

editorial

OVER TO YOU CHARLIE

Within the next month we will have an idea of how our university will be run. We will have elected a Student's Council on November 7; we should have sub-organizations in operation by the (regardless of who are later appointed to lead these organizations); four of our Senators have been chosen, giving us — after council elections determine the other two, in the persons of the Council President and Internal Vice-President — the largest percentage of students on the Senate of any Canadian university.

A large university like U.B.C., by comparison, has only 12 students on Senate out of 102 Senate seats. This "power" looks fine on paper, but it is not enough. It is the responsibility of the student body to press for reform within the university. We can have the best constitution and most enthusiastic Senate, Board of Governors, and Council representatives in the world, but they will not be effective without an informed and intelligent student body supporting them.

It is you, personally, who must communicate along the lines of command — you must initiate action, from residence committees to President Baker's office. Tell your council representatives how you feel, and make sure that they listen. If they don't, replace them.

Let there be no mistake: changes will not always be easy, but they can be accomplished — the lines of communication are open.

But first; candidates for council have to be carefully considered. Hopefully, more than 700 will attend pre-election meetings, and more than 45% will vote.

Why should less than 50% of the student body determine representatives on Senate? At least 80% should vote in the upcoming Council election.

It's up to you, if you want freedom you will have to accept responsibility.

Editorial Note: This editorial was written before receipt of Mr. Keaveny's letter on page 2 — and independently of any influence outside the editorial board.

ME AND YOU AND S.F.U.

For sometime now the department of Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology (PSA) at Simon Fraser University has been in the forefront of democratic reform within the university. Students and faculty made decisions within the department on the basis of parity i.e. equal student-faculty representation.

Now the SFU administration has sacked the leadership of democratic reform within the school. Even after the importation of a trusteeship over the department and the firing of key faculty members within the dept., the students and faculty tried to reach through the procedures made available by the contact between faculty and administration. However, administrative violations of faculty appeal provisions on renewal of contracts and tenure forced PSA to attempt a different approach.

In mid-September, 700 PSA members voted 25-1 to strike if President Strand refused to negotiate. He refused to negotiate and the dept. is now on strike.

The Cadre

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who knows where the time goes he sang (sang freud) with unutterable acclaim the bears the bears the bears are really rcmp agents cleverly disguised so don't smoke shit in class rooms high nancy fieldarc lost in the wilds of deepest halifax on a mor jocular we must mention karen dont ask why & all rhetorical revolutionaries of the rsm to be so to say karen was typecast dave 1 was rulerless and dennis was sober i think not to mention gary reg brian marjorie carolyn dave 11 benny maybe steve leacock for his hat & smile & arcup hotshit & miltie acorn & ho & god & pix prix & even my ulcer me & gnite 1 + all



This strike at Simon Fraser University must not be passed off as just another incident. Instead it must be viewed as part of a continuing struggle for democracy within the university. The results of the struggle between the PSA dept. and the University Administration will be felt by all students in Canada, therefore we must look closely at the situation and learn from it.

I view the strike as just one battle in a much larger war between those who presently have wealth and the power that goes with it and those who do not have power. Now university do not like to discuss power the reason for this is that the ruling bodies within the university want to keep the power, and any questioning of their position is frowned upon to say the least.

When the students within the PSA dept. at Simon Fraser shared decision making within dept. with the faculty, the emphasis was not upon abstract study but upon the very real problems facing the world today — Pollution, war, poverty, population to mention just a few.

The PSA became political in that by formulating a critical analysis of society they were providing the weapons with which certain oppressed groups could carry on their struggle for a decent slice of life. Now it is O.K. for a university to do research which supports the wealthy and the powerful but if it does research which helps Indians, farmers and workers then the union is no longer doing the job which the rich and powerful expect of it.

The rich and powerful want the university to be a factory which will turn out unquestioning people who will fill the needs of our capitalistic economy.

The situation at Simon Fraser can now be viewed in a very simplistic manner. When the PSA dept. no longer was fulfilling its required role, the administration allied with business interests and the reactionary Social Credit gov't, attempted to put an end to this experiment in democracy. Whether or not they succeed, the problem will not be solved.

Every university in Canada will have the same questions asked. The same demands will be made by students. Therefore you must ask yourself what side you are on. On the side of the students and faculty who wish to make education relevant and the university a real learning process or on the side of those who wish the university to continue in its supporting role of the rich and powerful.

The noble beast on the left was asked to comment on the movement to bring bears back to P.E.I. He barked: "Bears is groovy. Bears is a dog's best friend." A tear of sympathy rolled down his muzzle as he contemplated not being allowed on P.E.I., as is the case of the bears. "You've cut the Bear Party's budget down to \$20,017.52 already," he pleaded, "isn't that going far enough?" How true.

— This testimonial brought to you by the Committee to Bring Bears Back to P.E.I.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I have always felt that students can change a society, and indeed must help to cure many of society's diseases. Since entering student politics I have been involved with individuals who have made a commitment to meet the challenges of social change.

I assumed that many students have recognized a similar feeling within themselves. Now, as never before, I am questioning this assumption, do students really care about anything but themselves, are they thinking of this world we live in. These are sincere and serious thoughts — what is the answer?

Only action can resolve these questions. We have an opportunity to examine our small world; we can and must analyze where it's at and where it's going. But are we?

I'm sick and tired of hearing "we elected you people to handle the situation. I feel that we elect people to formulate alternatives, research prospective action and carry on routine operations of the union, that's all. A union member has more responsibilities than merely to vote; many of the members don't even vote, and some of those who do vote are derelict in their duty by not knowing why they are voting or who they vote for.

It is time to examine our role in the union (and indeed society) and then act! With this in mind I suggest a teachin on Student and Individual responsibilities in present day society.

Please feel free to approach me on the subject.

John Keaveny

