

Knowing our past history is an important part of understanding how we got where we are today.

Canadian University Press (CUP) is the oldest national student press organization in the world and the oldest student organization in Canada, dating back to the 1920's.

In 1922 a Western Association of Canadian University Newspapers was formed with student papers from the University of Manitoba, the University of Alberta, University of British Columbia and the University of Saskatchewan. They primarily exchanged papers, although important stories were wired to other papers.

After repeated urgings from the National Federation of Canadian University Students (NFCUS), [the predecessor to the Canadian Union of Students (CUS)] Canadian University Press was founded in Winnipeg in 1938.

According to CUP records, former NFCUS president John H. McDonald of McGill University was the first president.

NFCUS provided financial support during CUP's first two years, and helped out considerably with finances during its lifetime. However, it never attempted to diminish the organization's autonomy or its ability to distribute news as CUP members saw fit.

In those days CUP was again mainly an exchange of papers. Occasionally members sent telegrams for important stories. The organization held annual conferences, and the presidency rotated from paper to paper. The editor usually assumed the post.

Until 1959, the paper exchange and telegram service continued off and on. During the fifties, the president was supposed to represent CUP as a national correspondent at events and meetings. Stories were telegraphed across the country to papers having deadlines within 24 hours, with four major relay points: Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Fredericton. If a story came from the east coast, the originating paper sent it to the Brunswickan at UNB, who then sent it to the Daily at McGill. The Bruns would send collect telegrams to the other eastern papers and the Daily would do the same in Quebec. It also sent the story to Toronto's Varsity, who sent it collect to the Manitoban, who again sent it collect to western papers. The Varsity sent it out to Ontario papers.

For those papers publishing more than 24 hours from the time the telegram was sent out, the story would usually arrive when the originating paper arrived at various campuses.

Of course, problems developed as member papers fell down in their responsibilities and stories were often few and far between. Rivalries sprang up among papers, particularly the McGill Daily and the U of T Varsity. One paper sent the other a very long telegram about a minor incident. The receiving paper tried to get its money back, and failing that, sent an equally long telegram back. On one occasion the entire front page of the Varsity was sent to the Daily - collect.

Editors also often didn't realize a story would be important to other papers, and were soundly chastised when their papers arrived at other campuses and their editors discovered the story.

During those days, as happens today, the annual conference was the important link between papers. Policies were hashed out, criticisms made of various papers' actions and technical seminars provided help for all.

Because there was no permanent office and only one person permanently associated with the organization - the treasurer from Queen's University - fees were small. In 1951, which is as far back as available records go, daily papers paid \$ 15 a year, semi-weeklies \$ 10 and weeklies and affiliates \$ 5. The budget then was about \$ 2000, with revenue from about 22 papers. A travel pool existed to enable at least one delegate from each paper to attend the national conference.

The only executive was the president, and there was an honorary president, usually a prominent journalist who was asked to lend his name and help to the organization.

The fee scale was restructured in 1959 to increase payments according to enrolment. Fees ranged from \$ 75 for schools with enrolment less than 1500, to 215 for those with more than 4500 students. This was done to allow for a permanent office and full-time president in Ottawa.

The president had worked on a trial basis during the spring and fall terms of 1959. Doug Parkinson, CUP's first full-time president, was elected at the national conference in 1958, and chose a vice-president and secretary to work with him. Parkinson continued in office for 1959-60, working on a budget of \$ 6,250.

1959 was also an important year for CUP because the charter of the student Press in Canada, now the CUP Statement of Principles, was drafted and accepted at the national conference. The Code of Ethics was also approved, although it was not binding on individual members of CUP. Both of these documents provided other national student press organizations with a basis for similar statements.

It was felt a national office and full-time president were necessary to provide a regular news service, permanent archives, and a weekly round-up of news in addition to wires covering important stories.

Finances have always been a problem for CUP. At the 1960 conference, Parkinson suggested a national annual fund-raising project should be started, aimed at obtaining \$ 5000. In fact, an emergency fund-raising was needed to cover expenses to May 31, 1961, and member papers were urged to support CUP by donating \$ 50 to \$ 70 if they could afford it. CUP required the money for general expenses, including such things as a photo service, and the president's \$ 20 a week salary.

Roger McAfee, president at the 1962 conference, had similar problems. The two remaining French-language papers pulled out after some discussion as to whether CUP could actually adequately serve them. The loss of revenue certainly didn't help CUP, and McAfee said changes would have to be made in the entire organization if it was to survive. No conference report is available to find out what happened, but that cry of "we must change things or die" continued over the next few years.

CUP was financially solvent for the first time in 1963; the news and features services expanded and membership increased to 31 papers, including four associate members. However, it was a decisive year, and a Varsity-Ryersonian motion to abolish CUP's national office and full-time president was defeated. The two papers had argued that it was easier and cheaper to use daily papers and Canadian Press for story leads, rather than relying on CUP.

By 1963, the fee scale had changed again, this time using a basic charge of \$ 150 with a 3/4 cent levy per registered student at each campus. CUP published the *Campus Reporter*, a kind of guide with topics covered by prominent Canadian journalists. It was sold to member papers, as well as to outside interested papers and individuals.

The trophy competitions, which started in the late 1950s, were discontinued in 1965. The trophies were used for sports stories, best features, cartoons, photos and general news stories published. Prominent journalists were asked to judge for the trophies and write conference reports.

1965 saw the CUP Charter changed to contain the phrase "agent of social change", examining "issues that the student press has an educational function which is vital to the development of the student body". That Jim Laxer was CUP president.

Don Sellar, the next president, again raised the issue of the trophies. The records had not been kept for two years and the national office was reorganized the national office, a fund-raising program was started.

At the 1966 conference, John Kelsey's suggestion that the trophies be accepted. \$ 3700 was allotted for travel and salary. Telex service was accepted. Chevron paying for installation and three months rent until the end of the year.

The 1966 conference is remembered best for the decision to accept the trophies and which restructured fees and added staff. The national office was increased to \$ 700 a year. Another full-time person was added to the national office, elective for the first time. The additional person's job was to manage the telex machine.

CUP papers of 1967-68 reflected student radicalism. The phrase "myth", and "fairness" was substituted for "unbiased" in the Charter with the exception of secretary (now systems manager) who was abolished in favour of critiques. The president's term extended to two years. A news service (at \$ 50). And prospective membership was introduced.

Money was not a big problem then; almost all CUP papers had a surplus for the next fiscal year.

A regional field secretaries scheme was discussed at the 1967 conference. A western telex network was set up with CUP papers subscribed to telex.

Peter Gzowski was CUP's last honorary president. The coming-of-age was given further evidence by talk of incorporation. The office was officially divided: the president was assigned bureaucratic duties, the secretary was assigned financial duties.

The Charter was changed to the Statement of Principles.

The 1969 conference was at our Waterloo. After a long and hard year's Eve, Youthstream, the CUP national advertising campaign was launched. While the Western Region (WRCUP) decided on a part-time executive, the Eastern Region (ERCUP) decided on a full-time executive. A motion was adopted after much discussion on the feasibility of just for working, but for living day-to-day. Also passed was a motion to accept colleges into the organization, to add to the then 53 full and part-time papers.

A United Church centre in Naramata, British Columbia, was the site of internal workings of papers, staff democracy, male-female equality resolutions were initiated by member papers, a participatory approach to such work. Policies were formulated more from seminars than from conferences.

The three full-time regional secretaries were added in 1969. The increase in four years. Elections were also held for the system and elected. While fees went up, salaries went down to \$ 7788.

Controversy centred on a motion to create a special committee they would have all the responsibilities of CUP full members. The motion was defeated. The admittance of the alternate press members to full voting status was also defeated.

Sexual bias was added to the Code of Ethics as a result of the motion to take all references to the masculine pronoun out of the Charter.

The roles and relationships of the student and the staff were discussed at the conference. Category H was introduced to allow papers to elect members of CUP, dramatically affecting the direction of the organization.

The direction was also slightly altered when it was decided to free the national office staff for feature-writing and field reporting. A more equitable fee scale. The travel pool and possibly the creation of a new position.

The other important resolution of 1971 proposed the two nations of Canada and Quebec. A working paper on the subject was prepared.

CUP at the end of 1971 has/had 62 members and a national office as a major problem, but new approaches to their acquisition and retention.

CUP's future is difficult to predict; it's past and present are modern questions any easier to answer.

WATERLOO (CUP) -- A student council that is fragmenting, losing the energy and commitment representatives had at the beginning of their term has resulted in the resignation of the University of Waterloo student president Terry Moore.

Moore resigned last Wednesday (Oct. 11) effective Oct. 14. He had resigned once during the summer, but returned to office shortly afterwards. This time he says he's finished with the Federation of Students for good.

Moore believed he could make the Federation really mean something to students when he was first elected to the presidency last spring, and again when he returned in the summer. He wanted to see "a student union that would really mean something to people, not just a student

government."

The former student president found himself becoming a full-time bureaucrat in order to do things others would not handle. "With two, three or four people, the Federation just isn't meaningful," he said.

The council "wasn't interested at all in anything but perhaps becoming stage crews for the concerts and saw itself as a 'board of directors' that sanctioned the decision of the executive every couple of weeks, rather than being

a working body," Moore said.

The study body is not to be blamed, he said.

"The students' aloofness is most likely a result of the whole university structure," he explained. But, "There comes a point at which the individual students have to assume responsibility if they expect the Federation will continue to respect them."

Moore sent his resignation to the Oct. 11 council meeting saying "for reasons of personal sanity, I won't be at today's council meeting."

### VIETNAMESE ALL EXTERMINATED, PENTAGON CLAIMS

WASHINGTON, (CUPI) -- A New England newspaper decided to take all those Pentagon body counts seriously in 1965 and started keeping a ledger. Last month it was able to

announce the end of the Vietnam War.

According to the collected information and statistics dispensed by the Department of Defense, the United States has killed every man, woman and child in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

### CALIFORNIA VOTERS TO DECIDE ON POT LEGISLATION NOV.

LOS ANGELES (CUP) -- A California referendum in the Nov. 7 election must attract about four and a half million votes to legalize use of marijuana in the state.

Ninemillion registered voters are expected to narrowly approve or defeat proposition 19 - to "decriminalize" production, possession and use of marijuana.

Number 19 has an excellent position on the 22 - position ballot - wedged between a number of referendums expected to return a positive result.

Californian acceptance of the proposition could have far-reaching effects within the United States, and in Canada which have expressly prohibited marijuana under American pressure.

Latest state-wide polls show 33 per cent in favour of the proposition but