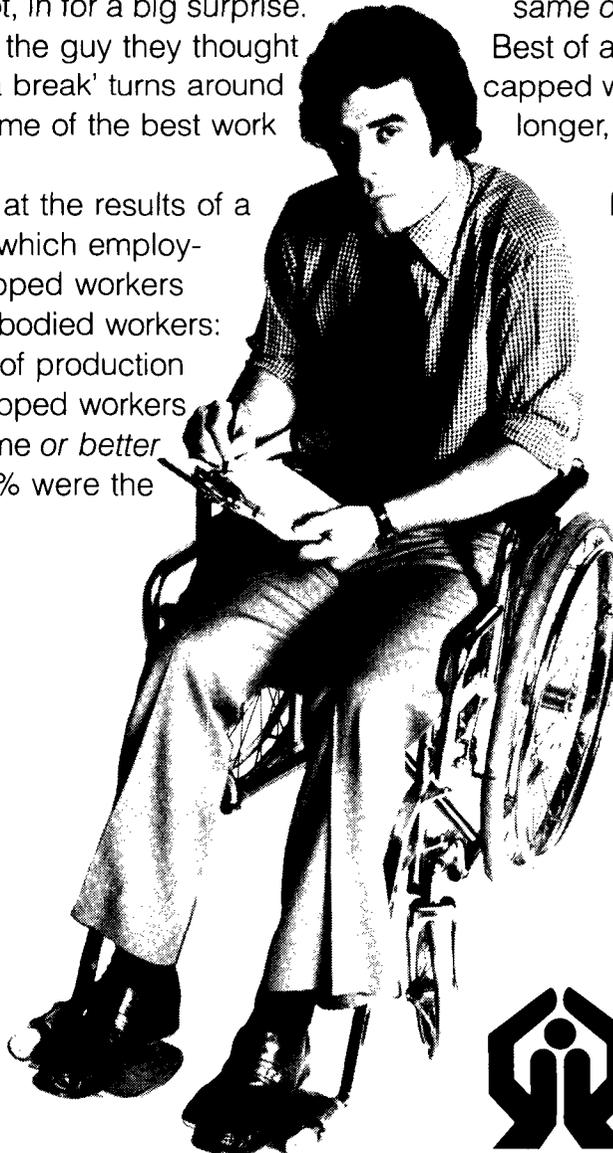
Employers who hire disabled workers are, more often than not, in for a big surprise.

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Regarding level of production — 83% of handicapped workers were rated the same *or better*.

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And as to quality of work, 90% were the same *or better*.

Best of all, the survey indicated that handicapped workers tend to "stay with the firm" longer, dramatically reducing the hidden costs of staff turnover.

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You'll be doing *yourself* a favour.

For more information, call Dave Rabson or Mike Cannings at 266-0211 in Vancouver or contact the rehabilitation consultant in any WCB Area Office.



**WORKERS'  
COMPENSATION  
BOARD** OF BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

# George Volkoff:

## A Particular Kind of Genius

Tim Padmore

**F**or a bright young physicist, 1936 was an exciting time. The deepest structure of matter was unfolding and with the new understanding came the promise of new wealth and power for mankind.

George Volkoff was 22, the top of his class at the University of B.C., and he was off to study nuclear physics in California with the brilliant Robert Oppenheimer. In his pocket, his shiny certificate of Canadian citizenship, behind him, the turbulence of the revolution that cast him on Canada's shores, and ahead of him....

Ahead were things no one could foresee. Nuclear energy would bring victory, and tragedy. It would bring unlooked for benefits, too, but the peaceful nuclear plowshare would be stained forever with the image of Hiroshima. The young physicist would enjoy success and revel in the excitement of the time. But he would discover that he would never be a great physicist. A time would come when he would stop being a physicist at all — a time when he realized he could create monuments of another sort.

George Michael Volkoff retired this year as dean of science after 45 years of association with UBC. One evening recently he reminisced with *The Chronicle* and shared some thoughts about his career.

He was born in Rostov in Southern Russia on the eve of the first world war and the Revolution. In Moscow, the fighting was all over in the winter of 1917 but in Rostov, the struggle went on into the early '20s. Volkoff's childhood was marked by flights to the basement to escape artillery, shell fragments in the laundry and backyard gardens to cope with food shortages.

It was a Canadian Pacific Railroad agent

travelling through Russia recruiting people to settle CPR land on the Prairies who showed Volkoff's father, an engineering professor and principal of the Rostov Polytechnic Institute, the way to a haven for his family. "From the point of view of the CPR, we were to be farmers. From the point of view of Russia, we were *komandirovka* on an official mission — to study irrigation techniques." The family landed in Quebec City, made their way to Winnipeg, where "tales of enduring a Winnipeg winter scared even a Russian," and then on to Vancouver.

Volkoff showed me stamps from the collection he smuggled, quaking, out of Russia. His billowing greatcoat also concealed other family treasures, some of which would be sold later to support the family in Canada, for the senior Volkoff's struggle to establish himself as an engineer was unsuccessful.

"We lived mostly on selling mother's linen and jewelry. I sold newspapers — I remember calling 'Extry, extry, Lindbergh Flies the Atlantic. Read all about it' — and I bought myself a bicycle and loaned money to my father." Hot dogs and baseball supplanted the revolution for three years. Then his father gave up the struggle and took his family to an academic job in Harbin, Manchuria. Young Volkoff thrived in the polyglot atmosphere of an American YMCA high school with White Russian teachers on Chinese territory.

He graduated first in his class (as usual) and it was clear to the family that, for George, the future lay in Canada. UBC wasn't too sure about the Harbin graduation certificate, even with gold-medal standing, and wouldn't admit him to engineering but let him into first year arts and science.

What he wanted was to be an electrical engineer — but then physicist Gordon

Shrum came along. "He was as colorful as he is now, big and loud and funny. When I got 100 per cent in my first mid-term, he called me over and said, 'Well Volkoff, what are you going to be studying next year?'" There wasn't much doubt about the answer, once Shrum got going, and it was an influence Volkoff doesn't regret.

Momentous discoveries about the atom and its nucleus were popping out of the world's laboratories and electrifying classrooms. "To have participated in the development of nuclear physics was something that happens only once. There was a time way back when fire was discovered and this was a second kind of fire."

He took his excitement to California and rubbed shoulders with men who would later win Nobel prizes. With Oppenheimer, he developed the theory of neutron stars, 30 years before they were discovered pulsing the message of their superdense hearts in powerful bursts of radio waves.

Volkoff was scarcely back at UBC, a professor now, just married to his undergraduate sweetheart, when Shrum got a cryptic message from Ottawa: Would he release Volkoff for an important wartime project? "For the first time in my life I travelled in a commercial airplane.... We had to use oxygen masks over the Rockies. I had no idea why I was going. It was all highly exciting."

In Montreal, he learned why: To work on an Allied project to build an atomic bomb. He was shocked, but it was by the dimension of what he was going to do, not by the morality of it. "People have had qualms by hindsight, but I don't know anyone who had qualms at the time. People were working in war conditions and people were thinking, 'Who's going to drop it first?'"

Canada's part in the project led by a long path to the Candu reactor. Volkoff,

*George Volkoff's last day in the dean's chair. On the wall behind him, "my predecessor, my brother-in-law and my photographer."*

as head of the theoretical nuclear physics group at Chalk River, laid a part of the path through his contributions to the design of the NRX, the country's first energy producing reactor. Back in Vancouver in 1946, he collected an MBE and an honorary doctorate from UBC for his war work: "Since my work was secret, nobody knew whether it was important or not, so they had to assume it was important," he laughed.

The joke reflects his self-doubts at the time. He's frank about it now: "There's a difference between a good student and a good scientist.... All through my career I have been a diligent and successful student, winning scholarships and prizes, but there are many people on the physics staff at UBC who are better physicists than me, and I readily admit it — I brought some of them here."

He began to succeed at a different kind of challenge. With Shrum, he built up the graduate program — the first British Columbia PhD was one of Volkoff's students — and in 1961 he took over as head of the physics department, which Shrum had nurtured from three to 25 faculty members.

That total had doubled when Volkoff accepted the invitation to take over as dean of science. "It just sort of fitted very well. I developed as UBC did." Building up Chalk River. Building up the university. Building up the \$30 million Triumph nuclear facility. Those were the things, it emerged, that he had a genius for.

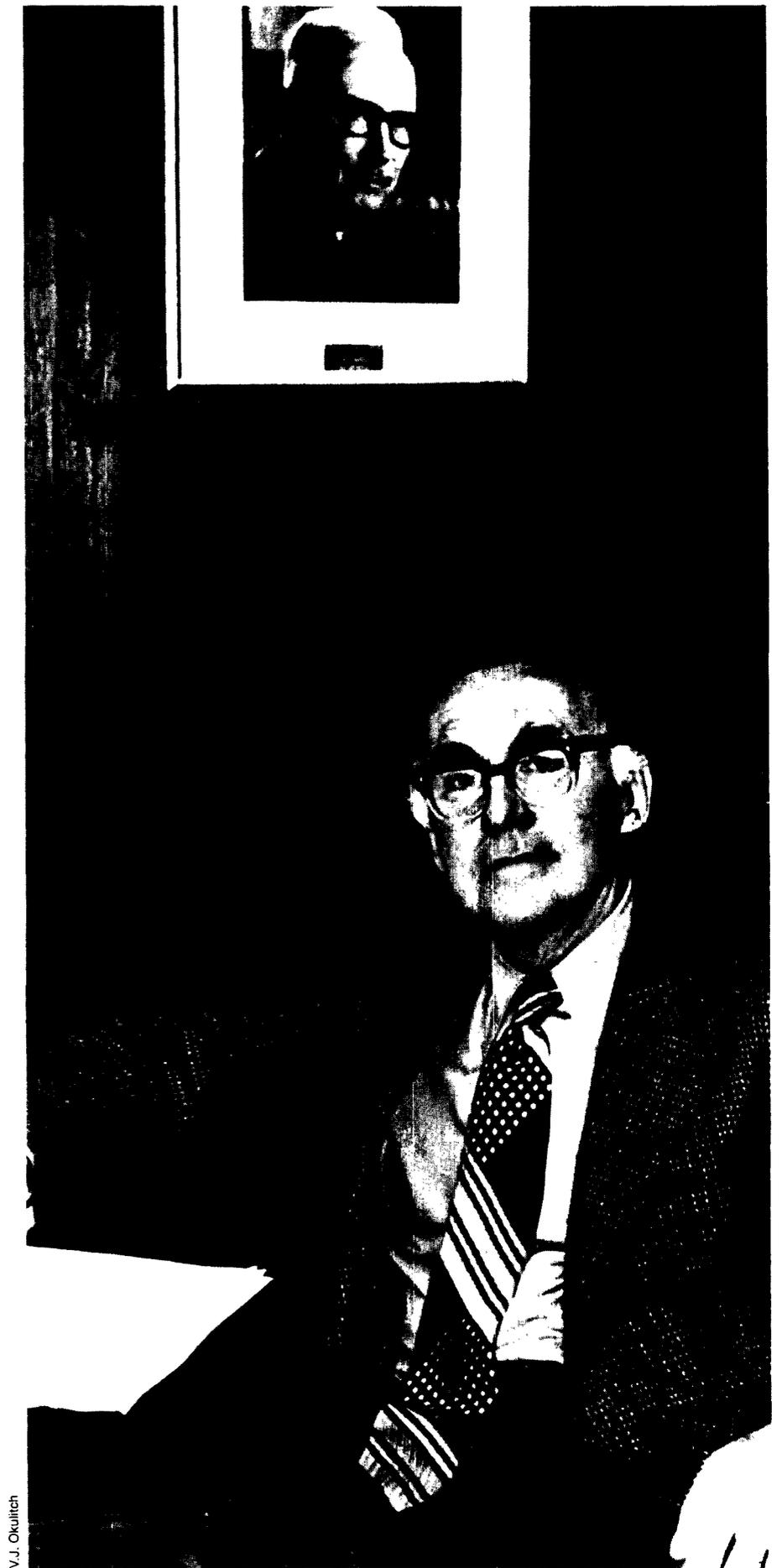
Take Triumph, for example: A long-term friendship with the chairman of the board of governors, Nathan Nemetz, was crucial in getting UBC's go ahead. "Some of the most important decisions about Triumph were reached in Nemetz' swimming pool.... My contribution was that business of building a bridge between the UBC hierarchy and the scientists."

"Administrative monuments" he calls these things.

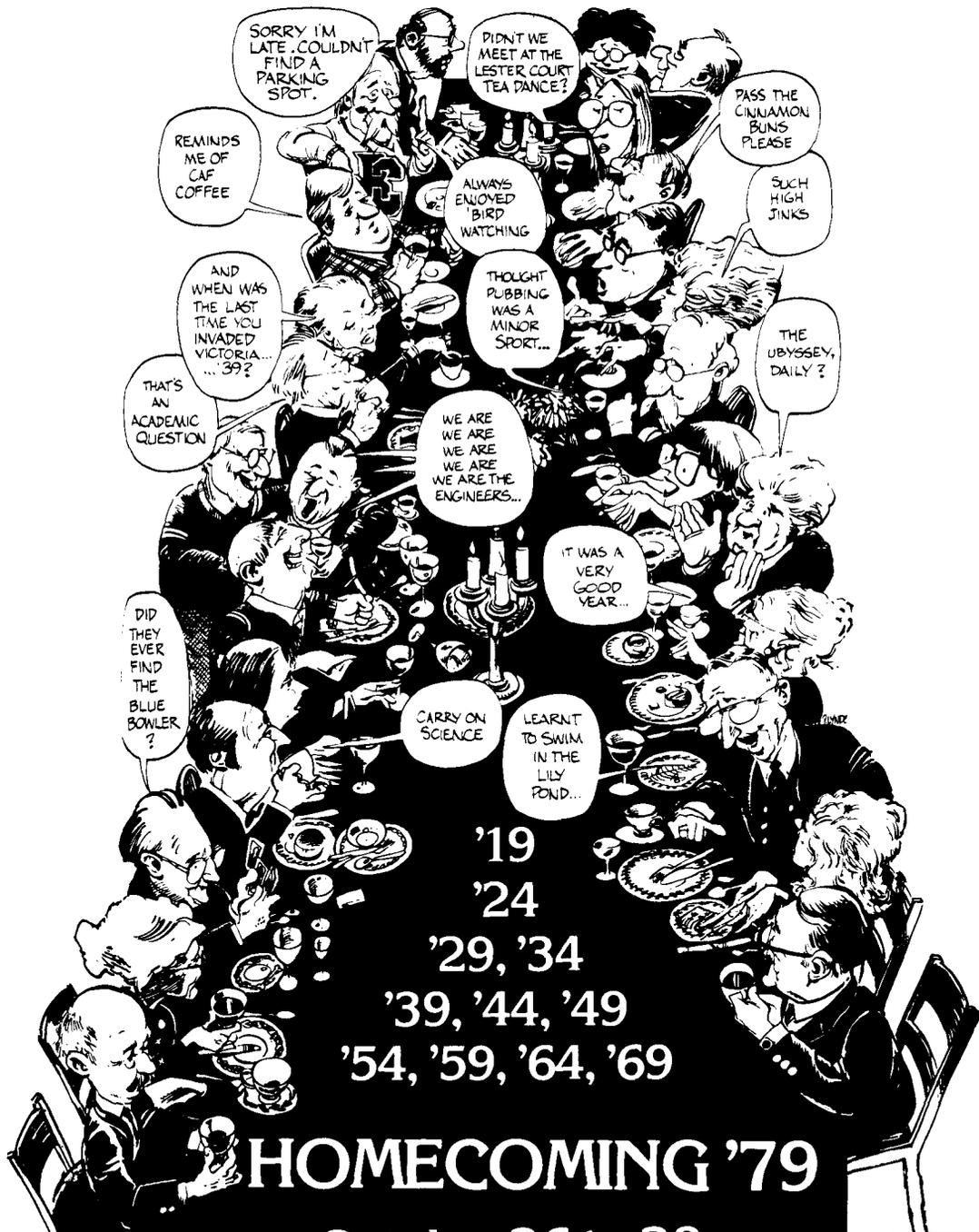
That evening there was another kind of monument he was just as proud of. A family of UBC grads: Wife Olga, BA'33, MA'35, sister of another UBC science dean, Vladimir Okulitch, daughters Elizabeth, BA'68, Olga and Alex, BA'71, and, perhaps a future grad, infant grandson David, entrusted to the grandparents for the first time that evening.

It's important, said Volkoff, to understand what contributions one can make, whether they are as modest as a nuclear accelerator or as magnificent as a new life.□

*A lapsed physicist, Tim Padmore, BA'65 (PhD, Stanford) writes on science for the Vancouver Sun.*



V.J. Okulitch



## Friday, October 26

Classes of '39, '44, '49 & '54

Cocktails: 6:30 p.m., Commodore Ballroom

Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

Dancing: 9:00 p.m., \$17.50/person

### Opening Night: "Our Town"

Frederic Wood Theatre, UBC

8:00 p.m., \$4.50/person

### Class of '34

Cocktails: 6:30 p.m., UBC Faculty Club

Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

## Saturday, October 27

Seminar: "Role of the University"

Frederic Wood Theatre, UBC

10:00 a.m. - 12 noon

## October 26 to 28

### Class of '24

Luncheon: 12 noon, Cecil Green Park

Football Game: U. of Alberta Golden Bears vs. UBC Thunderbirds

Thunderbird Stadium  
2:00 - 4:30 p.m., \$2.00 at the gate

### UBC Aquatic Centre

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
\$1.00/adults, \$.75/students,  
\$.50/seniors & children

Campus Bus Tours, Leaving from  
Cecil Green Park at 2:15 p.m., 3:15 p.m.  
& 4:15 p.m.

### Classes of '39, '44, '49 & '54

Reception: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.,

Cecil Green Park

Tours of the UBC Museum of

Anthropology

Meet in the lobby, 3:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.

### Class of '29

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m., Cecil Green Park

Dinner: 7:30 p.m., \$15/person

Speaker: Dr. Gordon Shrum

"UBC Fifty Years Ago"

### Classes of '59, '64 & '69

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m., UBC Faculty Club

Dinner: 7:30 p.m., \$17.50/person

# UBCreports

Published as a supplement to the UBC Alumni Chronicle by Information Services, University of B.C., 2075 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5. No. 10, Autumn, 1979. Jim Banham and Judith Walker, editors.



A UBC law teacher says legislation dealing with children needs an overhaul. See page 6.



A UBC expert describes the "golden ages" of children's literature. See page 12.



1979: International Year of the Child

## ABOUT THIS ISSUE

This issue of *UBC Reports*, like past autumn issues which have appeared as an insert in the *UBC Alumni Chronicle*, is devoted to a single subject.

Our topic this year is UBC research and ideas about children, who are in the limelight as a result of the United Nations declaration of 1979 as the International Year of the Child.

Because of space limitations, we have been able to deal only with a small fraction of the total number of projects by UBC faculty members that bear on the world of the child.

We have chosen to describe the research and ideas of faculty members who represent many faculties, schools and departments of the University to indicate that concern about young people is not confined to obvious areas such as education and pediatrics. Teaching and research on the subject of children is also taking place in architecture and law.

We hope you enjoy the contents of this issue. We'll be pleased to hear from readers who may have ideas for single-subject issues in the future.



Blind kids can look after themselves. See page 8.



UBC architecture students have been in Greece to prepare plans for Athens playgrounds. See page 2.



A UBC pediatrician has spent 20 years studying babies of low birth weight. See page 4.

# Students give Athens a playground

"To design a playground is to design spaces for life generally, in which play opportunities reveal themselves to the playful."

With that as part of their philosophy, 20 students from UBC's School of Architecture set out last January to change a plaza in downtown Athens into a playground and general meeting place for the neighborhood.

The students would have from January to mid-April to become acquainted with the community, find out what the residents wanted, design the playground, get the project plans approved by various government bodies, and begin construction. That was a tall order, and project coordinator John Gaitanakis, an assistant professor in Architecture, gave the project a five per cent chance of ever being built on the site in Athens.

He needn't have been so pessimistic. About three days before Mr. Gaitanakis left Athens in the spring, a local contractor was chosen by the government to begin building the playground and community meeting place.

The idea for closing off some of the streets of downtown Athens and creating playgrounds and pedestrian plazas came from Mr. Gaitanakis

some five years ago in a report which he presented to the Greek government. The Greek ministry of public works decided to implement his proposal as part of its contribution to the International Year of the Child. Eventually, 265 streets will be closed to vehicle traffic to create play areas for children.

But in the 100 days which the UBC students had in Greece, they could only realistically tackle turning one area into a successful playground and community place.

## Credit course

There was little time for sightseeing at first for the students, who would receive half of their year's academic credits for the project.

"It was six weeks before they even got to the Acropolis, although we lived next door to it," said John Gaitanakis who, along with Ron Walkey, was one of the two faculty members who accompanied the students. "It was that intensive. We went through the whole project telescoping into six weeks what sometimes takes years."

The first two weeks of the adventure was spent totally immersing the students in the history and culture of

Athens and its three-and-a-half million people. Seminars were set up with local historians and social scientists so that the students would have some idea of how the Greek society worked before they attempted to create a new area.

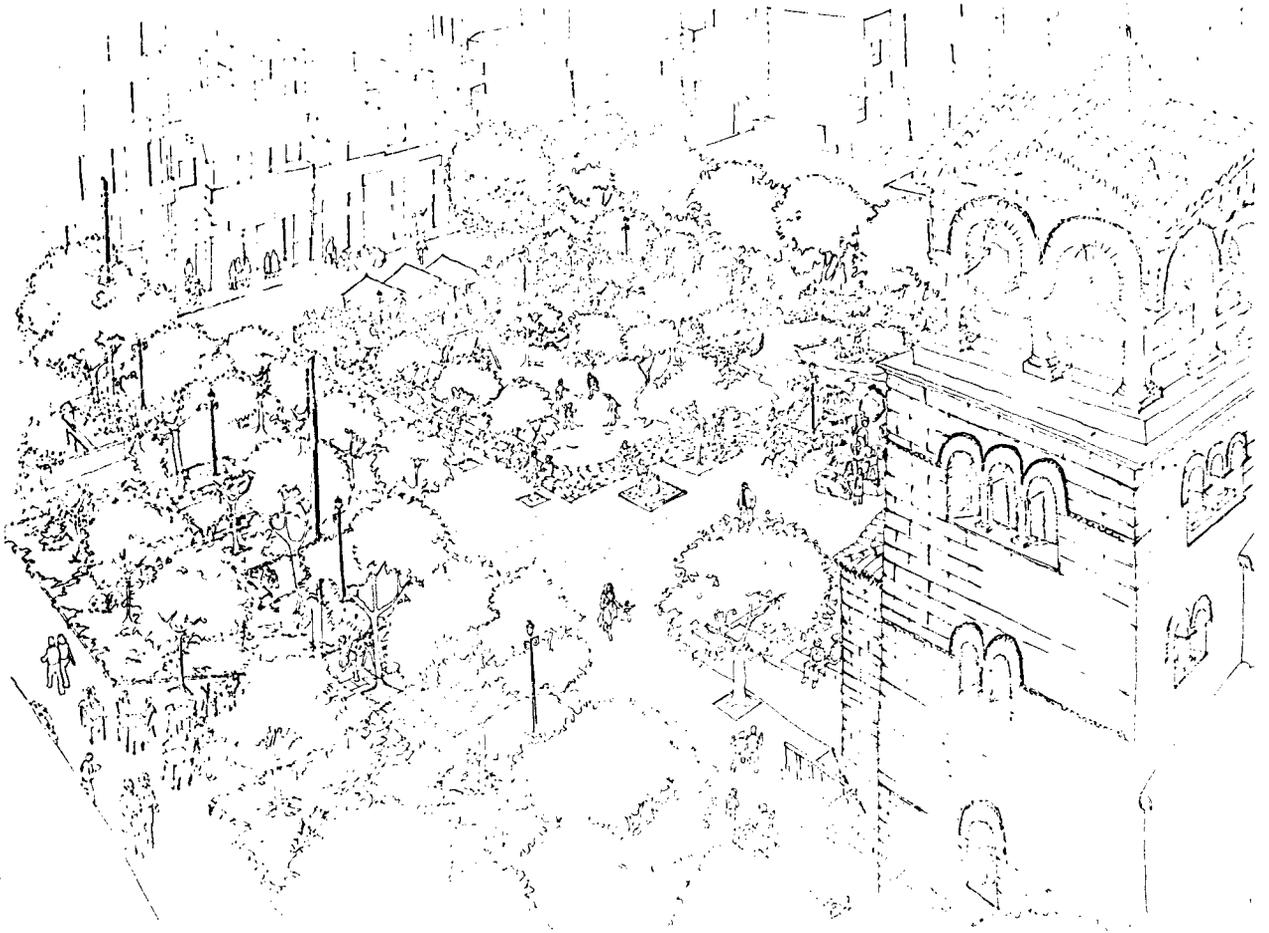
Then came door-to-door interviews, accomplished through a translator, with the people in the neighborhood to find out what their concerns were and what they wanted in a neighborhood area. The residents' concerns, they discovered, were different from the concerns of the shopkeepers, the latter being worried about the effect on their businesses of closing the surrounding streets to vehicular traffic. Loading, service and garbage collection were also problem issues to the shopkeepers, just as they would be at home in Canada.

The square chosen for renovation was, in fact, a multi-purpose area. With a major Athenian church abutting one end of the plaza, it had to be not only a playground, but also a place to worship, to sit in the sun and watch passers-by, a place to meet friends—in short, a place for all ages.

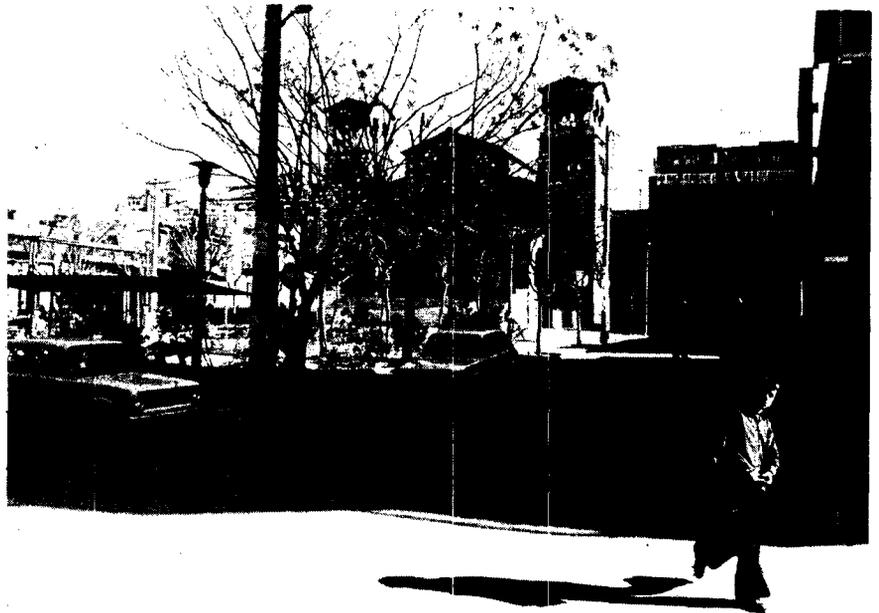
After the design stage for the

Continued on page 14  
See ATHENS





The children of Athens play in car-choked streets, left, because the built-up central part of the city lacks playgrounds. From January to mid-April this year, 20 students from UBC's School of Architecture were in the Greek city preparing plans for changing a plaza, pictured at right, into a playground and general meeting place. Artist's sketch above shows the plaza as it will appear after work, now underway, is completed. Plan involves closing off street shown in picture at right.



# UBC study of low birth weight babies yields exciting results

A 20-year study of babies of low birth weight by a University of B.C. medical research team is yielding some exciting results that will enable doctors to predict the problems which many of these children will encounter later in life.

This is one of the important results to emerge from the study which has preoccupied its principal, Dr. Henry Dunn, professor of pediatrics in UBC's Faculty of Medicine, since 1959.

Some 30 medical and other experts, including medical research associates, psychologists, neurologists, eye specialists, educational and audiological consultants, a succession of nurse-co-ordinators, computer analysts and electroencephalographers, have been involved in the project, which has been supported by research grants from the Department of National Health and Welfare.

The project is yielding new insights into the difficulties of low birth-weight children and confirming results reported by research teams elsewhere.

"It's been known for some time," Dr. Dunn said, "that children of low birth weight, both prematures and those born at term, have a higher incidence of neurological defects than those born with normal birth weight.

## Major defects

"The low birth weight children have a higher prevalence of mental retardation, cerebral palsy and epilepsy and many also have major defects of speech, hearing and eyesight."

When Dr. Dunn talks about babies of low birth weight he means a child who at birth weighs less than 5½ pounds or 2,500 grams, which corresponds to an official international definition.

The UBC study dealt with 500 babies born at the Vancouver General Hospital between 1959 and 1965 who weighed less than 4½ pounds or 2,040 grams at birth. For purposes of comparison the research team also followed the progress of 200 children of normal birth weight who were born at VGH during the same period.

The children in both groups were given an intensive series of neurological, pediatric and psychological examinations at regular intervals from birth to the age of 6½ when all had reached school age. The children's development was correlated with data

extracted from a socio-economic questionnaire.

By 1972, 6½ years after the last child had been taken into the study, the research team had collected an enormous amount of data which had been stored in UBC's computer. There were more than 40 IBM cards full of information on each child.

As the researchers expected, they weren't able to follow the development of every child. In the low birth-weight group, 82 children or 16 per cent of the 500 babies, died in the first few weeks of life. (By contrast, only one child in the normal birth-weight group died.)

There was further attrition in both groups because many moved to other parts of the continent, although the research team did manage to track some of them down. Another factor that affected the numbers in the normal birth-weight group was the fact that some parents lost interest in the study because their children were progressing normally.

In the final analysis, the research team was able to follow 335, or 80 per cent of the survivors of low birth weight, and 139, or 70 per cent of the children with normal birth weight.

In the group of 335 low birth-weight children the researchers found that 140, or 42 per cent, developed one or more neurological problems. In all, the 140 children exhibited 180 defects.

One of the interesting findings of the study was that the commonest problem encountered among 61, or 18 per cent, of the low birth-weight children, was a controversial entity known as "minimal brain dysfunction," or MBD for short. This proved to be more common than the severe defects recorded by researchers in the past, such as mental retardation (found in 30), cerebral palsy (in 27), major visual defects (in 15), hearing loss (in 12) and epilepsy (in 11).

MBD, Dr. Dunn explains, rests on the concept that the brain has four main spheres of function — motor activity, sensory perception, intelligence and electrical activity. In the severest cases, a child with motor problems would have cerebral palsy; one with sensory problems might be blind or deaf; a child with intellectual deficits would be mentally retarded; and one with problems in the electrical sphere would be epileptic. In particularly severe cases, a child would have more than one of these deficiencies.

"The MBD concept is that children have minor abnormalities in one or more of these areas," Dr. Dunn said. "A child with a mild motor abnormality would be clumsy, one with sensory problems might be unable to draw because he or she can't distinguish between, say, a diamond and a square, a child with intellectual difficulties would show some learning disability, and one with problems in the electrical sphere might have abnormal brain wave patterns but no epileptic seizures."

## Under attack

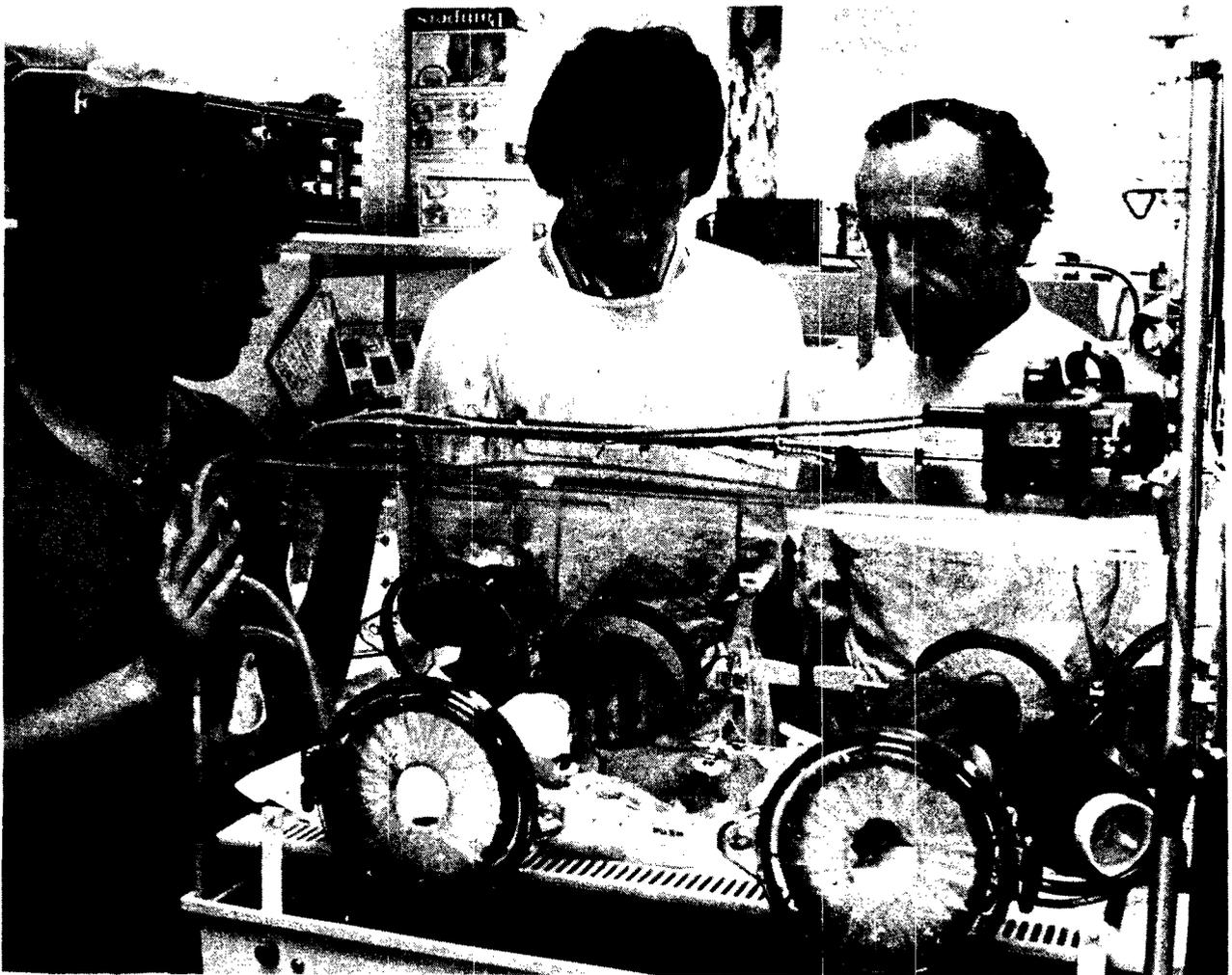
The concept of minimal brain dysfunction is now under attack by critics who claim that MBD symptoms are simply a grab bag of items that explain everything and nothing. Researchers, the critics say, have to be more specific about what is wrong with a child who is hyperactive or has a brief attention span or who exhibits clumsiness, poor hearing or speech defects.

"One of our major efforts at the moment," Dr. Dunn said, "is to perform a sub-analysis of the 61 MBD children of low birth weight to determine what symptoms of MBD each exhibits. Here we run into a lot of overlapping because those who are clumsy often cannot read well and an overactive child may exhibit psychological problems such as tantrums." It has also emerged from the research group's study that mild forms of dysfunction can rarely be diagnosed when the child is under 2½ years of age and that the manifestations may change as children grow older.

"It's not until the child reaches the age of 4 or even 6½ years that MBD becomes the single most important problem among the low birth-weight group," Dr. Dunn said. "So it's very important to observe how MBD symptoms evolve. For instance, a delay in the development of speech may herald future MBD."

An important extension of the project was a "daughter study" supervised by Dr. Dunn between 1974 and 1977 when the low birth weight children and the normal birth weight controls had reached the age range of 12 to 15 years.

The research team managed to recall 40 MBD children and matched control children of low birth weight who had been considered neuro-



Two UBC medical students confer with pediatrics professor Henry Dunn in VGH intensive care nursery

logically normal at 6½ years, as well as 25 normal birth-weight control subjects, to carry out a series of tests showing how children in each group had developed. They found that the earlier neurological problems of the MBD children had abated considerably, but psychological and behavioral problems persisted.

"Many had overcome such things as clumsiness," Dr. Dunn said, "but difficulties in visual perception remained, for instance in copying shapes. In the behavioral area, there appeared to be a diminution of overactivity and tantrums, but these same children still often had brief attention spans and tended to be impulsive."

The results of the daughter study suggest that there is a continuing need to follow the MBD children into adulthood in order to examine long-term effects, Dr. Dunn said.

He also believes that the results of the study will enable the research team to isolate a battery of the most important 5 or 6 predictive signs out of 120 surrounding low birth weight.

"In other words," he said, "we may be able to say to pediatricians: 'Here are six signals that you must look for in a baby of low birth weight to determine whether the child will exhibit

neurological abnormalities in the future.'

"We think we can achieve about 80 per cent accuracy in predicting whether a specific infant will be neurologically normal at age 6½ and whether he or she will be in the correct grade by the third year of schooling. I think the possibility of being able to predict is the most exciting part of the study."

## At-risk register

Dr. Dunn said the project results also suggest the need for an "at-risk register" of newborn infants, which would include children of low birth weight who were ill in the Intensive Care Nursery as well as other categories, such as those whose mothers had German measles while pregnant, and those who had a brain hemorrhage a birth.

"The establishment of such a register under government auspices would enable pediatricians to detect defects early in the child's life and follow them intensively. For instance, children with hearing defects, which are hard to detect before six months, could be identified early in life and steps taken to help them with speech

stimulation and hearing aids. It would also enable early adjustment by parents to the child's problems."

The huge amount of data collected during the study could be a gold mine for future researchers, Dr. Dunn believes. "We're only utilizing part of it to analyze the outcome and to identify the signals that will enable doctors to predict future abnormalities, and there are plenty of opportunities for other experts to use the data we have amassed," he said.

Some of this kind of research has already begun, he adds. One of his colleagues, Dr. Ruth Grunau, is looking at early psychological tests performed on the low birth weight children in order to correlate these with the educational problems encountered by the children in school.

Other associates have been interested in feeding patterns among low birth weight children. "The question is whether those of low birth weight who take in a lot of calories in the first week ultimately do better than those who are starved because they are too weak or fragile or cannot breathe properly early in life," said Dr. Dunn. "It appears that an underfed child of low birth weight may suffer brain damage through lack of nutrients."

UBC Law professor Donald MacDougall says he can't understand why B.C. hasn't moved to implement new child-protection legislation. "It's not an area where one would expect that proposals would be a matter for partisan politics."



Picture by Jim Banham

## Canada's child laws need an overhaul

A UBC law professor says proposals for a Bill of Rights for children are "a simplistic solution to a complex problem" which are likely to be ineffective because they ignore the importance of the family in western society.

Prof. Donald MacDougall, a specialist in family law, says the 1959 United Nations' Declaration of the Rights of the Child (see box), a cornerstone statement marking the 1979 International Year of the Child, is really an ideal statement of childhood which is important as a basic philosophical position.

The inevitably vague and general phraseology of the UN declaration would make it almost unenforceable legally, Prof. MacDougall believes, and any meaningful legislation would impose duties on parents and governments which would have widespread implications for the complex relationships between the state, the family and the individual.

"The UN declaration," he adds, "presupposes that you are treating the child as an individual, whereas in western society we assume there will be a very important relationship between the child and its parents, who will guide and direct the child for a considerable period of time."

The family, Prof. MacDougall continues, is under stress. In ideal circumstances it provides a setting for the individual to reach his or her peak of personal development and fulfillment.

"But many families fall short of that ideal," he says. "We all know situations where families are utter failures and there are many others that need extensive community support if they're to function at a satisfactory level. The crucial question is: 'How are the children of these families to be protected?'"

Prof. MacDougall believes that existing Canadian legislation protecting

children and their rights is clearly inadequate and needs a thorough overhaul to make it more responsive to contemporary life.

Much of the existing legislation that affects children can be characterized as "paternalistic," Prof. MacDougall says. Moreover, the legislation reflects adults' concerns rather than the interests of children.

"One very apt comment made in the report of the B.C. Royal Commission on Family and Children's Law (the Berger Commission) in the mid-1970s was that the existing provincial Protection of Children Act fails to take into account the child's sense of time.

"The very important decisions affecting children that can be made under the act are made in a reasonable period according to the adult's sense of time, but after a very considerable delay in terms of the

child's sense of time," according to Prof. MacDougall.

The B.C. royal commission recommended changes in the Protection of Children Act so that lawyers, social workers and judges involved in a case affecting children would have to observe mandatory time limits designed to ensure that a child is not left languishing.

It also recommended that courts should be able to review placements made under that act.

The government has not acted on the recommendations of the B.C. royal commission. However, a draft family and child services bill was circulated last year to interested B.C. groups and individuals. It met with a "negative response," Prof. MacDougall says.

Since the provincial proposals were circulated, says Prof. MacDougall, a provincial election has intervened, and the fate of the proposed legislation remains uncertain.

## Action needed

Prof. MacDougall says he can't understand why there hasn't been more action in B.C. to move ahead with legislation in the child-protection field. "It's not an area where one would expect that proposals would be a matter for partisan politics," he says, and most Canadian provinces have made some notable advances in this area, particularly Ontario, which has incorporated many of the suggestions made by the B.C. royal commission into new legislation.

Another piece of legislation, the federal Juvenile Delinquents Act, which hasn't been significantly changed since 1908, contains many provisions that don't adequately protect children and is based on the assumption that the juvenile justice system would operate on a paternalistic basis, Prof. MacDougall says.

Another federal act which Prof. MacDougall points to as being adult oriented is the federal Divorce Act, under which arrangements for custody and maintenance of children usually are determined by adults. "There is a case to be made for a review of those arrangements and for the child to be represented at that time," he says.

Other areas of legislation that need to be looked at closely, he says, are the rights of infants to deal with property as well as contracts of employment.

"Even though the age of majority has dropped to 19, it's very possible to find a sharp 17- or 18-year-old who is quite capable of managing a business but who would find it difficult to enter

into legal contracts under existing legislation.

"And there are increasing opportunities for talented young people to develop athletic and artistic talents which require them to sign legal contracts."

Prof. MacDougall believes that these are areas affecting young people where "the law is clearly out of touch with reality."

One of the areas that most concerns Prof. MacDougall is that of child abuse.

The provincial Protection of Children Act requires an individual who becomes aware of abuse to report

## Ten basic rights of child listed

Here are the 10 basic rights of the child proclaimed by the United Nations for the International Year of the Child.

1. The right to affection, love and understanding.
2. The right to adequate nutrition and medical care.
3. The right to protection against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation.
4. The right to free education and to full opportunity for play and recreation.
5. The right to a name and nationality.
6. The right to special care, if handicapped.
7. The right to be among the first to receive relief in times of disaster.
8. The right to learn to be a useful member of society and to develop individual abilities.
9. The right to be brought up in a spirit of peace and universal brotherhood.
10. The right to enjoy these rights regardless of race, color, sex, religious, national or social origin.

it to the superintendent of child welfare, who is empowered to conduct an investigation.

"The general philosophy of the ministry — and it's one I can't disagree with — is that every effort should be made to keep the child in the family situation."

However, he adds, "the statistics on the number of children who are killed or seriously injured even after an investigation has taken place raises doubts in my mind about the adequacy of the response. It seems to me that too many children are being

allowed to remain in at-risk situations."

He admits that getting full and accurate information on the subject of child abuse is very difficult. Much child abuse still goes undetected, even though one of the "major legal breakthroughs of the last 20 years has been the establishment of child-abuse registries."

Prof. MacDougall says a major criticism of provisions requiring child abuse to be reported is the tendency to believe that the problem has been solved as the result of the inclusion of such provisions. "In effect," he adds, "not a great deal has been done to protect the child from abuse unless services are expanded to cope with the increased number of reported cases."

Prof. MacDougall sympathizes with those who are responsible for administering the law on child abuse. "It's clear they have difficult decisions to make, but once again my concern stems from the number of cases of abuse that take place even after an investigation has been conducted."

## Basic reasons

There are two basic reasons for this, he believes. "First, even though the law gives the government authority to remove a child from situations in which he or she's at risk, there appears to be a lot of misinformation among social workers about what the courts will require by way of legal evidence before ordering a child's removal.

"An excellent case can be made for more co-operation between the professional disciplines, because lack of communication is clearly one of the problems.

"A related problem," he says, "is the skill and experience of the social workers investigating child-abuse cases. The judgment required is of the highest order and I can't help but feel that the profession has problems recruiting enough people of the required calibre."

There is no lack of interest in family law in UBC's law school, Prof. MacDougall says. "In the mid-1960s, many law schools, including UBC, decided to put increased emphasis on family and criminal law.

"Since then, I think it's fair to say that most students who have passed through this law school have taken family law, even though it's optional. Early in the 1970s, I started a course in law relating to juveniles and thought I might get 10 to 20 students interested in more specialized work. I've never had less than 60 in that course."

*Blind kids can...*

## UBC team helps those who help the blind

Every year, 150 or more Canadian children are born blind.

Most new parents feel overwhelmed when they think of the years that lie ahead in coping with the problems of raising and educating a visually impaired child.

Life has been made a little easier for this special group of parents by a team of people closely associated with UBC. They've produced a pair of books, one for the parents of blind children and the other for professionals working with the visually handicapped, that are designed to be both informational and supportive.

### Principal authors listed

The principal author of *Can't Your Child See?*, the handbook for parents of blind children, is Eileen Scott, who holds a clinical appointment in UBC's Department of Ophthalmology and who was for 30 years associated with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind until she retired last year.

Her associates in the production of the book for parents were Dr. James Jan, co-ordinator of neuropediatric and blind programs in Vancouver's Children's Hospital Diagnostic Centre, who also holds a clinical appointment in the UBC Faculty of Medicine, and Dr. Roger Freeman, professor of psychiatry at UBC.

The roles of the trio were slightly rearranged for the production of *Visual Impairment in Children and Adolescents*, a book designed for professionals working with the blind, including doctors, teachers, neurologists, pediatricians and rehabilitation medicine specialists. Dr. Jan served as the principal author for this volume with assistance from Dr. Freeman and Miss Scott.

Miss Scott, who holds a Bachelor of Social Work degree from UBC, says *Can't Your Child See?* is designed to be supportive and reassuring for parents who ask questions such as: "Can blind children grow and develop like other children?"; "Do blind people ever get married?"; "Can they work and earn a living?"; "Can they be happy?"

### Positive climate for growth

Often, the parents of blind children are tempted to hand the child over to specially trained people who know how to educate and handle them, Miss Scott says in the preface to the book. "Perhaps it would be easier for the parents; but past experience has shown that loving, informed parents can provide a much more positive climate for growth than can any institution full of so-called experts."

Miss Scott says the response to the book, published by University Park Press in Baltimore, has been very positive. "I've had parents write to me or tell me in person that they wished they had had such a book available to them from the time their children were born," she says.

And many parents of blind children, because they're well informed on the topic of visual impairment, also find the companion volume for professionals useful and informative, she adds.

### Books liberally illustrated

*Can't Your Child See?* is liberally illustrated with photographs taken by the UBC Department of Biomedical Communications in the Faculty of Medicine. They're designed to show that blind children are capable of doing a lot of things for themselves and participating in many recreational and other activities like normally sighted children.

A selection of the photographs used to illustrate the book appears on these pages.



Learn to bowl



Play checkers



Paddle a canoe and learn water safety



Fly a kite

Pictures by UBC Department of Biomedical Communications



Look after themselves

# Enrichment is key element in pilot project for the gifted

Several hundred gifted B.C. children are getting special attention in school classrooms this fall as the result of a provincial-government funded program developed in UBC's Faculty of Education.

Prof. Stanley Blank, a UBC graduate and a 13-year member of the UBC faculty, is the co-ordinator of an enrichment program for gifted children, who have been a "woefully neglected" segment of the North American school population until recently.

Since the beginning of this year, Prof. Blank and a team of eight persons — six graduate students and two consultants — have developed curriculum materials for gifted children in grades 4, 5 and 12 which are being introduced as a pilot project in more than 25 B.C. school districts this fall.

The UBC team also developed a special kit of material designed to train school teachers in the techniques of dealing with gifted children in the districts where the pilot program has been introduced.

The teachers came to Vancouver late in August for an intensive, one-week immersion course to introduce them to the program. Prof. Blank and other members of the project team will continue to provide the teachers with assistance during the 1979-80 school year and begin an evaluation of the program.

Prof. Blank said the gifted-children project has been introduced in widely scattered, large and small school districts throughout B.C.

Prof. Blank estimates that out of B.C.'s total school population of just over 500,000 pupils more than 50,000 could be described as gifted. "The definition of the term 'gifted' varies widely," he said, "from the narrow two per cent who are in the near-genius category up to 12 to 15 per cent who will score high on IQ or academic achievement tests and who also exhibit talents in other areas such as leadership or creative thinking, or in specific areas of achievement such as the performing or creative arts."

## Lists abilities

Prof. Blank estimates that five per cent of the students in the school districts chosen will take part in the UBC project in the coming year.

The ability of gifted children to synthesize knowledge is the general characteristic which distinguishes them from others, Prof. Blank said.

The gifted child outperforms other pupils at almost every level of learning, he says, from the lowest, "where you are simply teaching students about things,"

through the next level of learning how to use basic knowledge, which leads to teaching students how to apply knowledge.

"The gifted child," Prof. Blank said, "has the ability to go beyond the level of knowledge application. He or she is able to analyse, to look for causal relationships, to connect seemingly unrelated ideas and synthesize them so that he or she is able to solve problems in unique and creative ways."

Gifted children, he adds, also have a remarkable ability to evaluate, "to be able to look at a problem, develop criteria for evaluating it, and to go through the evaluation process in a meaningful way."

"In short, you have a child who thinks differently, who is not only able to do more quantitatively, but who can do much more with the knowledge he or she has."

The program which Prof. Blank and his project team put together for gifted children is founded on enrichment as opposed to acceleration.

"In the past," he said, "teachers tended to meet the needs of the gifted child through acceleration, by keeping them occupied through an increased work load. Anything to keep them from getting bored, which leads to behavior problems and, in many cases, dropping out."

"Allowing the gifted to skip grades was another way of dealing with them. For a very few gifted children, those at the near-genius level, this probably makes sense. But for the majority of the gifted, removal from their peer group can result in some pretty maladjusted kids who are simply not able to cope with the social and emotional environment of an older age group."

## Greater depth

Skipping grades is not advisable on philosophical grounds as well, Prof. Blank said. It's ill-advised to push gifted children ahead by a year or two, he said, when the opportunity exists to provide them with greater depth and breadth of knowledge using as a basis the curriculum of their peer group.

"Enrichment involves increasing the complexity of the problems presented to the gifted child," Prof. Blank said. Enrichment for a grade five child studying language arts, for instance, would mean utilizing the grade five curriculum to expand his or her awareness of non-verbal communication, body language say, so he or she understands that people communicate in a variety of ways.

"Enrichment would also mean learning about how and why language was in-



Picture by Jim Banham

UBC Education professor Stanley Blank, left, goes over curriculum materials developed for gifted children in B.C.'s school system with graduate students Michael Izen and Suzanne Kenney.



Prof. Stanley Blank lectures to teachers of the gifted who came to Vancouver late in August to learn about UBC-developed program.

vented and other methods of communication as an addition to or an auxiliary to language. The object is to develop in the gifted child a richer understanding of language and communication as opposed to merely developing competence in language usage."

Prof. Blank also believes that gifted children have maximum opportunity to develop their potential when they associate with other gifted children. "The gifted," he said, "need to be challenged and engaged at their own level, so I'm in favor of enrichment centres in each school district where the gifted can be brought together for so many hours per week or for specified periods of time.

"The centres don't have to be schools specifically set aside for the gifted. I think in terms of a mini-school, a school within a school, where the gifted have their own classes, but interact socially with other students."

It also takes a special kind of teacher to deal with the gifted, he said. "The gifted are characterized by a higher-than-average curiosity and an enthusiasm for learning, which has to be matched by similar characteristics on the part of the teacher.

"Teachers of the gifted also have to have a relatively strong ego because in many cases the students may be more talented than the teacher. In addition to patience, the teacher of the gifted also requires a sense of humor, which is a highly developed characteristic amongst talented children."

Prof. Blank says the teacher of the gifted performs a different function in the classroom than the teacher of normal-

ly intelligent children. They have to have the ability to guide and direct the student to the sources of knowledge and to be able to work with students on the basis of individualized instruction.

"There are a restricted number of things that can be carried on as group activities with the gifted," he says. "But one-to-one interaction is more important because the individual differences among the gifted are greater than the differences among students in the population of the normally intelligent."

## Growing concern

Prof. Blank is no stranger to working with the gifted and with teachers of the gifted. For the past seven years he has been working in Chilliwack on enrichment programs that are now in place for grades three through nine.

A few other school districts in B.C. have started programs for the gifted, some of them using materials already on the market, others manufacturing their own. Prof. Blank has worked closely with most of the districts that have started such programs and many of the teachers working with the gifted have obtained their training at UBC.

"There's certainly been a growing concern for the needs of the gifted over the last decade or so," Prof. Blank said, "and almost every school district in the province has done something, even if it's only to establish a committee to look into the problem."

What has been lacking so far is uniformity, said Prof. Blank, and many people who deal with the gifted would maintain

that uniformity is impossible in any case. "There is, however, the possibility of uniformity of approach. We can all start with an agreed-upon approach and what happens after that will depend on the interaction between student and teacher."

On a long-range basis, Prof. Blank would like to see enrichment programs developed for all school levels from kindergarten to grade 12. "Why shouldn't we have 'think tanks for kids,' as well as centres of intellectual challenge in the fine arts, music and drama?" he said.

In the final analysis, he believes there is a vast, untapped potential among gifted children.

"In the past," he said, "we've tended to treat the gifted as though they were an ordinary group of individuals who had no special needs. In many cases, even the gifted haven't been aware of their own abilities and as a result we've lost them as drop-outs.

"What we've really lost is a vital resource, a resource for future leadership by a group of people who have special talents and abilities. And we need leadership as never before in all spheres of our society, from the obvious ones such as government and education to the performing and creative arts.

"So I'm delighted that the provincial government has decided to fund this project, which could have incalculable benefits for B.C. It's especially heartening that they've chosen to do it in the UN Year of the Child, which places emphasis on education."

# Today's world mirrored in children's

Adults who want to know what contemporary society is really like should take a long, hard look at children's literature, says Sheila Egoff, a member of UBC's School of Librarianship.

Prof. Egoff, who's already produced one standard reference book on children's literature and is working on a second, believes that any radical change in society affects the young more quickly than any other section of the population and that the changes are reflected more quickly in children's literature than they are in adult literature.

She thinks the reason is that writers of children's literature strive for simplicity and directness, whereas writers of adult fiction are often more concerned with subtleties and a sophistication that's absent from books for the younger set. "I can enjoy a really good novel written for children more than I can one written for adults," is the way she puts it.

But, she adds, children's literature is, on the whole, ignored by parents. "They're awfully eager to know what books they should put in their children's hands," she says, "but parents rapidly lose interest in what their kids are reading as the children get older."

It wasn't always so, she says.

In the Victorian period, say from 1850 up to the end of the 19th century, which she characterizes as the first "golden age" of children's literature, books for children were produced by adults who were intent on inculcating basic moral values in the young. "Childhood was seen by the Victorians as a training ground, a time when children were trained to accept the responsibilities of adulthood.

"Thus, the books of that day characterize children as good, innocent, perceptive, but in need of protection. It produced some great storytellers, for example Lewis Carroll, who wrote *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, which can be read entirely for its entertainment value, quite apart from its parodies and take-offs on Victorian manners.

"For me, the two finest children's novels of that period, novels that sum up the Victorian view of childhood, are George MacDonald's *At the Back of the North Wind* and *The Princess and the Goblin*."

The authors who wrote for the second golden age of children's literature from the 1930s to the end of the 1950s got rid of the didacticism — the instructive aspects — of Victorian literature and tended to let children exist in a world that excluded adults, Prof. Egoff says. "What these authors suggest is that children need time to play, to have fun, to explore before taking on the responsibilities of adulthood and learning about the harsh realities of life."

The children's literature of this second golden age also depicts the children as being members of stable, happy households led by parents who are there to help if the children get into trouble. "Even the stories that deal with children who come from poor families reveal stable homes in which the child can handle the problems of poverty, not, as in so many contemporary books, a situation where poverty is going to leave a deep and lasting impression on the child and warp his mind for all time."

For Prof. Egoff, the books of American writer Eleanor Estes about

the children of the Moffatt family just about sum up the values of the writers of the second golden age. "You know that those kids are going to grow up to be solid citizens with their psyches intact," she says.

In the 1960s, Prof. Egoff says, writers of children's literature decided that childhood was no longer important or valuable in itself. "What became important," she says, "was the idea that children had to be told everything, no matter how harsh the reality was. What was important was honesty...letting it all hang out, as the expression is."



Jim Banham photo

Children's literature expert Sheila Egoff, left, and research assistant Judi Saltman are in the process of cataloguing and annotating a collection of children's literature donated to UBC in 1975 by 1925 graduate Stanley Arkley and his wife, Rose, of Seattle. The collection of more than 1,000 items includes many first editions and rare items. The Arkley Collection is part of a 25,000-volume collection of children's literature housed in the UBC library, which is used for teaching and research purposes by Prof. Egoff and other UBC people.

The new genre has come mostly from the U.S. and Britain, but the American influence is so widespread that the new wave has been dubbed the American Problem Novel, she says. "The themes are much heavier than those dealt with earlier and involve divorce, drugs, sex, disappearing parents, emotional and physical cruelty and, overall, a sense of alienation."

Prof. Egoff also points out that contemporary writers of children's novels also deal with unusual children, those from minority groups, abused children and the mentally and physically retarded. "The shift," she says, "has been away from a concern with childhood to dealing with children as individuals and the problems that confront them."

As an example, she cites a book called *Hey, Dummy* by American author Kin Platt, in which a normal child attempts to befriend a retarded child to the horror of the normal child's parents. When the normal child is rebuffed by a teacher and a social worker in an attempt to get help for the friend, he prefers to sink into retardation himself because he has come to hate the world.

"That kind of theme and story is fairly typical of modern-day children's books," Prof. Egoff says, "and I think it reflects an ambivalence, a terribly mixed-up and uncertain view of society toward children, as though we don't know how to act toward them or deal with them."

Certainly, she adds, the outlook of the books reveals a conservatism on the part of children. "They are shown as being desperately eager for two parents — in many books, the kids are convinced it's their fault if the parents aren't getting along — and for a stable existence. And even in the best books, you find an incredible concern with death, even in those written for two, three and five-year-olds."

Contemporary children's stories often take an unrealistic view of life, Prof. Egoff adds. "For instance, take a story that has a plot based on sibling rivalry. In these books, the older child usually comes to accept the younger or new child by the end of the book. But all of us know that rivalries of this kind can last a lifetime. To me, that's not a realistic view of life."

Other characteristics of contemporary children's literature: most of the stories are set in an urban environment and are limited (in America) to New York, New Jersey and San Francisco, the characters in the stories tend to live in apartments and it's rare for one to take place in a foreign setting or in a rural environment. "I think this means that kids get a remarkably narrow view of how life is lived as a result," says Prof. Egoff.

## Here's some of the best ever written

UBC Reports asked Prof. Egoff to prepare a list of some of the best children's books ever written to go with her comments on the current state of children's literature. Here's her choice of the 10 top books, all of which are in print. At the end of the list, she briefly comments on what may appear to some readers to be a few surprising omissions.

- Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women*. New York: MacMillan, 1962. The everyday life of the March girls still has pleasure and meaning for modern children. This lively, natural narrative of family experiences is as well-loved today as when it first appeared in 1868.
- Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden*. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1962. Three Edwardian children make a garden out of a wilderness and grow in friendship and imagination as they do so. First published in 1911.
- Cooper, Susan. *The Dark is Rising*. New York: Atheneum, 1973. This second volume of Cooper's acclaimed quintet on the stormy struggle between the primal forces of the Dark and the Light is set in modern Buckinghamshire. Her power of imaginative fantasy has rarely been equalled in children's literature.
- Lewis, C.S. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. London: Bles, 1950. The first of seven Narnia Chronicles, this Christian allegory is played out in an enchanted land of nymphs, dryads and talking animals. Children respond to the quiet humor, domestic detail, and intense dramatic conflict.
- Milne, A.A. *Winnie the Pooh*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1925. Milne's is the art that conceals art, notably his ability to let the child feel superior to the loveable but bumbling Pooh. Still the most universally popular of all childhood books.
- Pearce, Philippa. *Tom's Midnight Garden*. London: Oxford, 1958. A time story in which a modern boy and a girl from Victorian times find companionship. Pearce's clear prose, energetic dialogue, and vivid imagery makes this stylistically one of the finest books in modern children's literature.
- Stevenson, Robert Louis. *Treasure Island*. New York: Scribner, 1947. Stevenson's highly colored characterization and flawless English prose make this pirate adventure one of the most famous stories ever written. First published in 1883.
- Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Hobbit; or, There and Back Again*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1938. Though, on the surface, a story of a search for treasure, other values, truths, and virtues discovered by Bilbo through experience help him to face difficulties with wit, wisdom and courage.
- Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. New York: Macmillan, 1962. Although it appeared first in 1876, *Tom Sawyer* has a continuing freshness for modern readers through its simple, direct presentation of universal boyhood.
- White, E.B. *Charlotte's Web*. New York: Harper and Row, 1952. E.B. White's humorous and affectionate portrayal of the barnyard world subtly suggests the larger world of human life and, as well, the wisdom that comes from life close to nature and her children.

Some surprising omissions may well be considered: Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*; Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*; J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*; George MacDonald's *At the Back of the North Wind*. All are recognizably great in style and theme. Today, however, these appear the domain of adult interest in imaginative writing concerned with childhood as symbol and metaphor, rather than as the first spontaneous choices of children themselves.

She believes too that where the writers of the past "wrote for the child within themselves and could universalize the experiences, today's authors are writing for the adult within themselves."

Much of the best writing for children produced by British authors is the product of people who were themselves children during the Second World War, she points out, and many of the books are set in that period.

"One of the best British writers of children's literature, Susan Cooper, who was a child during the war, has produced a remarkable quintet of books called *The Dark is Rising*. Each of them is concerned with the titanic struggle between good and evil and I can't help but think that that theme stems from the 1939-45 war," says

Continued on page 14

## CHILDREN'S LITERATURE Continued from page 13

Prof. Egoff.

Many contemporary children's books are also concerned with fantasy, Prof. Egoff points out. "The Arthurian legend as well as Norse and Celtic myth are recurring aspects of many of today's books for children, but not in the sense that the stories are set in those times. The stories are set in modern times with the past breaking through into the present. What the authors seem intent on doing is giving contemporary children a sense of the continuity of time, a feeling that they're linked with the past."

Despite the heaviness of the themes and the feelings of alienation that pervades much contemporary children's literature, Prof. Egoff believes that the best of the modern stories are probably the greatest ever written for young people.

Modern-day children's books tend to split the readership because the very best will only be read by the very dedicated. And there's a decided gap in good reading material for children in 9-11 age group."

Prof. Egoff says there is still some good, lightweight reading available on the market for children, "but they're not the books people talk about and they don't win prizes. They are, basically, a throwback to the past without being as good as *Winnie the Pooh* or Mary Norton's *The Borrowers*."

Something else she believes has gone from the current children's book scene is the sharing of literature between adults and children. "There was a time when adults sat down and read to children," she points out. "But I can't imagine a really literate adult wanting to read one of the modern-day problem novels to a child. Mostly because many of the books are highly symbolic and experimental in style and much of the action is carried out through dialogue alone. Contemporary children's stories just aren't written for easy reading aloud."

Having said all that, Prof. Egoff points out that the modern problem novel is highly popular with children in every socio-economic group. "Kids are still avid readers," she says, "and the new genre seems to appeal to them. It's all very well for me to claim that most of the books by modern-day writers of children's literature are superficial, badly written and unrealistic, but children like them, perhaps because the stories comfort them, give them a sense of identity, a feeling that they're not alone."

The best a concerned parent can hope for, she adds, is that the overall quality of the all-pervasive Problem Novel will improve to meet the quality of the best of modern children's literature.



Plazas in Athens are meeting places for young and old

## ATHENS

Continued from page 2

students came the "getting government approval" stage. Although Mr. Gaitanakis had allowed a month for this stage, he knew it would be unlikely that approval would be granted in that time. Being a native of Athens, Mr. Gaitanakis had a very good idea of what the political situation was in the city, and his students had a chance to become involved in the practical as well as the theoretical aspects of being architects.

## Major fights

Although the project was commissioned by the Ministry of Public Works, explained Mr. Gaitanakis, "we were fought by the mayor and his council and we had to override them. Another problem for the students was the question of credibility in the neighborhood. They had to be seen as architects and not just students."

After the initial rush was over, the students had a chance to explore the city and to enjoy their adventure. Accommodation had been found for the group in a neo-classical three-storey house not far from the Acropolis, where the students could cook their own meals. Said one of the students, Gerry Allard, a graduate student researching a project not directly involved in the playground design, "There were terrific advantages to being all together. It was like having a little community. Groups would go out and explore various things and areas, and bring back experiences and information."

"It was very exciting to live in the area. I had very little appreciation of

history prior to going to Greece. Since I've come back, though, I've been doing a lot of reading, not just in Greek history but history in general," Mr. Allard said.

The students didn't spend all of their time in Athens. When the schedule allowed, they were taken on a 10-day classical tour of archeological sites around the countryside, such as Delphi, Olympia, Nauplia and Epidaurus. There, of course, they could see architecture which had lasted centuries.

The Athenian experience wasn't the first time that UBC architecture students had studied overseas. Once every three years or so, a project comes along that suits the school's philosophy and teaching methods. "What we look for," explained Mr. Gaitanakis, "is an opportunity to contribute to the host country."

## People warm

But if Gerry Allard's sentiments are felt by the other students, it's also a real opportunity to contribute to the students' education. "What struck me most was the friendliness and warmth of the people, many of whom have had a very hard life," Mr. Allard said. "It really does make you feel very lucky to have been born in Canada, where we have things they will never experience. I think everyone felt they really learned a lot about human nature and human situations, and how people can deal with things in a very much different situation to the one we have in Canada. This sort of thing really does broaden your conception of the world."

# Pressure on for more nutrition education

The next time you see a kid making a lunch out of pop and potato chips, don't despair. According to Dr. Nancy Schwartz, a nutrition expert and assistant professor in the School of Home Economics at UBC, that kid is a disappearing species.

Given another 10 years, she feels, nutrition education will be part of the school curriculum in a major way. Children will be versed in good eating habits, beyond the basics of Canada's Food Guide which has been, for many of us, the extent of our nutrition education. And not only will they be versed in proper nutrition, they will follow better habits because they'll know what effect the so-called "junk foods" have on their complexions, body weight and general well-being.

Too optimistic? Maybe, but Dr. Schwartz takes her predictions from what's happening south of our border. "There's been a lot of money allocated in the U.S. for national nutrition education programs and I really believe that it will come here within 10 years.

"So far in B.C. there's been all sorts of starts for general nutrition education, but nothing yet that has any 'oomph'," she admits.

One of the things that makes nutrition education a lower priority for government funding than Dr. Schwartz would like is the difficulty of pinpointing how incorrect diet affects health. "The relationship between diet and disease isn't nearly as clearcut as the relationship between cigarettes and lung cancer," she says.

Nutritionists do know that incorrect diet increases the risk of heart disease, dental disease, cancer of the colon, possibly other forms of cancer, and diseases of the intestinal tract. But they can't say for sure that the cause of these diseases is incorrect diet.

As more and more research is done, as people become more and more concerned about body appearance and body weight, and as treating illness becomes more and more expensive, public pressure will grow to make nutrition education a higher priority, Dr. Schwartz feels.

In many elementary and secondary

Peter Menyasz photo



Dr. Nancy Schwartz

schools, pressure for better eating habits is coming now, and in many cases it's coming from the students themselves.

"I've been involved with a group of seventh graders at Queen Elizabeth school recently where the kids themselves were really wanting information on nutrition. Once they're old enough to realize what eating the wrong foods does to them, then they're interested," Dr. Schwartz says.

"But you can't deny the influence of advertising, either. 'Coke is the real thing' is a pretty powerful message. And kids want to be more like the people in the advertisements."

Some of the nutritional examples used in everyday teaching in the classroom are often negative, too, Dr. Schwartz says. In arithmetic class, for example, textbooks might use candies as a counting aid or might teach fractions by asking students to half a cake recipe calling for three cups of sugar.

"I really think that anyone teaching at the elementary level, especially, should have some kind of basic nutrition knowledge," she stressed.

Teachers workshops on nutrition are now available from time to time and are conducted by nutrition educators with the B.C. Dairy Foundation. Almost all the health units in the province have nutritionists on staff, who are available for counselling and have printed information on nutrition available. At UBC, many students in the Faculty of Education take courses in nutrition as electives through the School of Home

Economics in addition to their Education coursework.

"Things are definitely getting better. There's no question," Dr. Schwartz says. "But it's also getting harder and harder to get better because of the greater choice of information, much of it conflicting, which is available."

Food fads, diet fads, the claims of a few of the health food stores make people suspicious of all the nutrition information they hear. And for most of us, we have little or no background in nutrition or health to be able to evaluate the claims of different groups.

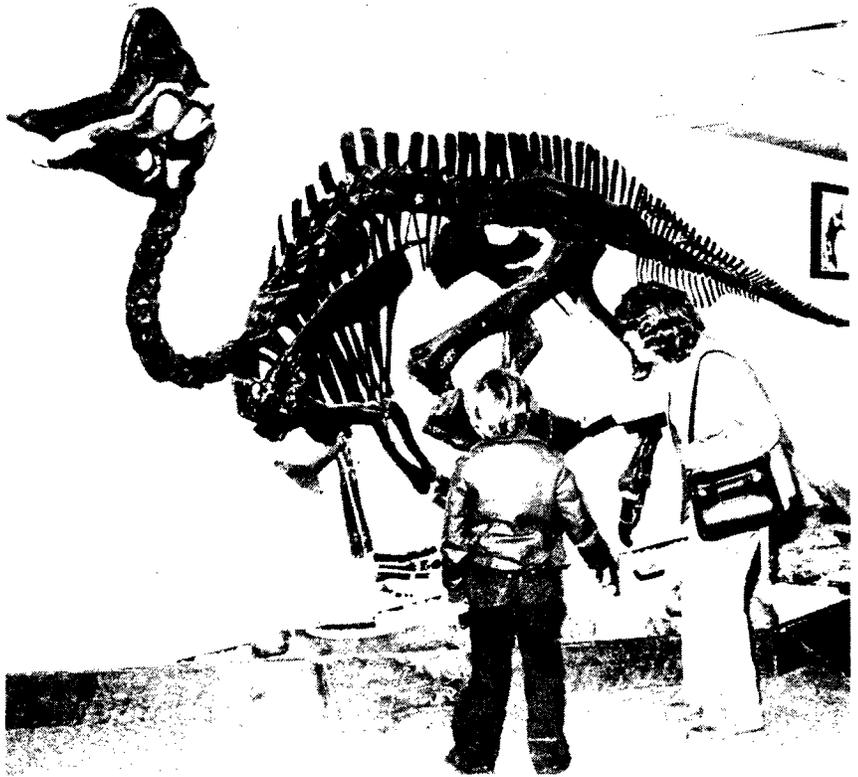
"What nutritionists would really like to see is an integrated health-nutrition program in the formal education system. But that needs to be a priority from the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Health. Right now there are limited nutrition resources available through the education ministry," Dr. Schwartz says.

If we had an educated school populace with a background in nutrition and its effect on health, Dr. Schwartz feels, that would go a long way toward a potentially more healthy adult population. We can't control risk factors such as heredity, age or sex in preventing illness, but we can control our diet.

"However, if people have the nutrition education and choose not to use it, then that's up to them," she admits. "One of the things that's hard for us to accept is that there's always freedom of choice."



Summer soccer school, above, is highlight of UBC community sports program. Ancient dinosaur, right, guards the M.Y. Williams Geology Museum in the Geological Sciences Centre.



## Kids are welcome at UBC

Kids are welcome at UBC.

And you'd be surprised at the number of things there are for them to do and see on the Point Grey campus.

Museums, for instance. UBC's Museum of Anthropology not only has one of the finest collections of West Coast Indian artifacts anywhere, it also runs special arts and crafts programs for youngsters both winter and summer. The museum is open every afternoon in the week except Monday and on Tuesdays, when admission is free, it's open until 9 p.m. Call 228-5087 for details on museum programs for children.

If you have a rockhound in the house, why not suggest a visit to the M.Y. Williams Geology Museum in the Geological Sciences Centre. Rock specimens and other exhibits pertaining to mining are attractively labelled and explained for visitors. Call 228-5586 for hours of opening.

16/UBC Reports

If you have a budding zoologist on your hands, he or she may want to see the insect (entomology) or vertebrate museums housed in the Biological Sciences Building. They're open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

UBC has no permanent collection of art, but the Fine Arts Gallery in the north basement of the Main Library and the art gallery in the Student Union Building stage a number of displays throughout the year. UBC's Department of Information Services (228-3131) will be glad to tell you what's on.

For the musically inclined, the Department of Music sponsors noon-hour and evening performances during the winter by a wide range of musical groups ranging from solo performers to a full symphony orchestra. Call 228-3113 for information.

The theatre season at UBC centres on the Frederic Wood Theatre, which also houses the Dorothy Somerset Studio. The Freddy Wood will stage five major productions in the current academic year, including Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* from Oct. 24 to Nov. 3 and Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* from Jan. 23 to Feb. 2. For ticket information call 228-2678.

UBC libraries are open — usually seven days a week — if the high-school students in your household want a place to study without the distractions of home. They're welcome to use any of the material in the libraries, but they can't borrow material to take out of the library. (Non-student adults, however, can apply for borrowing privileges. Call 228-3115.)

Young people aged 16 and over are eligible to use the Wilson Recordings Library in the Sedgewick Library. The

library is a vast collection of classical music, jazz and spoken-word records. Young people can play any record they wish at one of the 80 or so headphone-equipped listening stations and records can be borrowed for payment of an annual fee. Parents are expected, however, to be liable for damaged records.

There's a wide range of sporting facilities and events on the UBC campus which are available to young and old every day of the week. There's public swimming at the new Aquatic Centre every day and throughout the year there is everything from "scared-stiff" beginner swimming lessons to advanced lifesaving courses available. During the winter and spring, special lessons are held for toddlers, aged three to five. Call 228-4521 for information.

If you, or your family like to go ice skating, call the Thunderbird Winter Sports Centre at 228-6121 for public skating hours. At the same time you can ask about the possibility of joining a curling club or renting squash and handball courts.

If your youngster is a spectator, he or she will be able to watch football, basketball, English rugby, ice hockey, wrestling...just about any sport you can name. And admission to many events is free. The UBC Athletic Office (228-2531) will be able to tell you what's on any day or night of the week.

The University also runs sports camps and hockey schools for youngsters of various ages during the spring and summer. Next year, when warm-weather activities are on the horizon, call Information Services at 228-3131 for the appropriate phone numbers of these schools.

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# A Degree of Integrity

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## Murray McMillan considers the major change in B.C. education policy that has given degree-granting status to a private college.

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**D**r. Neil Perry put it succinctly when he appeared in July before the private members' bills committee of the B.C. legislature: "The granting of a degree is a valuable right," he told the MLAs who had gathered in committee to consider the merits of Bill Pr. 401, An Act to Amend the Trinity Western College Act. Passage of the bill, said Perry, who appeared as the representative of the Universities Council of B.C., would amount to a "major change in educational policy" for the province.

How right he was, although on the face of it Bill 401, a private member's bill, looked innocent enough: It is barely half a page in its entirety, and when the legal housekeeping items are stripped away, it comes down to three words: "a baccalaureate degree." Those three words are now added to the section of the Trinity Western College Act (already on the books), which says what the college can grant. Trinity Western, with 500 students at its Langley campus and its gung-ho, boldly evangelical Christian approach to everything, is now the province's fourth degree-granting institution. It has essentially been made a university.

And that gives pause for thought. Not so much thought about the specific merits of Trinity Western, whatever they may be (and whether they add up to something that can be called by that nebulous term "university"), but about the value from now on of a baccalaureate degree granted in British Columbia.

Only the legislature can grant the right to grant degrees. The University of British Columbia, University of Victoria and Simon Fraser University were the three holders of that right before July 31.

But that date marked the major change Perry spoke of. Bill 401 was passed — railroaded through is probably closer to the mark, but let us remain polite — by the legislature. Its history is interesting: first reading, July 9; second reading, July 31; committee stage, July 31; report stage,

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### Is the inherent value of a BA now to be depreciated in British Columbia?

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July 31; third reading, July 31; royal assent, July 31. Railroaded? Well... Someone was apparently highly anxious that the bill should become law before the summer session of the house ended on July 31.

A political payoff of some sort? That certainly appears to be a possibility. Trinity Western is in strong Social Credit country and has Social Credit ties. Former federal party leader Robert Thompson has played a major role at the college, taught political science there and remains a special consultant to its president.

In having Central Fraser Valley MLA Bill Ritchie introduce the bill, the college found a quick, political solution to what was basically an academic problem. The

legislation's speedy journey through the house avoided any thorough examination of the college's qualifications, any probing of its academic standards, any assessment of whether it *deserved* the publicly granted right to hold itself out as a degree-granting institution.

The Universities Council, supposedly established to provide liaison between government and universities to prevent, among other things, political meddling in university affairs, was bypassed in the process. It shouldn't have been. B.C. now has another institution that can hand out BAs; the college can assess its students, but no one has yet assessed the college.

Consider the analogy of money — hard, cold cash. Governments print it, issue it, and as long as it has, or is perceived by the world of finance to have something to back it up, it retains its value. When governments print more, value is retained if the backing stays. But when governments go mad and keep the presses rolling far too long, its value plummets, and it's not just the bills fresh off the printing plate that lose.

The number of baccalaureate degrees granted in B.C. over the past several decades has increased tremendously, but the granting of them remained firmly based on academic traditions and standards, even with larger numbers of students meeting the required criteria. As Dr. Perry puts it: "In a public university there is a sound method of evaluating academic programs, based on examination by peers. Thus there is worth to the degree." The degree is sound currency in academic circles.

Will the entry of a newcomer into the degree-granters' circle have an effect on that currency? Is the inherent value of a BA now to be depreciated in British Columbia?

There are probably those who have a degree and those who never want one who will argue in chorus that it has little inherent value anyway. But most hold to a

traditional view that it is something of value, a badge of achievement no matter what the discipline.

During what debate there was in the legislature on the Trinity Western bill, Opposition MLAs claimed the way would be paved for any private educational institution to use this precedent to apply for degree-granting privileges. New Democrat Rosemary Brown declared that McDonald's restaurants could open a hamburger cooking school and apply for university status. Slightly far-fetched, perhaps, but the door to that has inched open.

After the passage of the Trinity bill, Dr. William Gibson, chairman of the Universities Council, turned to that universal reference work, the telephone directory, and says he counted at least 50 religious denominations. Could they all now begin to form colleges that could eventually become degree-granting universities? How many other special-interest groups could do the same?

No one questions the right of private groups to organize their own educational institutions. It's the placing of a formal, governmental imprimatur on their academic product that must be considered.

Should the evangelical Trinity Western have that imprimatur? That is now a moot point. It seems doubtful that the present government, at least, would rescind that power it was so apparently determined to

## In its end-run to the goal of academic prestige, Trinity has indeed created a shift in provincial education policy.

grant. A government of different stripe might. Another administration might also try to reconcile Trinity's status with section 81 of the Universities Act, which says that "Each university shall be non-sectarian...."

A look at precedent-setting Trinity Western gives cause for reconsideration. The term "bible college" may seem unflattering to some, but after a perusal of what Trinity Western's calendar offers, it seems considerably more appropriate than "university." Trinity Western is a strongly religious institution and shouts the fact loudly. How that stance can be reconciled with a traditional academic approach to the pursuit of knowledge, an approach that calls for problems to be confronted with an open mind, as free as possible from preconceptions, is hard to determine. But a Trinity pamphlet claims: "By stating one's presuppositions clearly and openly, the process of pursuing truth is facilitated." To each his own definition of truth.

The college calendar states: "Trinity

Western is committed without reservation to the basic elements of evangelical Christian doctrine, with the official statement of faith identical to that of the Evangelical Free Church," the college's parent organization. All full-time faculty and staff must support that statement of faith, which among other things says the Bible is the final authority for Christian life and is the errorless word of God, that the believer will have "everlasting blessedness and joy," and that the unbeliever is condemned to "judgment and everlasting conscious punishment."

Just how Darwin's theory of evolution fits in with Adam and Eve as chronicled by the "inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings" poses a problem. Several courses are cross-listed in the calendar: Fine Art 432, Creative Christian Expressions (one of the three courses listed under fine arts) is also Religious Studies 432; Geography 334, Geography of the Eastern Mediterranean, is also Religious Studies 384. The religious studies division has the largest section of offerings in the calendar. One of Trinity's nine academic programs is the "Institute of Aviation," a training course for flying missionaries.

Whatever goals Trinity's faculty and administration set may be fine for them, but do they add up to something that deserves the publicly granted status of a university? Not by a long shot.

The college has argued that because it is a private institution that does not accept government funds, its academic programs should not be subject to public scrutiny by, say, the Universities Council. Then why the need for public authorization to grant degrees? If the college's own prestige is enough to support its programs, won't its name alone stand behind its graduates?

In its end-run to its goal of academic prestige, Trinity has indeed created a shift in provincial education policy, a policy that is on the law books, even though the number of degrees is small (Trinity will grant about two dozen bachelor's degrees next spring). And it's a policy that appears based on political motivation rather than by well-scrutinized merits — it's worth noting that Trinity's brochures, dated June of this year, carried details of the program leading to a BA even though the legislation was not passed until the end of July.

The members of the Universities Council, obviously now wondering what their true role is in provincial academic affairs, have requested a meeting with the man who carried this political football through the legislature, Education Minister Patrick McGeer, to discuss the whole matter. He may have been carrying a lemon.

And it's souring the once-sweet achievement of obtaining a degree. □

*Murray McMillan, a member of the editorial staff of the Vancouver Sun, is also a member of the Chronicle editorial committee.*

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*Elva Plant Reid, BA'52, MEd'70, representing the Los Angeles alumni, visited the campus this summer to see the new Walter Gage memorial plaque commissioned by her group. The UBC director of ceremonies, mathematics professor*

*Ben Moyles, BA'40, MA'41 (right), has arranged for it to be placed in the Old Arts 100 lecture hall. (In the foreground the university mace.)*



Ken Mayer

*Back in 1922 "Pete" MacKinnon was the ingenue in the Players' Club spring production of "Mr. Pym Passes By." Co-star was Jack Clyne, now the university chancellor, who is admiring the most recent addition to the UBC collection of Emily Carr paintings, a gift from Robert T. Elson and his wife, Georgina MacKinnon Elson, BA'22. Mr. Elson, who also attended UBC, has had a distinguished career as a journalist*

*including senior posts with Time, Fortune and Life magazines. Early years in his career were spent with the Vancouver Province and the Herald. The painting is a gift "in memory of the Players Club of '22." The Elsons, who live in Long Island, N.Y. have owned the painting for nearly 30 years and they wanted it "to go back home" - where it was gratefully received.*

## The Vancouver Institute: Older, and even better

Sixty-three years old this year, The Vancouver Institute gets better every season. The outstanding campus lecture series had an early start this year when the Dal Grauer memorial lecture on September 15 presented **Amory Lovins**, a proponent of "Soft Energy Paths." A consultant experimental physicist, Lovins is lecturing in economics during 1979-80 at the University of California.

On successive Saturday nights, the following lectures are open to the public free of charge in the campus Instructional Resources Centre at 8:15 p.m.: Sarah Lawrence College in New York sends **Joseph Campbell**, world famous for his studies in the field of mythology. Campbell has authored four works in his field and presents "Psyche and Symbol."...**Jean Erdman** follows on September 29 with a lecture and demonstration with music entitled "The Dynamic Imagery of Dance." Erdman, creator of the 'Coach with the Six Insides,' is an alumnus of the Martha Graham Dance Company.

**William G. Unruh** of UBC's physics department talks about "Black Holes — the Edge of the Universe" on October 6. Unruh was part of Einstein's centenary celebrations in 1978 at the former academic home of both men, Princeton.... "Emotions and Human Nature" is the subject of **Robert Solomon**, from the philosophy department of the University of Texas at Austin on October 13. This prolific author combines his scholarship with outstanding teaching ability and wit.... **Donald W. Seldin**, head of the department of internal medicine at Southwestern Medical School of the University of Texas will talk on October 20 about "High Blood Pressure: Prevalence, Risks, Treatments." The winner of many awards for his medical scholarship and achievements in medical administration, Seldin's expertise covers a broad range of pathology and health care.

The department of psychology at UBC sends **David Kahneman** to share "Judgements and Preferences: the Psychology of Irrationality" October 27. His year at UBC was preceded by teaching stints at Berkeley, The Hebrew University, Harvard, Cambridge and Stanford: his reputation is that of one of the most-quoted psychologists in the world.... **Patricia Baird**, acting head of the department of medical genetics at UBC researches and publishes in the areas of congenital and prenatal factors in birth defects. These subjects form the basis of her address, "Heredity and Your Family" November 3.... Einstein is the center of attention when **Eugene Wigner** from Princeton's department of physics presents "Einstein — the Man and his Work" on November 10. Nobel laureate Wigner is regarded for his original contributions to all fields of physics and as a founder of the quantum and atomic age. A contemporary of Einstein, Wigner worked with him in Berlin and at Princeton.

On November 17 **Donald A. Schön** presents



*Records. We've got records... Almost 90,000 individual names are on the alumni files maintained by Isabel Galbraith (left) and Betty O'Brien. Incorrectly addressed mail is expensive — and annoying. You can help us make the best use of our postage budget by letting Isabel or Betty know when you move or change your name.... Keep in touch won't you?*

"Will the Professions Survive? The Age of Uncertainty." Schön takes a look at future shock and quick adjustment; he's from MIT's urban planning faculty.... Money and what's happening to it are the foci for **John H. Young** from the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C. when he returns to the Vancouver Institute with his ideas, wit and courage with "What is Happening to Money — the International Monetary System" November 24.... Final lecture in the series airs December 1 when **Sir Fitzroy Maclean Bart** from Argyll, Scotland, winner of the Croix de Guerre, the Gold Partisan Star and the Order of Kutusov speaks on "Holy Russia," the most recent in his series of best-selling books on Soviet Russia. For more information on any of the events, call the UBC information office at 228-3131, 2075 Wesbrook Place, Vancouver V6T 1W5.

## Homecoming '79

"See you in Sep-tem-ber..." Remember when those words, heard over a car radio on an August night, made chills run down your spine? Football, crisp days, plaid skirts, plaid blan-

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*Alumni gathered at the University of Toronto's Hart House for an informal reception in June to meet UBC student awards director Byron Hender (above centre). (right) Two of the 40 alumni who came and found something in common.... UBC.*



kets, plaid jackets, blue, blue skies, new classes, old friends?

For UBC Homecoming '79, the song should be about October — for on two days this fall, the 26 and the 27, grads will be assembling from all around, from as far back as sixty years ago. On Friday, October 26, five classes gather: '34 meets at the Faculty Club for cocktails, and dinner. Meanwhile, '39, '44, '49 and '54 mingle at dinner and dancing in the Commodore Ballroom. Friday is also opening night for Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* at the Freddie Wood theatre: 8:00 p.m., \$4.50 per ticket.

The class of '24 meets for lunch at high noon in Cecil Green Park, then all UBCers move on to the Thunderbird Stadium for the 2 p.m. clash between the Golden Bears of the University of Alberta and the UBC Thunderbirds (tickets \$2 at the gate). Non-footballers might don swim suits for an underwater workout at the UBC Aquatic Centre, which is open from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.: tickets are \$1/adults, \$.75/students and \$.50/seniors and children. The campus bus tours will also ply their way through the campus leaving from Cecil Green Park every hour from 2:15 p.m. until 4:15 p.m.

Culture and history in one of the world's most beautiful and dramatic settings is also on view: the UBC Museum of Anthropology is organizing special tours for reunion visitors who should meet in the lobby of the museum at either 3:00 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. Then relax, revive and get ready for the class of '29 fifty year reunion in Cecil Green Park in the evening. Dr. Gordon Shrum is the guest speaker; "UBC Fifty Years Ago" is his topic.

Saturday night continues with dinner at the Faculty Club for the classes of '59, '64 and '69. We're proud of what the campus (and what those of us here) have to offer to returning alumni in this autumn of 1979: the trees will still provide a graceful frame to our own Cecil Green Park, center of many alumni reunion activities; the gardens and grounds will be making their gentle transition to early winter and Howe Sound will form the backdrop for a weekend of memories, new experiences, new friendships and a whole new set of good things to be nostalgic about 50 years from now. "We'll see you in Oc-to-ber..."

## '39 Seminar

"The Role of the University" will be the topic when a distinguished panel of speakers addresses a special Homecoming seminar, Saturday, October 26, 10 a.m. in the Frederic Wood Theatre. The Class of '39 has planned this event to celebrate their 40th anniversary and all alumni and members of the community are invited to attend. Short discussion papers will be presented by the university chancellor J.V. (Jack) Clyne, Universities Council head William C. Gibson, Jack Davis, Rhodes Scholar from the Class of '39 and B.C. minister of education, Patrick McGeer, or their representatives. The alumni viewpoint will come in papers from John McLaren, a faculty member at Northwestern University, Robert Sibley, head of the Saskatchewan Universities Commission, Robert Bell, former principal of McGill University and Fred Hartley, president of Union Oil of California, all members of '39. There will be a question period before the noon adjournment.

## Branches in Brief

Although autumn is the time of falling leaves and bare limbs, UBC's branches traditionally initiate greater activity than during the green days of summer. Two exceptions in summer '79 were Toronto alumni who gathered on June 21 to celebrate the shortest night of the year. Byron Hender, director of awards and financial aid for the university was guest speaker. Although thunderstorms threatened the gathering in the U of T's Hart House, a slide show of UBC past and present met an enthusiastic audience.... Two nights earlier, Newfoundland alumni in St. John's got together for a meeting when Chuck Con-

naghan, vice-president of administrative services for the university, visited. Alums in the St. John's area who are interested in developing branch activities should give Pat Draskoy a ring at 726-2576.... Vancouver Island's welcome mat will be out for the University Singers again this season as they retrace many of their footsteps in a yet-to-be-announced schedule which may include a mainland stop in Chilliwack.... Seattle area alumni have a pot-luck dinner scheduled for October 19 at the Robinswood Park Clubhouse, 2400 - 148th SE, Bellevue. Gerald and Eileen Marr at 641-3535 are coordinating the menu.

## Diamonds are Forever

The school of nursing is wondering if it can wait until 1994 for its 75th reunion, so much was learned and so much was shared by the participants in May's two day seminar-cum-reunion Diamond Jubilee. Box lunches in the gardens at Cecil Green Park punctuated a long day of seminars presented by Dr. Marilyn Willman, director of the school, Ruth Elliott, baccalaureate coordinator, and Verna Splane, vice-president of the International Council of Nursing. A tour of the Museum of Anthropology provided a brief respite before the presentation of the Marion Woodward lecture by Alice Baumgart, director of the Queen's School of Nursing, followed by a reception in the garden room at the grad student centre. Whew! The Diamond Jubilee had started the night before with the diamond dinner at the faculty club. A repeat performance? Communicate your enthusiasm to Earla Kerr-Smith and Jenny Craig, the indefatigable organizers — 1994 is going to be a long time coming!

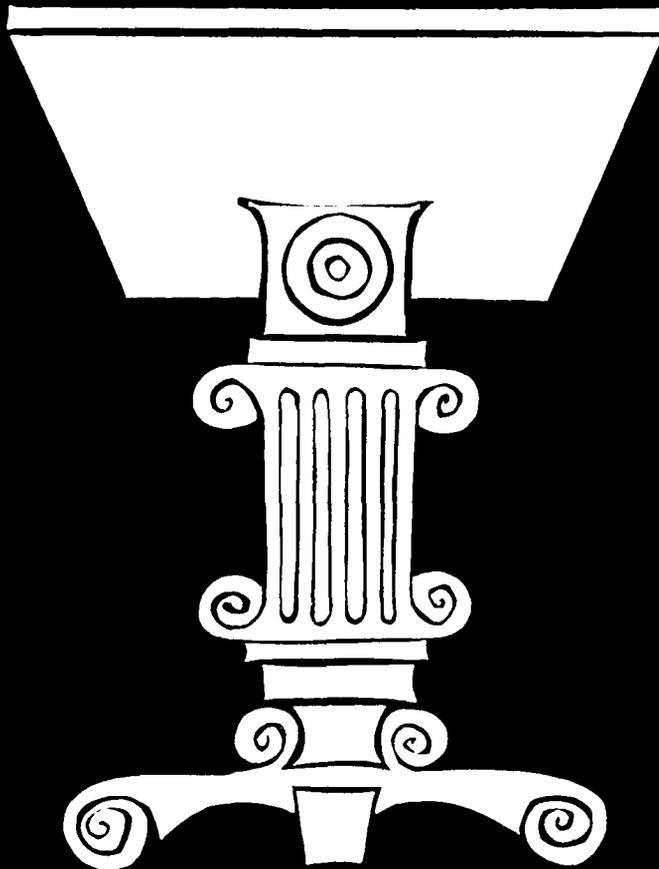
## Government Legislation Protested by Alumni

The provincial government's decision to bypass the Universities Council and give degree-granting status to a private B.C. college

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## UBC SPEAKERS BUREAU

Does your organization need an interesting and informative speaker for its next meeting? Our brochure tells you how UBC can meet that need. For full details contact the bureau coordinator, UBC Alumni Association, Cecil Green Park, 6251 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1X8 604/228-3313.



UBC Speakers Bureau is a campus/community contact project sponsored by the UBC Alumni Association.

brought protests from many parts of the province, including one from the UBC Alumni Association.

Alumni president George Plant, in a telegram to the members of the private members' bills committee of the legislature strongly urged the whole matter of degree-granting status for Trinity Western College be handed over to the Universities Council for "consideration and advice before any further action is taken."

In 1969 the association, in a report on university governance submitted to the provincial government, had urged the creation of a province-wide body to "bring master planning to post-secondary education in B.C." In his message Plant re-emphasized that policy saying "It is of vital interest that the establishment of any new university facilities and programs be given the utmost careful review to ensure that there is effective planning and integration in the attainment of higher education goals for the people of this province."

Without such scrutiny as the Universities Council can give of programs and degrees, there is no real way of judging the value of what is offered. Alumni should be concerned about the quality of education represented by a degree offered by any B.C. institution because it reflects on the degree they have earned.

Private Member's Bill 401 passed in the final hours of the session.

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### Executive Director Resigns Post

The executive director of the alumni association, Harry J. Franklin, BA'49, has resigned.

In announcing the resignation, association president, George E. Plant paid tribute to Harry Franklin's enthusiasm and loyalty toward the alumni programs and his contribution to the growth and success of a wide variety of campus and alumni activities since joining the association staff in 1972. As executive director he had been closely involved with fund raising for the aquatic centre, and in addition he had a keen interest in campus athletics stemming from his student years as a member of the Thunderbird basketball team.

The Association will be seeking candidates for the position of executive director in the coming months.

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### Alumni Miscellany

#### More reunions

Homecoming kicks off two weeks early this year when Medicine '54 takes over the Harrison Hot Springs Hotel, October 12 to 14. Friday's festivities include a cocktail party and banquet with spouses and professors as guests. In a two-hour session Saturday morning class members will catch up on research and achievements in the world of medicine; golf and tennis tournaments follow in the afternoon, and there's dinner afterward for victors, non-victors and spectators alike. Sunday's smorgasbord lunch sends the reunionees on their way for the next five years.... We meant to mention the class of 1919 in our Homecoming ad in summer's *Chronicle*; our blushes and apologies to all class members and especially to



Ken Mayer

Constance Adams who reminded us of the 60th anniversary of the first class to complete all four years at UBC! Our red faces match the autumn leaves that will decorate the campus October 26, 27 and 28 when homecoming activities will be in full swing.

### Relay Runners Hit 60

Ten years after its revival in 1969, the Arts '20 Relay celebrates its 60th anniversary in the fall of 1979. Last year's defending champs, the Engineers, try to hold onto the silver cup as they run from 12th and Heather (the Fairview site) to the Cairn on the Main Mall. All alumni groups (in teams of eight) are welcome to participate and should call Nester Korchinsky at 228-2401 for more information on registering. Starting time is 1 p.m., October 18. The Fairview committee, headed by Blythe Eagles, will be on hand to greet the winners.

### Sunsets

We have good news for former members of the grad student centre who miss sipping Moscow Mules while enjoying a Howe Sound sunset: Thea Koerner House (the grad centre) invites former members to pay a \$25 annual fee and enjoy not only the aforementioned pastime but also the games room, library and a dining room that's open for lunch and dinner. Call the centre office at 228-3202 for details.

### Seminars

As the '70s draw to a close, the College-Alumni Seminar Series, co-sponsored by the alumni division in health services planning, looks at health services administration for the 80s in a series of seminars that bridges the decades. Commencing September 13 in Vancouver (September 27 in Victoria), dialogue with officials from the ministries of health and treasury is included in meetings that run through January at the Robson Square Theatre in Vancouver and the Eric Martin Institute Auditorium in Victoria. The entire program can be subscribed for \$35 (\$5 per seminar) and more information can be obtained from the Canadian College of Health Service Executives, 440 Cambie Street, Vancouver V6K 2N5 (681-2374).

*The new portrait of Dr. and Mrs. Cecil Green, being viewed by alumni president George Plant, is now on display at Cecil Green Park. The photograph was taken by Duncan McDougall during the Greens' visit for the congregation ceremony that awarded an honorary doctorate to Mrs. Green. The portrait was funded by the Cecil Green Park management committee, the Cecil and Ida Green visiting professorship program, the Faculty Women's Club, whose meeting rooms are in Cecil Green Park and the alumni association.*

## Do We Have Your Correct Name and Address?

If your address or name has changed please cut off the present *Chronicle* address label and mail it along with the new information to: **Alumni Records, 6251 Cecil Green Park Rd., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1X8.**

## Executive Director Alumni Association of UBC

An excellent opportunity exists for an individual motivated by a job where results are achieved by organizing, stimulating and motivating a wide range of people in business, government and the general public, both paid and volunteer, who are committed to working for and supporting the University.

The Executive Director is responsible for directing the staff of the Association, motivating and working with the volunteers, part of the 80,000 Alumni, and others interested in the well-being of the University, in ensuring the Association meets its annual objectives in fund raising, communications and programs.

The successful candidate will have a university degree, ten years of experience since graduation, a clear record of success in the organization and management of people, strong written and verbal skills, and preferably, experience working with volunteer organizations.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and will likely be of interest to an individual earning in the \$30,000 range.

Interested candidates should submit their resumes in confidence to  
Kyle R. Mitchell, Partner.

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# Spotlight

## 20s & 30s

Three of UBC's Aggies have been honored this year: **Lindsay M. Black**, BSA'29, received the prestigious Ruth Allen Award of the American Phytopathological Society. Black is a professor emeritus at the University of Illinois. The B.C. Institute of Agriculture named **G. Gary Runka**, BSA'61, agrologist of the year, and regional range manager for Nelson, B.C. **John G. (Jack) King**, BSA'64, received an outstanding achievement award from the Society of Range Management....Widely-travelled United Church missionary, **Katherine B. Hockin**, BA'31, (MA, EdD, Columbia), was the guest speaker at the Oshawa Presbyterial United Church Women's annual meeting. Hockin has been both dean of studies and interim director of the Ecumenical Institute of Canada and is a widely-published author of numerous papers and articles.

West Coast marine expert, **Norman Rupert Hacking**, BA'34, received another medal for his mantle in August at the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec City: the Canadian Port and Harbour Association awarded Hacking their medal of merit, "an award that is presented to an individual for achievements in the maritime field...for outstanding contributions to the shipping industry, both as a shipping writer for the Vancouver *Province* and as a maritime historian."...Will there be sufficient scientific personnel to solve Canada's—and the world's—technological problems of the future? An increasing number of educators think not; among them is **William L. Ford**, BA'36, MA'37, who voiced the fear in his convocation address last spring at Dalhousie University. Receiving an honorary doctor of laws degree, he referred to the disturbing trend of declining enrollment in the fields of natural, applied and life sciences....**Robert P. Forshaw**, BSA'36, (MSc, McGill), was doubly honored by the alumni association of the Ontario Agricultural College (OAC). He received the OAC Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award and along with it, he was the first grad to be presented with the new accompanying honor, the Dick Waghorne Teaching Award.

## 40s

Having served as director of energy management since 1973, **Daniel M. Greeno**, BASc'41, has been appointed corporate vice-president in charge of the newly established energy and operating services department of the Stauffer



Vancouver Sun

## Tong Louie

**T**ong Louie, affable, smiling, extends a hand to the visitor to his large office in Burnaby's Lake City industrial park, rolls a high-back chair across the room for him, and wonders aloud — all the time tinkering with his ever-present pipe — why any journalist should want to interview him.

Why indeed? Who is this man?

Tong Louie, age undisclosed, son of an immigrant Chinese market gardener, agriculture graduate in the University of B.C. class of 1938, holder of the IGA (Independent Grocers Alliance) franchise for B.C., president of a large grocery supply company, chairman of the board of London Drugs — and now, as of June, a director of the Royal Bank of Canada, the country's largest bank.

Why indeed.

Louie's nothing-interesting-about-me modesty aside, he talks freely and openly about business affairs, community involvement, his family, and about his recent appointment to the board of a prestigious Canadian financial institution. He says with a chortle that he doesn't know why the Royal's nominating committee would have chosen him, when there are other, larger business emperors around. He and his companies have dealt with the Royal for many years and he's a shareholder (the federal Bank Act requires that a director hold a minimum of 2,500 shares — at current prices for Royal shares, that's a \$112,500 investment). He adds, though, that he doesn't intend to ask any questions as to the "why"?

His visitor recalls Royal chairman Earle McLaughlin's 1976 comment, that appears in retrospect to have been made hastily and to have returned to haunt him, that the Royal was unable to find a suitable woman to sit on its board, and wonders whether that attitude might be applied to ethnic groups as well. "A lot of people say that 'Maybe it's because you're non-Caucasian.' I don't think that has anything to do with it, nothing whatsoever," says Louie.

Whatever the reason, the appointment has caused the public spotlight to focus on Tong Louie. As president of H.Y. Louie Co. Ltd., the grocery supply company that his father founded, holder of the 40-store IGA franchise, and head of the 13-store London Drugs chain, he is a man with a great deal of influence in British Columbia's business community. He has maintained and expanded the family business founded in the province, and repatriated London Drugs, which was begun in B.C., but later bought by a Los Angeles-based company. Was the buy-back a nationalistic move? That in part, says Louie, but also "a sound business decision."

His influence is felt in community activities as well. He's involved with the United Way of Greater Vancouver, a trustee of St. Paul's Hospital, a counsellor for the Vancouver Board of Trade, and a booster of the YMCA, where he starts his day with a workout and a run at least four or five times each week.

Louie's decision to enter his father's business sprang, in part, from his graduation from UBC. After receiving his degree in soil science, he says, the one job offer he received was to join a fertilizer company in Trail, B.C. That didn't appeal, so he joined the family enterprise — "I'd always worked in the food business," he says.

The family aspect of the company and the UBC connection remain. His son Brandt, 35, the company's director of merchandising, graduated from UBC with a degree in accounting. (His other son, Kurt, 32, is in charge of the company's non-food operations.) His daughter Andrea is just entering her final year toward a BA in English.

On weekends and when he's through with his 10- and 12-hour business days, Tong Louie escapes from the constant deluge of financial journals and business publications with golf club in hand. He says he plays at golf — and obviously does it with the zest he applies to all his other activities.



Angus Hanson

Chemical Company in Westport, Connecticut....After 38 years in education as teacher, principal and director, **Ernest R. Ball**, BA'47, BEd'48, has retired as director of secondary instruction in the Richmond school district...."Uphill all the way," says **Norman K. Campbell**, BA'44, about succeeding in Canadian show biz. Nonetheless, Campbell and Don Harron are spending summer '79 on a sand dune on P.E.I. outlining a feature movie of **Anne of Green Gables** from the Charlottetown Festival musical version. Campbell has also held boredom at arm's length recently by producing **La Fille Mal Gardée** on CBC with the National Ballet and accepting the Order of Canada....The United States department of agriculture bestowed its highest award—the distinguished service award—upon the director of the Beltsville agricultural research centre in May. **Angus A. Hanson**, BSA'44, has directed the Beltsville centre since 1972, and previously was chief of the forage and range reserve research branch at Beltsville.

After 25 years with the federal government research community, **Charles D. Maunsell**, BA'45, MA'47, (PhD, Berkeley), retired as scientific consultant with the federal fisheries and oceans department Atlantic oceanographic laboratory at Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO). Awarded the Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee medal in 1977, he joined BIO in 1963 where he began study in the area of oceanographic structure on undersea sound propagation. A long-time resident of Dartmouth, N.S., he plans to return to the west coast to live in Victoria....Head of the program in genetics at Washington State University for a number of years, **Robert A. Nilan**, BSA'46, MSA'48, has been named dean of the division of science in the College of Sciences and Arts at WSU....News from the B.C. provincial court includes the appointment of two B.C. lawyers to the bench: **Robert C. Jensen**, BA'48, LLB'56, called to the bar in 1951, will sit in New Westminster and **Kenneth J. Scherling**, LLB'61, will preside in Smithers. Scherling was called to the bar in 1962.

## 50s

Formerly associate director for UBC's Centre for Continuing Education, **Knutte Buttedahl**, BCom'50, MA'63, (PhD, Florida State), is now president of the Pacific Association for Continuing Education (PACE). After leaving UBC in 1975 to work with the international council



Ralph Sultan

for adult education and with UNESCO, he returned in 1977 to join the newly created centre for human settlements as deputy director....The rank of major-general was conferred on brigadier-general **Ernest B. Creber**, BASc'51, this spring. Creber has been director general of land engineering and maintenance at national defence headquarters, Ottawa since 1974....**Tim H. Hollick-Kenyon**, BA'51, BSW'53, MSW'69, former executive director of the alumni association, has earned his PhD in higher education from the University of Oregon at Eugene.

In order to set up a private practice in business evaluation, **Arthur Guthrie**, BCom'52, (CGA; PhD, Washington), has resigned as associate professor of commerce at Simon Fraser University. He will continue to present seminars in professional development and in other areas of management....A change in marketing efforts in order to expand the Canadian operations of the National Life Assurance Company of Canada has resulted in the appointment of **Stanley Ross Johnson**, BCom'52, as executive vice-president of the company. Prior to joining National Life, Johnson was resident vice-president in Canada for a major U.S. life insurance company.

Publishing and flourishing is **Ian M. Drummond**, BA'54, who has just finished a study of the international monetary system in the 1930s. In addition to what Drummond calls "the usual flow of papers," he has published two textbooks (1966 and 1976), two monographs on 20th century British economic history and is currently at work on the economic history of Ontario....The new president of the Mining Association of B.C. **Robert E. Hallbauer**, BASc'54, would like to be bullish on mining expectations in the province, but fears that first a strong sign from government is needed—perhaps in the form of a tax break for mining. Hallbauer is associated with Teck Corporation, Afton Mines, Newfoundland Zinc Mines and Lamaque Mining Co....The mold was cast back in 1920 when his father began his rise to president of the Lethbridge Iron Works Co. Ltd., one of the first manufacturing companies of Alberta, and now **George B. Davies, Jr.**, BASc'56, is president and general manager of that same company.

**Kenneth G. Watt**, LLB'56, has been appointed vice-president and manager of the Lummus Company Canada Ltd. He is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the Calgary office and has held several senior positions with the company in Canada and the US since joining in 1967....**Michael A. Williams**, BCom'56,



## Thunderbird Play-by-play Fall '79

### Football

All home games start at 2 pm, Thunderbird Stadium.

Sept.	22	UBC at Alberta
	29	UBC at Manitoba
Oct.	6	Saskatchewan at UBC
	12	UBC at Calgary
	19	Simon Fraser at UBC
	27	Alberta at UBC
Nov.	3	W.I.F.L. Playoff—#2 at #1
	10	Semi-Final Bowl Game
	17	College Bowl Game

### Ice Hockey

All home games start at 8 pm, Winter Sports Centre

Oct.	6	UBC at Port Alberni
	7	UBC at Parksville
	12	Alumni Game
	20	Brandon at UBC
	21	Regina at UBC
	26	UBC at Lakehead
	27	UBC at Manitoba
	28	UBC at Winnipeg
Nov.	2-3	Alberta at UBC
	9-10	Calgary at UBC
	16-17	UBC at Saskatchewan
	23-24	UBC at Calgary
	30	UBC at Regina
Dec.	1	UBC at Brandon

### Basketball

All home games start at 8:30 pm, War Memorial Gym

Oct.	26	Grad Reunion Game
	27	Sr. "A" Dogwood League
Nov.	2	UBC at Brandon
	3	UBC at Regina
	9-10	Sr. "A" Dogwood League
	16-17	Saskatchewan at UBC
	23-24	Calgary at UBC
	30-Dec.2	U. of Victoria Tournament

For tickets and further information on the above events or on any UBC athletic event, contact the athletics office, 228-2295 (women) or 228-2531 (men). (It is suggested that you inquire locally for location and time of "away" games.)

**At home or away —  
a UBC team  
needs your cheers...**



## Doris Andersen

She was fired from *The Ubysses* as assistant editor because she was "scared to death of writing an editorial."

It wasn't that Doris Crompton Andersen, BA'29, couldn't write, because she had won *The Ubysses*'s reporter's award in 1925 for a spoof of the Frosh initiation. (The story began 'A few days ago the wild, wooded district behind the library was the scene of a large assemblage of terror-stricken individuals.') She had worked her way up to assistant editor under senior editor Earle Birney when other staff members included Jimmie Sinclair, Sadie Boyles and Mamie Maloney. She just didn't feel omniscient enough to write an editorial. As a result Birney's successor as editor fired her.

Another story Doris tells of her *Ubysses* days is how Mamie Maloney took her, a very shy "Freshee", on the Frosh snake dance, which was quite an event in those days. The line of dancers went in and out of downtown dance halls, blocking streetcars and across the Strand Theatre stage.

She has had an interesting life and tells about it with a gentle sense of humor. Her father was one of those who came from England because of the Yukon Gold Rush. Doris was born in Tanana, Alaska in 1909 where she acquired a nickname, "Bunny," that's still with her today. Two years later the family moved to California and later to Victoria where memories of high school include playing Helena opposite Jack Shadbolt's Lysander in "Midsummer's Night Dream."

At UBC she met her future husband George at a frosh reception. "He had to go home at 11 because he was on the football team" she recalls with a smile because after all, it was usually the girl who had to go home early.

After graduation it was library school at the University of Washington and while there she married George "on an impulse one weekend." After receiving her library degree, she worked for the Vancouver Public Library for 18 months. The VPL kept her marriage a secret because in those Depression days it was not supposed to employ married women.

Then came motherhood and three children. But in her mid-40s Doris decided to go back to library work. "I really started on my library career and my writing in my old age" she explains. It was in an era when most women her age still stayed at home. She worked with children's literature and history and started the VPL puppet shows. She retired in 1975, a branch library head.

By this time she was the author of *Blood Brothers* (Macmillan, 1970), *Slave of the Haida* (Macmillan, 1974), runner-up for the 1974 Book of the Year award given by the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians and *Ways Harsh and Wild* (J.J. Douglas, 1973), the Alaskan adventures of her father and his brother.

Her latest book, *The Evergreen Islands* (Gray's, 1979), is about the history of the beautiful — but relatively unknown — islands of the Inside Passage — Quadra, Cortez, Redonda, Read and Malcolm. She spent many summers on Quadra where her father served as island postmaster after his retirement. The story of these islands has its share of eccentric, lawless characters — including a Jesse James-type desperado who lived on Read Island — violent deaths and pirate raids, perhaps even more so that the Gulf Islands to the south.

Now that Doris Andersen has written all these books perhaps the prospect of writing an editorial wouldn't be so awful now?

— Olga Ruskin

has been elected to the board of directors of CanDel Oil Ltd. Currently executive vice-president of CanDel, he is a member of the Alberta Institute of Chartered Accountants, a director of the Financial Executives of Canada, and a past director of the United Way of Calgary.... Paul Cameron Russell, BA'56, (DMA, Michigan), professor of music, has been appointed to chair the department of music at Alma College, Alma, Michigan.

Formerly chief economist for the Royal Bank of Canada and more recently, vice-president, finance and investments, Ralph George Sultan, BASc'56, (MBA, Harvard), has been named senior vice-president, global marketing division and chair of the asset-liability policy committee of the Royal.... John A. Bovey, BA'57, MA'67, is now hard at work in Victoria where he is the new provincial archivist for British Columbia. Bovey has held the equivalent position in Manitoba where he was responsible for the transfer of the Hudson's Bay Company archives from London, England to Winnipeg.

## 60s

Drumming up a degree in music education on his way towards teaching is Stanley R. Perry, BA'60. Perry is a professional drummer in Toronto where he plays in the Phil Nimmons Jazz Quartet and the Nine Plus Six Group, while studying at the University of Toronto.... The May convention in Nanaimo of the British Columbia Historical Association resulted in the election of Ruth Evelyn Barnett, BA'62, as president. Editors of the B.C. Historical News are now Patricia E. Roy, BA'60, PhD'70, and Kent M. Haworth, BA'68.... June M. Whaun, MD'60, F.R.C.P.(C), is now a lieutenant-colonel in the U.S. Army and pediatrician-hematologist with the Medical Centre of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C. Her appointment had to be approved by the president of the United States through a senate committee. Prior to her recent posting, she was director of the Southern Alberta Oncology Program of the University of Calgary.

The mediagenic career of Hilary G. Brown, BA'62, continues to develop. Beginning with CBC in Paris in the mid-'60s, Brown is now on the international beat with NBC. She covered the signing of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty in March and credits the CBC with "opportunities they gave me in getting into television" which took her from Ottawa to ABC in New York and now to NBC.... July saw Alfred A. Burgoyne, BSc'62, begin his duties as head, mineral resource, with the department of Indian and northern affairs in Ottawa. Burgoyne came to the position from the UMEX Mining Corp., where he was exploration manager for western Canada.... The Association of University Anesthetists elected Roderick K. Calverley, MD'72, to its society this spring. He is associate clinical professor of anesthesiology at the University of California, San Diego.

The first recipient of the Chemical Institute of Canada's Alcan Lecture Award is Ronald G. Cavell, MSc'60, PhD'62, whose research emphasizes fluorinated derivatives of phosphorous. Cavell has been a professor at the University of Alberta since 1974.... Acadia University at Wolfville, Nova Scotia, awarded Earle K. Hawkesworth, MEd'62, with an honorary doc-

torate in education at their spring convocation. Hawkesworth is the deputy minister of education for the province of Alberta....Director of the community planning branch of the department of municipal affairs in Fredericton, N.B., **Tim J. Jellineck**, MSc'63, has been in office since 1968. He views the branch's function not as a watchdog, but as an advisor to both municipal and unincorporated areas....**Gerald D. Palsson**, BSc'63, BLS'66, (MA, Arizona), has been appointed assistant university librarian for reference services with the San Diego State University library, where he has worked since leaving the UBC library in 1976.

The last 15 years have been busy for **Lorna Mae Campbell**, BEd'64, who is currently enrolled in a masters program at Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Selected as one of 20 women in 1978 for a leadership training program in Ontario, she is teaching grades seven and eight math for the Toronto board of education and finding time to travel internationally while working at becoming vice-principal....**Derek R. Francis**, BLS'64, head of technical services at Douglas College library, has been appointed to chair the board of the Richmond Public Library, and the Greater Vancouver Library Federation....Former editor of the Vancouver *Province*, **Robert B.N. McConnell**, BA'64, (MA, Chicago), is now the publisher of the *Gazette*—the Montreal daily newspaper. McConnell joined the *Gazette* three years ago and has been assistant publisher since last December....From the *Rocky View Times & Airdrie Echo*, Airdrie, Alberta, comes news of **John Antliff Brown**, BLS'65, librarian at the Airdrie High School library for the past three

years. A stamp collector and curler in his spare time, Brown got a thank you for being "the biggest asset" to the school's library.

With responsibility for all export operations including subsidiaries in the United Kingdom and Australia, **David Hugh Morris**, BCom'65, is now controller of the international division of the Toro Company....Shifting librarians in the Fraser Valley found **Louise Harvey Magee**, BLS'66, replacing **Deborah Duncan**, BA'72, MLS'77, who has become area children's librarian for the Fraser Valley, based in Chilliwack, B.C. A strong believer in puppet shows to liven up story hour, Duncan opened her new tour of duty (which extends from Hope to Mission) with *Jack the Giant Killer*....**Charles W. Craig**, BEd'67, is helping a lot of people learn to read in Orillia, Ontario. Craig Reading and Educational Services, Inc. specializes in one-to-one techniques which enable non-reading and non-writing adult students to learn in a calm and friendly atmosphere. Perceptual problems and dyslexia as well as no education bring Craig's students to his Neywash Street house.

Only one year of study remains for **Judith A. Venning Cruikshank**, BSc'67, to attain her medical degree—from the University of Adelaide, South Australia. Judith hopes to become active in a UBC alumni branch in Adelaide....Representing the CTV Network in China is **Dennis W. McIntosh**, BA'67, who has been appointed to head the network bureau in Peking. Previously, McIntosh was CTV's bureau chief in Washington, D.C., and he has been with the network since 1969....**Mark C. Alexander**, BA'68, has been named the Cana-

dian Labor Congress representative for Prince Edward Island. He is a former assistant professor of business administration at St. Francis Xavier University at Antigonish, N.S....**Bernadet Ratsoy**, BSN'68, has become the director of nursing at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver....From test tubes to milk bottles: After five years with the RCMP crime lab in Regina, **David J. Perley**, BSc'69, has become a dairy farmer. His new farm is located 30 miles west of Yorkton, Saskatchewan in Willowbrook.

## 70s

The A.E. MacKay Research Fellowship from the Nova Scotia Heart Foundation is helping to support **Janet M. Davies**, BSc'70, in her studies at Dalhousie University where she is a resident in anaesthesia and engaged in heart research in physiology and biophysics....Students returning to Summerland secondary school will have a new face as vice-principal—**James D. Fishenden**, BEd'70, formerly vice-principal at Revelstoke secondary.

**Roger W. Clapham**, BA'71, is making life sweet for a lot of people. He's producing gift packs of comb honey, which he dispatches to faraway places like Japan and points west, on his Aldergrove farm....With 13 years experience in the oil industry, **James G. O'Genski**, BSc'71, has been appointed vice-president, surveys, of Petroseis Energy Ltd....**Peggy A. Lew**, BA'71, is executive secretary of the Save the Children Fund in Vancouver. Urgently

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David Morris

aware of the needs of some of the Third World countries, she organizes the sponsorship of needy children throughout the world....After seven years of teaching English in Japan, **Claire-Lucy Toynbee**, BSc'71, has decided to make her career commitment official and has enrolled in the English-as-a-second-language program at the University of Hawaii.... Winner of the 1979 Queen Elizabeth II British Columbia Centennial Scholarship of \$10,000 over a two-year period is **Alexandra Volkoff**, BA'71, sometime *Chronicle* contributor. She will pursue a master's degree at the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University in Brighton, England. She has recently returned from an extended stay in China.

Assistant deputy minister of fisheries in St. John's, Newfoundland, is **Leslie James Dean**, MA'73, who was formerly director of the provincial fisheries department....The decade of the divorce has given way to the year of palimony—and **Heather Manning Fayers**, BA'73, LLB'76, tells everyone to "put it in writing" in her new book, *If you love me—put it*



Alexandra Volkoff

in writing....**Merilyn Davis McKelvey**, BA'73, (MA, Waterloo), is with the architecture and planning firm of A. J. Diamond Associates of Toronto. A recent publication of hers, "Missing History: Tracking down the homes of our Prime Ministers" appeared last year in the *Canadian Magazine*....A trio of UBC grads presented the second concert of the Chilliwack Community Music School in the spring: **Dietrich Bartel**, BMus'75, his wife, **Jocelyn Bartel**, BMus'75, and her sister, **Valerie Victoria Ellis Poppy**, BMus'73, performed work from Bach and Mendelssohn for oboe, soprano and organ. The Bartels and Ms. Poppy reside near Freiburg, West Germany where they continue their studies of and work in music.

What has no preservatives, no refined sugar, no artificial additives, is thickened with tapioca, comes in five flavors (plus plain), uses non-sulphured raisins, has a flavor portion of 24 percent and is an instant hit with the consumer? The brainchild of Burnaby, B.C. food technologist, **Gail E. Christie**, BSc'75, who

was responsible for its development and flavor experimentation, it's called "Nature's Treat" and, you guessed it—it's yogurt.

Winner of the George M. Darrow award, sponsored by the American Society for Horticultural Science is **Tina Rowena Kyle**, BSc'77, a research assistant with plant sciences at UBC. She shares the award with George W. Eaton, a professor of horticulture at UBC....B.C. cauliflower will soon appear in retailers' vegetable coolers wrapped in cellophane à la California cauliflower. The field pack (unwashed heads packed into boxes as picked) doesn't maintain the freshness necessary to yield good return to the grower says **Dan Lutz**, BSc'77, an agricultural economist in British Columbia....**Linda Svendsen**, BA'77, was awarded first prize by *Miss Chatelaine* for her short story "Gaspumps" in the magazine's fiction contest. Svendsen has had other publication success with a play (produced at UBC), another short story, and poetry published in the *Dalhousie Review* and *Canadian Forum*.

## Weddings

**Berry-McNulty**. Frank McLaren Berry to Patricia Mae McNulty, BPE'73, MPE'76, June 16, 1979 in Vancouver, B.C....**Campbell-Bottoms**. Neil Alexander Campbell, BA'75, to Barbara Jean Bottoms, BHE'77, May, 1979 in Victoria, B.C....**Dean-Gatley**. Douglas P. Dean, BASc'78, to Diane J. Gatley, BSc'76, May, 1979 in Kelowna, B.C....**Stanfield-Bennett**. Norman Allan Stanfield, BMus'70, MMus'77, to Linda Carol Bennett, BA'75, MLS'78, June 6, 1979 in Vancouver, B.C.

## Births

**Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Brandt**, BEd'67, (Joan Leslie McConachie, BEd'76), a son, **Conor Michael**, July 5, 1979 in Burnaby, B.C....**Dr. and Mrs. D. Cannell** (Bronach R. Cole, BEd'70, MBA'72), a son, **Tavis Colin Peter**, August 29, 1978 in Vancouver, B.C....**Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Chan**, MBA'72, (Donna J. McLeod, BEd'72), a son, **James Ernest Chan**, October 25, 1978 in Caracas, Venezuela....**Mr. and Mrs. Terrence V. Corcoran**, BEd'73, a daughter, **Kylie Beth**, May 4, 1979 in Kelowna, B.C....**Mr. and Mrs. Ian W. Easson**, BSc'69, MSc'71, PhD'75, (Marguerita Elaine Easson, BSc'73), a son, **Warren William**, June 20, 1979 in Hamilton, Ontario....**Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Griffiths**, BSc'71, BA'75, MD'77, (Andrea C. Davies, BMus'76), a son, **James Christopher**, April 28, 1979 in Victoria, B.C....**Dr. Edwin Charles (Ted) Hamre**, BASc'64, PhD'70, (Elizabeth Chataway, BA'67), a son, **Douglas James Chataway**, January 14, 1979 in Regina, Saskatchewan....**Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Hlatky**, BSc'69, MA'73, a son, **Kazimir Jonathon Edward**, March 22, 1979 in Vanderhoof, B.C.

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. McRae**, BSc'70, MSc'72, PhD'77, (Grace Ann McRae, BA'72), a son, **Scott Edward Norman**, March 24, 1979 in Calgary, Alberta....**Mr. and Mrs. Ronald E. Newman**, BSc'70, a son, **Michael David O'Regan**, May 24, 1979 in Calgary, Alberta....**Mr. and Mrs. Gerald D. Palsson**, BSc'63, BLS'66,

## From the Hustings....

Canadians went to the polls in May this year and now a number of grads find themselves responsible for the destiny of the country. British Columbians enjoyed the democratic process twice as they elected their provincial government just 12 days before the federal election.

In B.C. the Secreds were returned to power and Premier Bennett's cabinet is staffed by, among others: **Garde Gardom**, BA'47, LLB'49, attorney general, (Van.-Point Grey); **Allan Williams**, LLB'50, labor, (West Van.-Howe Sound); **Kenneth Rafe Mair**, LLB'56, environment, (Kamloops); and, **Patrick L. McGeer**, BA'48, MD'58, education, (Van.-Point Grey).

Among the newly elected MLAs are: **Anthony Brummet**, BEd'65, (North Peace River — SC); **Gordon Hanson**, BA'70, MA'73, (Victoria — NDP); **Jack Heinrich**, BA'61, LLB'75, (Prince George North — SC); **Peter Hyndman**, LLB'66, (Van. South — SC); **Stuart Leggatt**, BA'55, LLB'54, (Coquitlam-Moody — NDP); **James Lorimer**, BA'48, LLB'49, (Burnaby-Willingdon — NDP); **Brian Smith**, BA'56, LLB'60, (Oak Bay-Gordon Head — SC); Among those MLAs re-elected to office are: **Emery Barnes**,

BSW'62, (Van. Centre — NDP); **Rosemary Brown**, BSW'62, MSW'67, (Burnaby-Edmonds — NDP); **Walter Davidson**, BA'62, (Delta — SC); **Jack Davis**, BASc'39, (North Van.-Seymour — SC); **Gary Lauk**, BA'63, LLB'66, (Van. Centre — NDP); **Alex Macdonald**, BA'39, (Van. East — NDP); **Lorne Nicolson**, BEd'63, (Nelson-Creston — NDP); **Karen Sanford**, BPE'56, (Comox — NDP); **Robert Skelly**, BA'68, (Alberni — NDP); **David Stupich**, BSA'49, (Nanaimo — NDP).

As a result of the federal election the following grads are in office: **Alphonsus E. Faour**, LLB'77, (Humber-Port-au-Port-St. Barbe — NDP); **John A. Fraser**, LLB'54, postmaster general and minister of the environment, (Van. South — PC); **A. Ron Huntington**, BSA'46, minister of state for small business and industry, (Capilano — PC); **Walter F. McLean**, BA'57, (Waterloo — PC); **Douglas C. Neil**, LLB'50, (Moose Jaw — PC); **Arthur Phillips**, BCom'63, (Van. Centre — LIB); **Svend Robinson**, LLB'76, (Burnaby — NDP); **Mark Rose**, BSA'47, (Mission-Port Moody — NDP).

We hope our list of members is complete, both provincially and federally — if not, we'd like to hear from you.

# 14 YEARS AGO THIS MAN BOUGHT HIS VOLVO BECAUSE IT WAS ADVERTISED AS THE 11 YEAR CAR.



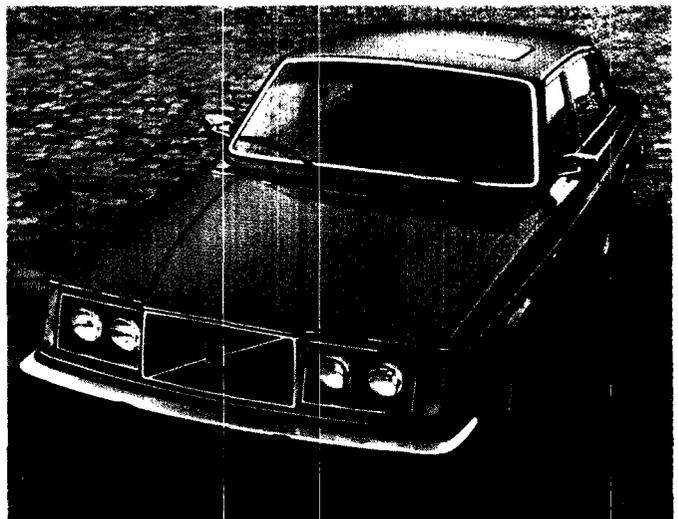
14 years ago, Marcel Follens, a tobacco farmer from Delhi, Ontario acquired a valuable piece of machinery. This 1966 Volvo.

He bought it because ads of the time said Volvos were so durable they lasted an average of 11 years in Sweden.

"The car I owned at the time was nowhere near 11 years old and it was already falling apart," Mr. Follens recalls. "Trading it in for my Volvo was one of the smartest things I ever did. I've driven this car a total of 146,000 miles, much of it through my fields on short, dusty runs. Yet, when I take it out on the expressway it still has the power to pass just like it used to. After 14 years, I feel this Volvo and I still have a future together."

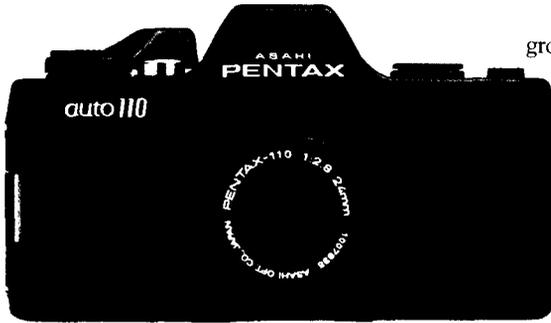
It doesn't take 14 years to love a Volvo. Statistics show that 9 out of 10 people who buy new Volvos are happy too.

So if you're unhappy with your current car, do what Mr. Follens did after reading one of our **VOLVO** ads. Buy one of our cars. A car you can believe in.



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Camera shown 75% of actual size.  
\*For price of camera as illustrated, see below.

## PROGRAMMED AUTO EXPOSURE

System 10's automatic exposure system is truly a wonder. Both aperture setting and shutter speed are programmed by the camera in accordance with the lighting conditions. By ingeniously combining the shutter with the aperture blades, Pentax engineers have created an exposure system that's amazingly sensitive and accurate, yet incredibly simple to use. System 10 even employs Silicon Photo Diodes, as opposed to the old, slow-responding CdS cells.

Shutter speeds vary from 1 sec. to 1/750 sec., while EVs range from 3 to 17 (ASA 100 with Pentax 110 24mm f/2.8 standard lens). Apertures range from f/2.8 to f/13.5

## AN SLR VIEWFINDER

As unbelievable as it may sound, the image in the viewfinder of the System 10 rivals that of even the best 35mm SLRs, in terms of size, brightness, clarity and contrast.

Inside, you'll find a surprisingly large, split-image finder, surrounded by a matte glass field. You'll also see either a green or a yellow LED in the lower right corner. The green LED lights up when there's enough light for shooting at shutter speeds faster than 1/30 sec. If an exposure below that speed is required, the yellow LED lights up, meaning a tripod or flash is suggested to shoot your picture.

The split-image finder, the LEDs, and your subject are all you'll see in the viewfinder. No needles. No clutter. All you do is focus and shoot.

## SUPERB LENSES

System 10 comes with a standard Pentax 24mm f/2.8 lens. It has 6 elements in 5

groups, and it's the equivalent of a normal 50mm lens in the 35mm format. Also available are a wide-angle 18mm f/2.8 lens, perfect for scenics or interiors, with 6 elements in 6 groups (35mm equivalent: 35mm), and a moderate telephoto 50mm f/2.8 lens, perfect for portraits and candids, with 5 elements in 5 groups (35mm equivalent: 100mm).

All lenses are bayonet-mount, so changing them is literally a snap.

A variety of close-up lens attachments are also



18mm wide-angle lens.



24mm standard lens.



50mm telephoto lens. available, so you can take terrific macro shots of stamps, coins, or anything small.

## WINDER 110

The Pentax Micro Power Winder can fire off exposures at 1 fps. It's compact, light, very quiet. It even automatically advances your film to the

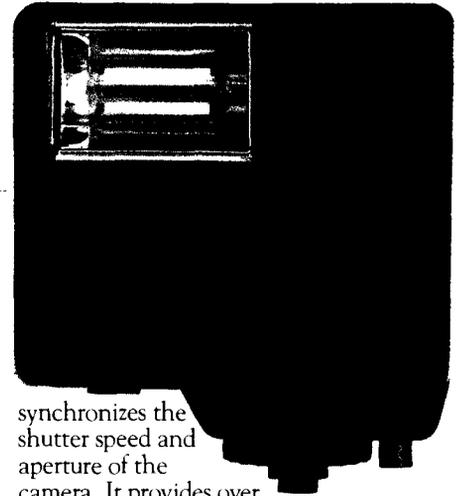


Catch the action with the Micro Power Winder.

first frame. It's powered by two penlight AA batteries, which deliver over 1,200 exposures. And after the last exposure on the cartridge, no rewinding is necessary. Just pop out the cartridge and get it processed.

## PROGRAMMED FLASH

The Auto Flash AF 130 P threads and locks into a socket on top of the System 10. It's a "dedicated" flash which automatically

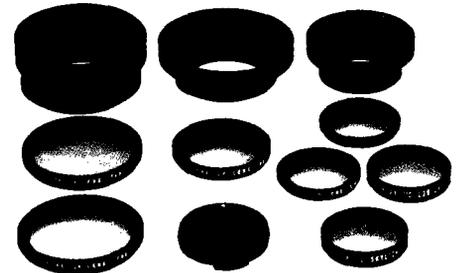


synchronizes the shutter speed and aperture of the camera. It provides over 250 auto exposures (from 2.6' to 15'), all with just two 1.5V AA Alkaline batteries.

## ACCESSORIES

Individual UV and skylight filters may be obtained for both standard and wide-angle lenses. Collapsible lens hoods, camera pouch, and eyepiece correction lenses as well as close up lenses are also available.

The System 10 combines the sophistication and versatility of a modern 35mm SLR with the compact ease of the 110 film format.



To the professional and the advanced amateur it's an excellent second camera that fits anywhere, and could even become your camera of choice.

To the world of photography, it's a major breakthrough. But then, that's no surprise. After all, it's made by Pentax.

For more information write: Pentax System 10, 1760 West Third Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1K5.

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