

Students hit gov't job cut

By HEESOK CHANG

Students are outraged at the provincial government for cutting back 5,000 summer jobs including 1,500 specifically meant for students.

Student council Wednesday passed a motion to write a letter of protest to the provincial government while a B.C. Federation of Students spokesperson charged the government with deliberately keeping lower income students out of post-secondary institutions.

The council motion instructed the Alma Mater Society external affairs office to write the letter, which will carry a promise of further action if the government ignores the protest.

"I have no intention of sitting idle while they cut that money out of student hands," external affairs officer-elect James Hollis said Wednesday.

"The provincial government must be made aware that it's a serious matter. We have no definite plans (beyond the letter) as yet, but we intend to lobby them for sure," he said.

The job cuts also came under fire from BCSF executive officer Steve Shallhorn.

"It's intolerable," he said Wednesday.

"Last summer, the unemployment rate among students was as high as 19.5 per cent. Combined with higher tuition fees and no student aid changes, it's clear that the provincial government has a policy of keeping lower income students out of school," said Shallhorn.

Virginia Greene, the director of the employment opportunities program, denied the charge. "I don't think he'd get much agreement from the provincial government on that," she said.

"I think it may be difficult for students to find jobs in the provincial government. But while the Work in Government program has been cancelled, there are still several other summer job opportunities in

the public job market," said Greene.

Greene reported that the government will fund the creation of only 11,000 jobs this year as compared with 16,000 in 1980. Besides the 1,500 jobs that have been cut from the cancellation of the student Work in Government program, the other 3,500 cutbacks will take place in the areas of non-profit organizations and private sectors.

Greene said the provincial government will fund fewer positions in the private sector, but for a longer time, and that funding of non-profit organizations has been discontinued because they wish to avoid double funding a traditionally federally funded area.

Greene added the government will be directing more funds towards creating job programs for handicapped people. No details as to how much exactly the provincial government will be adding and subtracting from programs will be known until the budget is released in late March or early April.

Dick Shirran, director of the student counselling and resources centre, said he does not anticipate any cuts for funding summer student research projects.

Hollis was concerned the cutbacks will reduce accessibility to UBC. "I have to find out what students will be losing those jobs. It could preclude some students from returning to the university next year.

"The action of the provincial government is a severe oversight, and they must be made aware of the consequences to rethink their course of action," Hollis said.

Shallhorn was bitter. "I think it shows a major contradiction on the part of the provincial government when they go around talking about the 'work ethic,' and then go and cut back 5,000 summer jobs," he said.

Council okays CITR society

A low power FM broadcasting license is all but guaranteed for CITR, the campus radio station, after Wednesday's student council meeting.

CITR now meets the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission requirements for application for the last remaining low power channel in Vancouver.

Council Briefs

But the motions to provide CITR with the necessary qualifications were not passed without opposition.

Len Clarke, Alma Mater Society finance director, tried to table a motion agreeing in principle to provide CITR with \$40,000 a year because the station's budget was "sketchy."

And external affairs coordinator Al Soltis chastised the station's staff for not approaching council earlier.

"You're putting us in a really tight spot," he said. The project was being railroaded through council because, although council had little time to decide on the issue, "there's no way we could say 'no,'" Soltis said.

Council approved in principle the constitution of the UBC Radio Society. The society will be formed by council, but must be guaranteed to

have all-Canadian membership in order to meet the CRTC's requirements.

Council also approved in principle to fund about \$40,000 to the station for the first four years of its operation.

CITR must now get provincial government approval as a society and then go before CRTC. When CITR gets the license, it will be able to broadcast all over Vancouver.

* * *

Council continues to hold SUB's east alcove as a hostage to ensure

See page 2: BCPIRC

THE UBYSSEY

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228-2301



FIVE BIZARRE dancers, all in a row, from front to back they all seem to grow. What are they doing, where are they from? They're from a dance troupe called Prism. Web-handed dancer in front displays dexterity, impersonating Popeye's pals, the goons. But one person's goon is another's dancer, as Prism showed in SUB ballroom noon Tuesday. Troupe will continue tour of seedy Vancouver theatres when they return from twilight zone.

SUB vote inches to quorum

By DOUG MARTIN

If students continue to vote at the current rate, the SUB renovations referendum should reach 'quorum' in this week's voting. But so far there may be more students opposing the proposal than supporting it.

According to a representative of the Alma Mater Society, about 200 people voted on Monday and 1,100 on Tuesday.

What is 'quorum'? Quorum, as outlined in the AMS bylaws, means that in order for any referendum to pass, a total of 10 per cent (about 2,300 students) of the day population at UBC must be in favor of the proposal, and a majority of favorable voters must also exist.

For example, if only 2,300 students voted, 100 per cent would have to be in favor for the referendum

to pass. If 5,000 vote, than it's still 2,300 in favor to achieve quorum and 2,501 (50 per cent plus one) in favor to pass.

Students opposing the referendum gave a variety of reasons Wednesday for their position.

"The students should first decide whether or not to pay the \$15 next year. If they pass that, then they should vote on proposed spending," said Marion Yas, grad studies. She said she voted 'no' to both issues.

Mike Sanford, architecture 2, said the proposed renovations "will (not) support the participation and interaction of students, except as consumers."

While the students vote on whether to spend the \$1 million on SUB renovations, the proposal is already costing them a significant amount. AMS administration director Craig Brooks said Wednesday the advertising for the referendum has already run up a bill of \$2,200 in addition to architects' fees and other related costs.

Brooks urged all students to vote in the referendum. Voting continues today and Friday at polling stations across campus.

Autonomy for McGill rag?

MONTREAL (CUP) — The McGill Daily has moved one step closer to autonomy. The proposal which was approved at council meeting Feb. 4 will be put to a referendum in a month's time.

The new system will establish a publications society governed by a board of directors. The board will be composed of four student representatives chosen in campus-wide elections and three representatives elected by the Daily staff.

The change would make the Daily legally and editorially autonomous from the student society.

"The idea of separating the press from government is important," said student society president Todd Ducharme.

Opposition to the proposal came from law representative to council Ted Claxton who said he opposed

the move because he believed more restrictions should be placed on the board of directors. "Just because it's legal doesn't mean it's democratic," he said.

But another councillor disagreed. "We have to believe that the people (on the board) will try to do their best and it's our responsibility to give students a chance to vote on this," music representative Liz Norman said.

Arts representative Sean Mcalister said he was worried no students would want to serve on the board.

Council executive member Terry Anderson saw it differently.

"The Daily arouses some passion in the student body. People are interested. They may not like the Daily but they're interested," he said.

BCPIRG to go to referendum

From page 1
adequate space for student social needs.

The administration wants to lease the alcove from the AMS for cafeteria renovations, but council is using the space as a negotiating tool.

It appeared students and administration had reached an agreement on leasing the space several weeks ago, but council members say they are dissatisfied with the administration's attitude toward students using the armories and War Memorial Gym for social functions.

The issue was thought to be resolved when former administration vice-president Eric Vogt said in a letter to council the armories and gymnasium would be readily available for student use.

But external affairs coordinator Al Soltis said "no pieces of paper are worth anything from Dr. Vogt," after receiving several student complaints about difficulty in booking the facilities. Council agreed.

The AMS executive will continue to negotiate with the administration

and will report back to council in two weeks.

Council narrowly passed a resolution to support the establishment of the British Columbia public interest research group.

The motion came after BCPIRG representatives presented plans for the student-run organization to council.

Council's major concerns were over how BCPIRG would spend the nearly \$150,000 refundable levy to be collected from students and how the organization would be structured.

BCPIRG is currently circulating a petition on campus to force the AMS to hold a referendum requesting that a \$5 refundable fee be levied on all full time UBC students.

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- PAT MARCHAK, Dept. of Anthropology & Sociology, UBC.

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'Gay lawyers still face barriers'

Although the gay movement has made many strides in the law profession, there still exist subtle barriers to homosexuals who want to become lawyers, a gay Vancouver lawyer said Wednesday.

"If you're going to be a gay lawyer, a liberal lawyer, you're going to have to limit your choices," Ken Smith told about 30 people at noon in Law 169.

Smith, a Vancouver lawyer, said although active discrimination in the legal profession against gays is

unusual, the situation in Canada "clearly isn't a dreamland."

"The (law) profession does ignore the issue of homosexuality," he said.

But he said sometimes gay lawyers seeking employment with a law firm may encounter discriminatory attitudes in questionnaires.

"(What) we're dealing with," Smith said, "(is) conservative, rather right-wing elements in the profession."

"The extent of tolerance (of

gays) remains undefined and I think undefinable," said Doug Sanders, a law professor at UBC and a member of the panel at the lecture.

Sanders told the audience that in most cases, law societies do not inquire about member's sexual orientation, although the Law Society of B.C.'s entry questionnaire asks for information that may reveal a person's homosexuality. The questions asked by the Law Society of B.C. are the most stringent in Canada, he said.

"I'm not aware of any (law) society which asks whether a member is gay or not," he said. There is a "screening process" to determine if a potential member has "good character," but only those who are "dope smokers and drunks" meet with any resistance, he joked.

Sanders said he was a gay anti-draft activist during the 1960s and '70s and was afraid that "the fact that I was gay may hinder my political activities."

"Most gay academics are closeted today," he said.

"I have no idea how many of my colleagues think or know that I'm gay, and I don't think I'll ever know."

Gary Cohn, a third-year law student at UBC and a panel member, said gay students should not be "concerned with entering the UBC law graduate society."

"The main source of our repression (is) our own fears," he said. Some "gay people feel uncomfortable about their sexuality."

Overall, Smith, Sanders and Cohn are optimistic about prospects for gays who want to enter the law profession. "If you choose to be a gay lawyer, I have no hesitation in thinking you can be a successful lawyer," Smith said, but added, "there are many lawyers who are gay, but very few are gay lawyers."

TAs, admin sign memo

The Teaching Assistants' Union and the UBC administration have reached agreement and signed a memorandum ensuring the TAU of a contract in March.

The memorandum of agreement, signed Monday, means the union will get its first contract after the union membership, on Tuesday, and the board of governors, on March 3, ratify it. The contract will not contain the security clause the union had actively sought.

The bargaining unit defeated a vote leading to strike action last month after the contract negotiations with the administration broke down over the union security clause.

The clause would have made union membership mandatory for any TA hired unless the TA rejected membership in writing. Without the clause the union will have to mount continual recruiting drives in the constantly changing TA work force.

The memorandum signed by the union and the administration is a form of preliminary contract, and includes all clauses which had been negotiated before the strike vote.

Robert Grant, director of employee relations at UBC, is confident both sides will ratify the contract.

"There's nothing in the agreement that I think is offensive to either side. I think the TAs will be interested in getting the money," he said Wednesday.

"The new rates are comparable to those of the other universities; we (UBC) are not at the bottom of the heap," Grant said. "The mood of both sides on Monday was positive."

Union negotiators were not available for comment.



B-LOT BLUES strike once again to sadsack Datsun. Gift wrapped for Valentine's Day, car was mistaken for new strain of tree, carbonolus monoxidus. Student gave car wide berth but others, taking it for bushy area, proceeded to mincturate on freshly seeded auto. Quasi cops attempt-

ed to resolve situation by towing errant quadriped, but deep roots and thick bark stopped them. New trend in auto accessories is not expected to catch on, though strapped students may opt for toilet paper to keep cars together.

Alberta students rap task force report

EDMONTON (CUP) — The recently released federal provincial task force report on student assistance is a disappointment to Alberta students, and does not answer their concerns, say Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) representatives.

The task force was formed last year by the council of ministers of education of Canada, which consists of all 10 provincial ministers. It was to investigate and review the student aid program in Canada and report back by last fall.

But the report, which was released

Jan. 27, does not address many of the aspects of student aid that it was supposed to, according to FAS. In addition, it does not judge the success of the various provincial student aid programs, FAS said.

"We are disappointed," said Lorraine Mitchell, FAS executive member.

"It doesn't recommend any specific funding arrangements," she said. "It doesn't specifically review the provincial programs."

Alberta advanced education minister Jim Horsman, as well as

most of his counterparts, has been delaying changes to Alberta's student aid program until seeing the task force report. But since the report does not make any recommendations, Horsman will not be able to base changes on it.

"Now we'll be pressing for some action," said Kris Farkas, FAS executive member and University of Alberta student union officer.

Mitchell also complained that neither the Alberta government nor the student finance board made a submission to the task force.

"On the one hand, they said they would wait for the results of the task force (before making student aid changes)," she said. "And then we find out they haven't even submitted a brief."

Horsman was in Britain and unable to comment.

FAS is planning to intensify its lobby for a province-wide access study to determine what factors dictate whether students continue from high school to university.

In the past, Horsman has called this idea "an airy-fairy thing." However, he has moderated his position recently, according to FAS fieldworker Anne McGrath.

"Now he's been talking about it

Demo for dollars

WINNIPEG (CUP) — University of Manitoba president Ralph Campbell is concerned that a demonstration Jan. 15 by University of Winnipeg students influenced the government's funding decisions for next year.

In an interview with the U of M student newspaper, the Manitoban, Campbell said he sent a letter to the provincial university funding body asking if the demonstration influenced their decision.

The U of W demonstration involved 800 students who marched on the provincial legislature protesting past funding restraints to

Manitoba's three universities.

Three days later the provincial funding body announced funding increases to the universities for next year.

The U of W received the highest increase — 16.4 per cent over this year's funding. U of M received only a 13 per cent increase.

"I'd hate to think the U of W received so much more just because of the demonstration," Campbell said.

"The letter I sent was not a bitter letter," he added. "I just want to hear what the reasons are behind this wide variance."

'Don't ask us'

HALIFAX (CUP) — The administration at Mount Saint Vincent University is denying all responsibility for student health in light of reports of improper use and storage of chemicals used in the construction of a university building.

Speaking at a student council meeting Jan. 30, Michael Merrigan, executive assistant to the president, said, "It's not the administration's problem, it's the contractor's problem."

The chemical, Plad-270, is being used on the gym floor of the Rosaria centre. It releases toxic fumes which may be harmful to people who must pass through the construction site to reach other areas of the campus.

"I'm not an expert in this area," Merrigan said, adding the construction was "perfectly within the wishes of the department of labor."

Student council vice president Andrea Gibb stressed the importance of proper storage of the chemical.

Merrigan was asked what responsibility the university administration would take in the event of an explosion.

"That's a kind of question . . . one should never ask it," he replied.

Goodbye to SUB Socreds

It's time to say goodbye to the Alma Mater Society executive of 1980-81: Bruce Armstrong, president; Marlea Haugan, vice president; Len Clarke, finance director; Craig Brooks, administration director; and Alan Soltis, external affairs officer.

We'll leave the latter out of the discourse for the time being because we haven't seen him for a while and we suspect he has good reasons, somewhat similar to the thoughts we are about to present, why he has made himself scarce.

We are sad when we look back at what has been written in these pages about the four, not because we regret what was said; rather we deeply regret what was not said. It's the libel laws. So much has been excluded that the students should have known.

Less drunken law students will remember that even if a person prints the truth and is sued for libel, the truth is not an adequate defense

against the suit should it be shown the writer or printer of the truth had malicious intent.

And oh yes, we are malicious. It's our middle name.

Of course, we could have printed whatever we wanted about any of the above Gang of Four. A libel suit against The Ubyssy, even in the never-never land of student court, would have also been a libel suit against the AMS.

This wouldn't happen if The Ubyssy was autonomous. But it isn't. The AMS, by the grace of God, through Her Majesty the Queen, her representative the Lieutenant-Governor of B.C. and the Societies Act of B.C. the Left Gov signed in her name, is the publisher of The Ubyssy.

If we printed the ugly truth and an AMS executive member sued, it would make a lovely comic opera. The titled twit might have to name his or herself as defendant in the suit; the entire liability would lie on

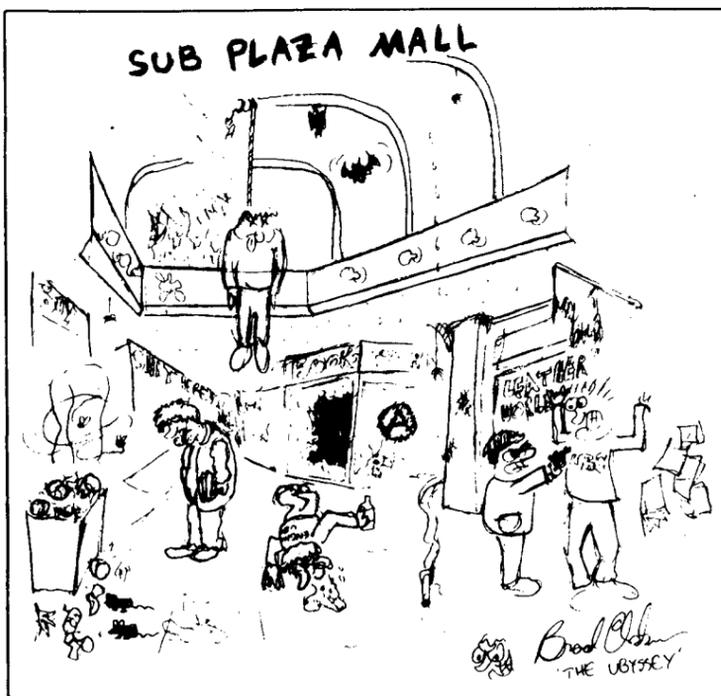
the AMS since The Ubyssy consists of unsalaried students whose assets are naught but cancelled student loan forms. The AMS wins The Ubyssy, the AMS wins, and the AMS pays. Gorgeous.

We are civilized, however. Never once has The Ubyssy in 63 years put itself in a position where it has been successfully sued for libel. By anyone. Not even when we've had types like the outgoing AMS executive for sitting ducks.

It is true that, since all of the Socreds on the second floor of SUB but Haugan are no longer on the executive, we can now have at them without quarter and let the courts judge the hindmost. But again, we are civilized, and deliberate libel where it does not serve the students we work for is beneath our dignity. Nor will we be cruel enough to let them make more complete fools of themselves in responding to one of our biting diatribes.

Instead, in bidding the past AMS executive goodbye, we would like to stress to our readers that the beginning taking place this month, with a new executive elected and council elections in each faculty coming soon, is the true beginning of the year in student government.

There's more than six weeks (O save us!) left of classes. Now that you've gotten used to the leaden hours of fluorescent classes, you've measured the currents of thought on campus and you've seen the directions taken by your student



Letters

Gay undignified

In the SUB lounge on Tuesday, Feb. 10, an altercation took place between a known heterosexual and a representative of the gay club.

The basic incident went as follows: the het went over to the gay booth and took a couple of buttons. When he returned to his seat, the gay rep approached the het and requested the buttons back. When the het refused, the gay representative got quite heated and some heavy words were exchanged between the two.

It is important here to point out that the gay rep was becoming extremely aggressive and loud whereas the het was quite calm and collected. The gay rep was succeeding in turning a petty little disagreement into an ugly scene.

When the het placed the buttons in the garbage can, the gay rep fished them out, firing garbage on the het. When a pop can hit the het, he picked it up and touched it to the top of the gay reps head, said, "Don't fuck around," then dropped it into the garbage can. During this, the gay rep was on the verge of a tantrum.

Upon leaving, he called all the people in the surrounding group "scum of the earth" while issuing some indiscernible verbiage on human dignity.

When all had calmed down and everyone went back to talking, another incident started up grabbing the attention of all the SUB dwellers; the police had been called and it looked like the het was being arrested. The het refused to go unless the policewoman let go of his jacket and informed him of the charge. The charge stated was assault and theft. After some more heated discussion, the officer handcuffed the het and hauled him off.

The point of this piece is not to engage in a tit for tat brawl with the UBC gay club nor try to slam them for simply being homosexuals, but to offer some advice.

The gay representative did not conduct himself in a dignified fashion. I don't necessarily agree with what the het did, but at least he conducted himself with reserve. In a week that is designated as gay week, the gay rep succeeded in substantiating old prejudices that gays are catty, reactionary and far too theatrical.

Since no blows were thrown and nothing stolen, the charges of assault and theft seem a bit unreasonable. The charge should have been ridicule with intent to embarrass; I believe that this is not a felony.

If gays want to get a better image (a goal that would seem obvious in gay week), I would suggest the gay club put that rep back in the closet and go for reps that can take a bit of harassment; it's inevitable that they'll encounter some along the way.

Name withheld by request
physical education 4

government; now's the time to tell those people who administer hundreds of thousands of dollars in student money how you want that money spent, what kind of principles they should follow in serving you and how much you appreciate

it when they make fundamental decisions without consulting you.

The decisions you will have to make are coming sooner than you think. You've already elected next year's executive.

Goodbye, EMI. Hello, A & M.

Letters

Gay engineer speaks out

Homosexuality and engineering. Are these terms mutually exclusive? The engineers might have you think so, and the naive might have believed them. I feel it is fitting during gay week at UBC that I dispel this myth, and relate some of my views.

My being gay was no impediment to entering engineering simply because I saw engineering as being a smart faculty to be in, and I didn't really care about the reputation by and large, because much of what they do is harmless enough. But engineers are notorious for, among other things, putting down gays. "They're all in arts" is a common notion, and gays are often referred to in a derogatory manner in such events as the annual songFEUST.

Perhaps the engineers really thought that all gays were in arts, but this is no excuse at all to insult all gays on campus through numerous uncouth remarks. The engineers gain a lot of credibility on campus through their help for various charities, but when they then turn around and refuse to be charitable to their fellow students, their credibility drops somewhat. I don't think the percentage of gays in engineering is much different from that in any other faculty on campus. About five per cent of the general population is gay (Kinsey), and gays are fairly evenly distributed in all professions. Needless to say, there are also gay profs on campus.

As for myself, I chose last year to "come out," i.e. not hide the fact that I'm gay. This doesn't mean going around trumpeting the fact but it does mean raising a fuss if I feel I'm being stepped on.

A time has to come when each person sets his or her own standards. I can understand how some people naturally fit into society's mold, and there's nothing wrong with that as long as it's the result of a decision not just passive resignation.

People who do not fit into society's mold are sometimes given a rather rough time, but usually only by

those who never bother to think about their actions. I have straight friends in engineering who know I'm gay, and it doesn't make any difference to them whether I'm gay or not.

When you come down to it, chances are everyone has gay friends. People often don't realize this because they don't see any limp-wristed types around them. These people should consider that the above behavior is not typical of gays; being gay simply means being attracted to members of the same sex.

Why people feel afraid or threatened by this is beyond me. Gays don't jump on people in back alleys; by and large they suppress their feelings so as not to "offend" others. Some people are against gays because their interpretation of the Bible dictates it.

These people are just using the Bible to justify the way they feel. There is no unique interpretation of

the Bible, but these people think there is.

Still other people are against homosexuality because it's not "normal." They say, "Just about everyone's heterosexual. Heterosexual sex is normal." If heterosexual sex is normal simply because more people do it, then masturbation is even more normal because it's the number one sexual activity. Compared to masturbation, heterosexual sex is "abnormal!"

Gay week at UBC is not just for gays; it's for anyone who would like to gain a better understanding of their gay friends or for anyone who wants to see how "evil" homosexuality really is. Public awareness is one of the biggest functions of such a week.

Of interest to students might be the two movies being shown in Buch. 202 today (Thursday), and also the talk being given by NDP MP Svend Robinson in SUB 205 on Friday. Happy gay week!

Name withheld by request
applied science 4

THE UBYSSY

February 12, 1981

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Editor: Verne McDonald

Little Brad Clarkson and wee Seona Bell-Irving were so happy. "Jingle bells, jingle bells," they chorused in high, squeaky voices, then with tiny Nancy Campbell and middle Eric Eggertson they ran to the cloak room at the back of the office to get their mittens on. Glen Sanford, Heesok Chang and Shaffin Shariff caught snowflakes on their tongues, the snowflakes, while Verne McDonald made a miniature snowman on a bit of mirror-like ice. Arnold Hedstrom tried to snow Arne Hemann about how he'd once won a snowball fight with Doug Martin. Stuart Davis took just tons of pix of the wonderful snow celebration, but they all came out white and then the fucking car got stuck, then it nearly goddamn slid right through a little old lady trying to cross Blanca Street and who needs that white shit anyway?

Stan Persky will roar and win in 1984

By STAN PERSKY

It's customary, these days, for second-place finishers in political contests to go off and brood in Hawaii, Plains, Ga., or some other paradisiacal landscape.

As much as I would like to be in the swim of current traditional styles, come Monday morning I will not be ogling surfers in Maui or conversing with breaststroking rabbits who speak in a slow southern drawl. Instead, as usual, I'll be in a classroom-hut on the slopes of Mt. Benson in Nanaimo with the students of Sociology 122, discussing the nature of capitalist society. (We're presently wrapping up an investigation of how culture — specifically, rock music — is produced,

perspectives

and on Monday, we'll be poking into such esoteric details as the content of Billy Joel's mind and the phenomenon of the B-52s.) Worse, I won't even be brooding.

Aside from the fact that I'm not very good at brooding, considering that I just achieved 31 per cent of the vote in the 1981 UBC chancellorship race (a slight increase over my 1978 showing), there doesn't seem to be much to brood about. (Of course, a few party-poopers will pull out their pocket calculators and determine that, at my present rate of increase, I won't become chancellor until 2011, not noticing that they've fallen into the statistical fallacy of not taking into account the "temper of the times" as a variable in their computations.)

Given the temper of the times, running as an opposition candidate for the UBC chancellorship is something like standing for the NDP in an Alberta provincial election. As long as Alberta or UBC continues to produce fool's gold, it will be an uphill task.

Nonetheless, just to show I'm a good sport, I'll try to find something to brood about before launching my 1984 campaign drive. I was being interviewed on local television and while waiting for the interviewer to ask her questions (which consisted of five or six elaborate ways of asking, "Why shouldn't the rich and powerful run UBC?"), we were treated to a little documentary about the history of the UBC chancellorship and some student-on-the-mall reactions to the current campaign.

As the portraits of previous chancellors flashed before our eyes, commentary was provided by a UBC archivist. One of her remarks stayed in mind. As we gazed at the mug of a chancellor of the late '60s (whose major distinction, as I recall, was to be the owner of the largest bread factory in town), the archivist noted, with approval, that old so-and-so had provided "stability," and as a result UBC had "suffered" comparatively little from the "student unrest" of the time.

I must admit that I brooded for at least 30 seconds over her use of the word "suffered." Why not say: as a result of the "suffocating" influence of the administration (of which old so-and-so was a part), UBC was "invigorated" comparatively little by "student unrest" ("unrest" is another of those words that makes me brood)? Where does she get off making such judgments? Maybe the archivist is bucking for a job in the history department.

The historical presentation was followed by some on-the-mall interviews. After locating several students who cheerfully admitted that they had no idea that a chancellorship election was in progress (television takes a sadistic delight in demonstrating that people know nothing), the camera settled on a



chap bundled up in an expensive overcoat, whose entire head was covered with lots of hair and beard in the middle of which was stuck a Sherlock Holmes pipe upon which he contentedly puffed through the interview, delivering his answers with the skill of a ventriloquist (in order to avoid dislodging his personal chimney). Obviously a graduate student trying to impress his thesis committee or a junior faculty with an eye to tenure. His main observation was that he thought it would be rather a bad thing if the election were turned into a "Monty Python" sort of affair.

While I mentally chalked up a vote for my opponent, I experienced an instant of comic brooding. I imagined that rather than being in training as a pompous ass, he was actually a comic uttering this perfectly appropriate line in the midst of a Monty Python show.

As you can see, I'm not very good at brooding. If there's anything "Monty Pythonish" about

the present educational situation (by which, I assume, our proto-prof chap probably meant "inappropriately silly"), it's what goes on in most pre- and post-secondary educational institutions in B.C.

Without revealing my entire 1984 campaign platform (which, alas, will probably be much like my 1978 and 1981 platforms; in addition to being a failure at brooding, I'm not much of an innovator either), there are one or two features of the educational situation worth noting.

For one thing, most of the people who come out of the pre-secondary system are unable to adequately read, write, speak or think. About three-quarters of those who escape from Grade 12 are unable to write a competent 500-word composition. Worse, they are woefully ignorant about how our society works. (Since, as far as I can tell, they seem to be intelligent, I assume there's something wrong with the society that makes them ignorant rather than with them.)

Of course, once they get to post-secondary institutions, we, the teachers do the best we can, under the circumstances. There is a certain amount of measurable improvement. However, this is not terribly comforting. For one thing, not very many people get to post-secondary institutions — certainly a smaller percentage than do so in the U.S. or in many other Canadian provinces. Nor is there any provision for the vast population of post-(traditional)-school-age working people to participate in the extended discussions about contemporary society that post-secondary institutions could provide.

For the happy few who are permitted to wander in these groves of academe, an unhappy fate awaits them. Apart from being given some misguided ideas about why they're here (usually a puffed-up professional version of the notion that education is purely job-training), they are, at UBC, crammed into overly-large classes during their first and

second years (the very time when they're most in need of individual attention).

All of us who are teachers know perfectly well that you can't teach 40 or 50 people in a classroom. You can, of course, lecture to them, and some of us are pretty good at lecturing (and would feel perfectly comfortable lecturing to the 13,000 Canucks fans who show up at the Pacific Coliseum; but then again, it makes just as much sense to watch it on TV, which is what I prefer to do when it comes to the Canucks and what Pat McGeer can't do for education). Naturally, given the dominant corporate administrative style available, we teachers seldom say anything about this situation, especially since "they" leave us alone to do as we please in our individual classrooms (we call this perversion "academic freedom.")

You notice that I haven't said anything about whether the post-secondary curriculum makes any sense. I won't, because it would take too long to describe the philosophical underpinnings involved in making English 100 a "required" course or showing those great-works-of-Western-Civilization slides in Fine Arts 125 (in order to secure an adequate budget for the teaching of art history in upper division courses).

Now, Mr. Chimney-Pipe-in-His-Mouth thinks that raising such matters is Monty Pythonish. I don't suppose I'll get his vote in 1984. He thinks the present chancellor adequately symbolizes a desirable non-Monty Pythonish state of affairs. The reason I'm raising such matters is because there are 7-8,000 of you who will be eligible to vote in the 1984 chancellorship election who might think that these issues are, indeed, appropriate to consider.

Stan Persky is a former Ubyssy staffer among other things, many other things, and will someday be chancellor of UBC. Perspectives is a column of analysis and opinion open to all members and almost-members of the university community.

Letters

Nude madness causes image problems

I am writing to protest about the disturbing set of events which occurred on Tuesday, Jan. 27. Those events were a part of the agriculture week celebrations.

To put it simply, we were all peacefully absorbing some biological concepts when suddenly we were interrupted by some loud and awful chanting. Then right before our eyes about six to eight males paraded in front of the class and we were all subjected to some disgusting low grade flashing (current terminology). After displaying themselves for about a minute or so, the aggies left. The reactions in

our class ranged from surprise and shock to disgust, embarrassment and amusement.

Such an event is all that is needed to degrade the currently much admired status of UBC. I am disappointed that no one from the staff of UBC could prevent this event from taking place. So far I have heard of only one professor who reacted sensibly to the situation. He promptly turned off all the lights in the classroom and shooed the aggies away.

In September I was proud to be a part of UBC but since then my

views have changed, especially after this event. At least the engineers had the decency to warn us about Lady Godiva and her entourage. Those of us who did not want to witness the happening had the choice of staying away from that area. This time I was not given the choice of opting out from such an event. Let me point out that I do not believe in the policy of "all work and no play". Such a policy is

quite unsuitable for our campus. But all fun and games do have limits — students should not be subjected to such a breach of moral and ethical values as a result of these merriments.

Let me end with a warning to the aggies for next year: I intend to be armed with some oil cans of black spray paint!

Name withheld by request
education 1

Awards news

I noted some comments in the Jan. 30 issue of The Ubyssy which were attributed to AMS external affairs coordinator Al Soltis. As I am sure he knows, any rollbacks in Canada Student Loan Grants are not as a result of any action taken by the university. Rather, the changes are made by the ministry of education as a result of updated information on matters such as student earnings and savings, provided by the students themselves.

I understand that while some stu-

dents' awards were reduced as a result of the updated information, other students had their awards increased. In some cases where students have anticipated income which has not actually materialized, the adjusted awards may be reviewed and further amended. Students who find themselves in this circumstance should make an appointment to see one of the advisors in the awards office.

Byron H. Hender, director
awards and financial aid

Farmworker to speak

On Friday, Feb. 13 at 12:30 in SUB 211, Charles Boylan, president of the General Farm and Allied Workers' Union, will speak.

The GFAWU is a militant trade union, completely self-reliant, which does not rely on the state or any of the labor aristocracy for financing or support. GFAWU is organizing among the unorganized workers, the farmworkers, the flyer distributors and other sections of the most oppressed and exploited of the Canadian working class.

Boylan, a former AMS student council representative and long time activist in progressive causes, will report on the struggles of the GFAWU to organize these workers.

All people at UBC with a serious interest in the struggle of the working class against its enemies are invited to attend this meeting of the committee against racist and fascist violence.

Allen H. Soroka
UBC committee against racism
and fascist violence

The Ubyssy welcomes letters from all readers.

Although an effort is made to publish all letters received, The Ubyssy reserves the right to edit letters for reasons of brevity, legality and taste.

Neatness counts.

'Tween classes

TODAY

AMNESTY UBC
Seminar on how to write a successful letter, noon, SUB 224.

SUS
Pick up science jackets. Bring \$27, crests \$7.50. SUS office, east wing biology building.

IVCF
Celebration service, noon, Chem. 250.

TOASTMASTERS
Career night, all welcome, 7:30 p.m., MacMillan 278.

FINE ARTS DEPT.
Lecture by Canadian artist Alex Wyse, noon, Lesserre 102.

DIETETICS
UBC Dietetics 4 presents a special luncheon with your heart in mind, 11:30 a.m., SUB snack bar.

YOUNG ALUMNI CLUB
Valentine's Day party, for all members and those interested, full facilities and entertainment provided, 8 p.m. to midnight, Cecil Green Park.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE
Stammtisch. German conversational evening, 7:30 p.m., International House 401.

CUS
Green door: An opportunity for students to interact with members of the business community on an informal basis. Students from all faculties welcome, 1:45 p.m., SUB upper floor.

AWARDS OFFICE
Information for students in financial crisis, noon to 2:30 p.m., Speakeasy.

GRADUATION CLASS COUNCIL
Annual general meeting, all graduates please attend, noon, Hebb theatre.

LE CLUB FRANCAIS
General meeting, noon, SUB 230.

EAST INDIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
General meeting, noon, SUB 119.

INTRAMURALS
Drop-in for co-rec volleyball, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., War Memorial Gym.
Organizational meeting for all those going on the snowshoe and cross-country ski trip to Manning Park on Saturday, noon, WMG 211.

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS VIEWING CENTRE
The Shock of the New: a PBS-TV documentary

examines architecture from the Bauhaus, noon, Library Processing 308.

CARIBBEAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Organizational meeting, noon, International House lounge.

CCF
Jonathan Baylis speaks on International students, noon, SUB 125.

GAY PEOPLE OF UBC
Gay week '81, with Canadian films Jill Johnston: October 1975 and Michael, a Gay Son, noon to 2 p.m., Buch. 202.

FRIDAY

SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY
The Peter Sellers' classic: Dr. Strangelove, noon, SUB auditorium.

UBC SOCIAL CREDIT CLUB
Informal drop-in, new members welcome, noon, SUB 230A.

UBC STUDENT LIBERALS
Valentine's Day party, bzzz and wzne, D. J. and Lights style dance, 7:30 p.m., SUB 207/209.

UBC COMMITTEE AGAINST RACIST AND FASCIST VIOLENCE
Charles Boylan, president of General Farm and Allied Workers' Union, speaks on organizing the farmworkers, flyer distributors and other unorganized workers, noon, SUB 211.

NUS/EUS
Valentine's dance, tickets at box office, NUS or EUS offices, 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., SUB ballroom.

GSA
All members welcome to attend the Chinese painting class, 3 to 5 p.m., SUB 213.

ISMAILI STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
General meeting and last day to get a discount on tickets for Valentine's, noon, SUB 119.

AMS WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
Lawyer Joanne Ranson speaks on Rape and the law, noon, SUB 130.

CVC
CVC ice skating party, 8:45 to 11 p.m., Winter Sports Centre.

LE CLUB FRANCAIS
General meeting, noon, International House lounge.

INTRAMURALS
Men's and women's triumph run (5 km), no registration necessary, noon, MacInnes field.

TROTSKYIST LEAGUE
Marxist literature and discussion, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., SUB concourse.

GAY PEOPLE OF UBC
Gay week '81, with NDP MP Svend Robinson - parliamentary gay rights advocate - speaking, noon, SUB 205.
Comic Robin Tyler in concert, 8 p.m., IRC 2.

SATURDAY

GAY PEOPLE OF UBC
Workshop with Robin Tyler, feminist and gay rights leader, 11:30 a.m., SUB 207/209.
Gay week '81 Valentine's dance, 9 p.m., Grad Student Centre.

MONDAY

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS VIEWING CENTRE
Economics series: The Disappearing Land, effects of urbanization on the Niagara Peninsula, noon, Library Processing 308.

CCCM
Discussion group on signs and mother whirled, noon, Lutheran Campus Centre.

NDP CLUB
Dave Barrett speaks, noon, SUB auditorium.

TUESDAY

FINE ARTS DEPT.
Serge Guilbault speaks on Shout and Silence, Pollock's art of erasure, noon, Lesserre 104.

CCCM
Celebration of world and sacrament, noon, Lutheran Campus Centre chapel.

GAY PEOPLE OF UBC
Documentary: Word is Out: Stories of Some of our lives, donation requested, noon, SUB ballroom.

WEDNESDAY

UBC SOCIAL CREDIT CLUB
Bill Vander Zalm speaks, everyone welcome, noon, SUB auditorium.

GAY PEOPLE OF UBC
Documentary: Word is Out: Stories of Some of our Lives, donation requested, 8 p.m., SUB auditorium.

VOTE

SUB Renovation Referendum

FEB. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Polling Hours: 9:30 - 3:30

Polls located at:

- CEME
- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- SUB
- SEDGEWICK
- BUCHANAN
- WOODWARD (IRC)
- ANGUS
- WAR MEMORIAL GYM
- MacMILLAN
- LAW
- HEBB THEATRE

Polling Hours and Locations subject to the availability of Polling Clerks.

Hot flashes

Disraeli gears up

Are you a socially conscious liberal, or perhaps a liberally conscious socialist? No matter, we've got just the thing for you.

There's a V.D. party coming up that only the squarest of squares will dare pass up. You too can come (there's that word again) and join the Liberal Hearts Club Band for an evening of frivolity and drinking.

Yes, Valentine's Day is here once again, and you can contract a case of acute liberalism, Canada's newest social disease. Just show up (we didn't say come) on Friday the 13th at 7:30. We'd love to tell you where this wonderful event is taking place, but doggone it, those Liberals just plumb forgot to tell us. See you there (somewhere).

Spread V.D.

Here we go with another V.D. announcement. Yes, Valentine's Day is still scheduled for Sat., Feb. 14. Yes, all you fun-loving folk are welcome to spread your goodwill around. Yes, you will no doubt need a place to do this spreading.

So what does this have to do with a dull, dry lecture on Armadillo ecological awareness? Not all that much, but enough for the friends of the armadillo to get together to talk about the social life of the armadillo.

Funny thing, but armadillos apparently love soul, rhythm and blues, and motown. Hey,

something similar to that is taking place Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. in SUB 207-209. Tickets available in the Geography building, and wow, they only cost \$1. See you there, refreshments will be served.

Help Nishga

Wouldn't it be nice to be a mining company like AMAX? Then you could do things like get government permission to set up a mine in Canada's north and pollute the ocean 8,000 times more than usually allowed.

Isn't it a lot harder when you're just a citizen? Especially if you're a native up north who will suffer the consequences of having a mine built on your back porch. To get a favor from the government when you're not rich isn't quite so easy, is it?

It means you have to get a lot of people together to support the cause. If you're interested in helping the Nishga Indians protect their environment, contact Bill Horswill at 689-5663.

Gay stuff

Gay week '81 continues today with two Canadian films dealing with gay issues; Jill Johnston: October 1975 and Michael, A Gay Son. The films start at noon in Buch. 202.

More gay week activities take place Friday. At noon in SUB 205 NDP MP Svend Robinson, a parliamentary gay rights advocate, will speak on gay issues. One of the

highlights of gay week will be a concert by Comic Robin Tyler, a feminist and gay rights leader. She'll perform at 8 p.m. in IRC 2.

At 11:30 a.m. Saturday Tyler will lead workshop for the Gay People of UBC. Gay week concludes with a Valentine's dance at 9 p.m. in the grad centre.



Do you think...

That the unity of mankind is the next stage in our social evolution?	Yes	No
That prejudices of all kinds should be eliminated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That men and women should have equal rights?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That extremes of wealth and poverty are unjust?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That the planet needs to be reorganized on the basis of cooperation rather than confrontation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That world peace should be the birthright of our children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That a second language used by everyone would facilitate communication?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That science and religion should agree?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
That each of us should look for the things that unite rather divide?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you agree with some or all of these questions, you have much in common with a world organization which is demonstrating that these ideals can become a practical reality:

THE BAHAI FAITH
For further information see the Baha'i Club booth in the S.U.B. Mall Noon today or phone 224-4185 or 224-6678.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

RATES: Campus - 3 lines, 1 day \$1.50; additional lines, 35c.
Commercial - 3 lines, 1 day \$3.30; additional lines 50c. Additional days \$3.00 and 45c.

Classified ads are not accepted by telephone and are payable in advance. Deadline is 11:00 a.m. the day before publication.
Publications Office, Room 241, S.U.B., UBC, Van., B.C. V6T 2A5

5 - Coming Events

Valentine Ballroom Dance
February 14
Hellenic Hall, 4800 Arbutus
Music by Joe Morelli
4800 Sq. ft. Floor - Refreshments
Limited Admission - \$6.00 each
Reserve Only 433-1875

COME FIND YOUR VALENTINE
at Young Alumni Club's
VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY
THURSDAY, FEB. 12
At 6251 Cecil Green Park
Full Facilities and entertainment Provided

FRUIT LEATHER. Delicious Dried Fruit. Treat from Okanagan Valley. Write now for mail order catalogue and free sample. Edible dried goods. Box 843, Penticton, B.C.

11 - For Sale - Private

1975 GRANADA GHIA (Silver) 351-V8 Power steering, brakes, windows. Excellent Condition \$3600 o.b.o. Call eves. 524-9348.

RED '79 ESPRIT FIREBIRD 4.9 Litre, Wire Wheels. Radial Snow Tires included \$8,500 o.b.o. Call Sue 228-3978 or after 5:00 966-6389.

20 - Housing

ARE YOU TIRED of commuting to U.B.C. every morning? If so, the Student Housing Office may be able to help. We now have vacancies for women in Totem Park Residence. There are only seven double rooms left - so act quickly. Come to the Student Housing Office during regular office hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and let us help you solve your housing problem. For info 228-2811.

30 - Jobs

WEEK END EMPLOYMENT Students wanted for weekend jobs: Cleaning, painting, construction. Imagen Design Associates Inc. 689-2434.

FULL AND PART TIME shippers wanted by local stereo store. Opportunity to learn to mount cartridges and deal with customers. Drivers licence an asset. Reply in writing to Box 100, The Ubyssy, Room 241, SUB.

35 - Lost

SILVER PIN with turquoise enamelling on Monday, Feb. 9. If found please call Tammy at 732-8882.

LOST in January ladies valigne watch. Lots of sentimental value. Please return, reward. 874-3164 Virginia.

65 - Scandals

ZIONISMI On its way to U.B.C.

HEY LOVER! How about a Healthy lunch with your heart in mind? Meet me at the SUB Snackbar, today at 11:30. Passionately yours, Dietetics 4.

THE GSA is holding its semi-annual Valentine's Day Party Feb. 13 at 8:00 p.m. in the Grad Centre.

WANTED SKIING COMPANION to ski B.C. Interior mid Feb. to mid March - Share Expenses - Bob. 253-0060.

85 - Typing

TYPING 75c/PAGE. French available. Call Peggy 438-4994.

TERM PAPERS, resumes, reports, essays, composed, edited, typed. Published author. Have Pen Will Write: 665-9535.

EXPERT TYPING. Essays, term papers, factums \$0.85. Theses, manuscripts, letters, resumes \$0.85+. per page. Fast accurate. 731-9657.

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TYPING IBM SELECTRIC \$1.00 per page. Fast, accurate, experienced typist. Phone: 873-8032 (10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.).

99 - Miscellaneous

THE PLANNING Student's Association conducted a fee referendum on February 3 and 4, 1981 to re-affirm an annual \$10.00 fee levy on all persons enrolled in SCARP. From an electorate of 93, the referendum was passed with 53 assenting votes, 2 dissenting votes and 1 spoilt ballot.

MR. MILEAGE MAKER

HONDA!
\$5925!

Mr. Mileage Maker, Bill Docksteader, has Best-in-town price on brand new hatchbacks! In-Docksteader cluding PDI & freight!
445 Kingway! Short sup-ply, so hurry!
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SUBFILMS PRESENTS:

Apocalypse Now

FEBRUARY 9-12
Thurs., Sun. 7:00 p.m.
Fri., Sat. 7:00 p.m. & 9:45 p.m.
\$1.00 SUB Aud.

Welfare mothers

Harassed by social workers, women struggle to survive in a system designed to oppress.

By HEATHER CONN

It's harassment. Humiliation. Hunger. Neglect. It's a demand to do the impossible and it's a dead-end option for many women in Vancouver.

It's the welfare system. While cozy middle-class families celebrate Christmas with turkey, a tree and heaps of gifts, a mother on welfare tries to stretch a \$50 Christmas bonus to cover seven children.

While another office worker celebrates a raise, a woman on welfare gives up most of her paycheck to B.C. human resources because she's not allowed to earn more than \$100 a month part-time. After all, she's supposed to be "poor."

A battered woman who leaves her husband is told by human resources to go to a marriage counsellor, rather than get government assistance and live on her own. After all, she's supposed to be a good wife and keep the family together.

These are just a few of the ugly realities that members of a local welfare rights group. Five women from the Skeena Terrace Welfare Rights Committee spoke to a class of UBC social students last week and gave graphic descriptions of their stark and insecure scramble for existence.

"They say it's a free country... it's not," Pauline Widen, widow and welfare mother of four, told 18 people in Grahame House. "Social workers can come into your house any time unannounced, snoop through your closet, look in your refrigerator and cupboards, go through everything and then say you're living too good for someone on welfare."

"They take a look around and then get the neighbors checking up on you. You're under constant investigation. They're on your backs all the time."

Kathy Hunter, welfare mother of two, says women on welfare face continual invasion of privacy and are often questioned about their sexual partners. Human resources staff often view male friends as potential breadwinners or assume they're supporting women without being reported, she said.

But "responsible" social and financial workers should not jump to such conclusions, says Hugh Millar, executive director of B.C. association of social workers. He encourages a flexible policy but adds that good judgment is required for individual cases.

"I knew people when I started out about 20 years ago who were very aggressive," he said. "They went out intent on harassing women and seeking out abusers of the

NOW SUPPOSE YOU JUST TELL ME HOW YOU KEEP THOSE KIDS FED AND CLOTHED ON THE MONEY WE GIVE YOU



In 1980, the monthly welfare rate for a family of three was \$595. This is well below the \$921 poverty line set by the Canadian senate in 1978. In order to make ends meet, some women are forced to resort to fraud, facing potential fines, imprisonment and their children's placement under ministry care if caught, says Hunter.

Yet women are penalized if they receive cash gifts, adds Widen. "My mom gave me fifty dollars and they (the ministry) took that out of my welfare cheque. They take cash." Another committee member, Darlene MacDonald, says the ministry keeps close watch over welfare recipients' bank accounts. If a woman is receiving interest on a deposit, the ministry deducts the amount of interest money from her welfare cheque, she said.

Such frequent interference and surveillance causes guilt, shame, resentment and fear for women on welfare, committee members agreed. But in a recent strong collective action, some members came forward and charged human resources minister Grace McCarthy with child neglect; her ministry does not provide enough welfare money to properly feed, clothe and care for children, they said.

"She told us that because we were articulate and organized we should get off our butts and work," said Hunter.

But work is easier said than done for most women on welfare, as committee members explained. Many are single mothers who must stay at home with their children because they cannot afford paid babysitters. Most do not have the necessary skills to earn well-paying jobs that will support a family.

And if they do get a part-time job that pays more than \$100 a month, they lose the extra money to the ministry, says Hunter. It's a classic Catch-22 situation.

Similarly, the ministry's program of training and work incentives does not often provide new job opportunities, but is an extension of unpaid work women already do in the home — as domestics, child-care workers or other low-paying positions. So, it's not enough to pay the bills, says the committee.

In addition, the ministry puts a two-year ceiling on training, which narrows the job choices for welfare women and promotes the notion that they must "earn their keep" as soon as possible. This time restriction has no

relationship to actual job openings so women often end up training for non-existent jobs, say committee members.

And Millar says: "There is absolutely no way you can refute that there is not enough money for women on welfare. The public doesn't understand the benefits that flow from making people more self-sufficient. The cycle of poverty has to be broken."

In Hunter's words: "Our biggest fight is to show that we're not taking from your pocket. We're not asking for the whole pie. Just a piece of the pie that we deserve."

But unfortunately, our society has not matured much in its attitudes towards welfare recipients, says Millar. And a ministry child-care worker, who declined to be identified, agreed that the cost of the welfare system still lies with the taxpayers.

"People on welfare can do with more money, but whether the ministry can afford to give them more money is another question," he said. "The bottom line is how much does the average person want to pay for them?"

It's not a supportive tradition. A woman's first trip to a welfare office is usually a humiliating process with long waits, as committee members revealed through a skit. Ministry staff can be reproachful and unhelpful while asking probing questions about accommodations, lifestyle and job prospects.

And to fill in the new forms for government assistance, people must stand with right hand raised and read their form aloud as if in a Girl Guide pledge, said Hunter.

But she was quick to point out that it is the welfare system itself, and not individual workers, that is to blame for inadequacies.

"We're not saying you as social workers are bad," she told the students. "The policy is bad, the legislation is bad. We don't need you to fix it (the system) for us. We need you there to help us fix it."

Widen told the audience: "You're the young ones, the ones who're starting out. You haven't got into the racket, the system yet. You haven't been brainwashed."

She was bitter in recounting her own personal experiences with the ministry. She said she had to sign away two of her children under ministry care because she lacked sufficient funds to raise and support them proper-

ly. Ministry told her she was not a good mother and the children would grow up much better under government care, she said.

"But they didn't do a better job. My kids kept running away from group homes and foster homes to be with me. They wanted to stay with me. The ministry wouldn't even let me know where they were. I had to fight tooth and nail just to get their telephone number."

As mothers, a major source of alarm for committee members is the new proposed family and children's services act, Bill 45, which they say removes control from parents and gives the child welfare authorities vast power. For example, a single ministry social worker can call a judge for a warrant to apprehend a child; the bill allows courts to order up to 12 months temporary custody.

But the ministry child care worker said apprehension occurs very rarely and only as a last resort. "Not all social workers can apprehend," he said. "It depends on their experience. But ideally, they don't want to split the family. It costs the state a helluva lot more money to keep a kid in (foster or group) care than to keep the kid at home."

Despite ministry assurances, committee members say they feel strongly that women on welfare must gain more control over their own lives and organize to become powerful. The group has the support of Vancouver Status of Women, Rape Relief and the B.C. Federation of Women.

Hunter told her audience of social work students and one faculty member:

"If you are employed by the ministry of human resources, you are threatened by unemployment like the rest of us. Yet many of you see yourselves as professionals, thereby separating yourselves from us, the welfare recipients."

"Do not become divided from us. Fight with us to oppose legislation that harms us all... the time has come where you can no longer pretend to be neutral. Support us by raising our concerns at your staff and union meetings."

The committee was formed in September 1979 by welfare recipients at Skeena Terrace co-op housing project and their supporters. There are now 10 active members with up to 100 available for group actions.

Members have encouraged women to fight back for their rights through letter campaigns, position papers and public education presentations, such as the one at UBC sponsored by the social and political committee of social work school students.

The group presented a position paper last

"My mom gave me \$50 and they took that out of my welfare cheque."

system. But I would hope we've made some progress."

Millar says his association advocates establishment of an independent body to hear grievances from welfare recipients. He supports compulsory registration of social workers in a professional code of ethics to make them accountable for their actions.

Currently, the human resources ministry is set up to keep women on welfare divided and powerless, says Hunter. Women are forbidden to read any reports about themselves or their families that are written by social workers or ministry staff, she said. "We're told it's policy."

"The ministry of human resources often tells us that the 'average welfare recipient' is unwilling to work, trying to get something for nothing, untidy and unclean, kind of stupid, fraudulent, guilty of child neglect and ready to abuse the system at the first opportunity."

"The bottom line is how much does the average person want to pay for welfare?"

October to Rosemary Brown, NDP MLA and human resources critic. Here is a short excerpt of the members' ongoing demands:

- guaranteed annual income for all poor people in Canada; welfare rates determined in accordance with Canadian poverty line; built-in cost of living allowance;
- grievance committee to handle harassment and invasion of privacy complaints; make ministry welfare files available on request; allowing all file information to be grievable;
- make job training available on the basis of personal interests and drop two-year ceiling; allow welfare recipients to keep all income and cash gifts;
- human resources ministry should make realistic assessments of food, clothing and household maintenance costs;
- right to good free childcare for all children; have ministry automatically provide \$30 monthly babysitting allowance.



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ELECTION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO SENATE FROM

The Faculty Of Arts

Polling: **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1981**
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

BUCHANAN BUILDING

(subject to students to being available to run the poll)

Candidates: One To Be Elected
DAVE CLANCY
(First Year Arts)

MARILYN C. MacPHERSON
(Third Year Arts)

Eligibility of Voters

All students registered in the following programs are eligible to vote:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Fine Arts
- Bachelor of Home Economics
- Master of Library Science
- Master of Archival Studies
- Bachelor of Social Work
- Diploma Programs in the Faculty of Arts

(Students registered in the Faculty of Graduate Studies are not eligible to vote)

NO PROXY VOTING WILL BE ALLOWED AND STUDENTS REQUIRE THEIR A.M.S. CARD TO VOTE

NOTE: Because of an irregularity in the polling procedures when polling initially took place on Tuesday, January 20, 1981, the results of the election were declared invalid. For this reason students are being asked to vote again for the Arts student representative to Senate for the one-year term commencing April 1, 1981.

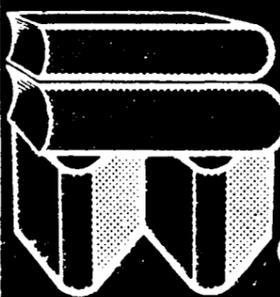
(It should be noted that any allegation of irregularities in connection with this election must be submitted in writing to the Registrar within 48 hours of the close of polling and must include the signatures of at least three students eligible to vote.)

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