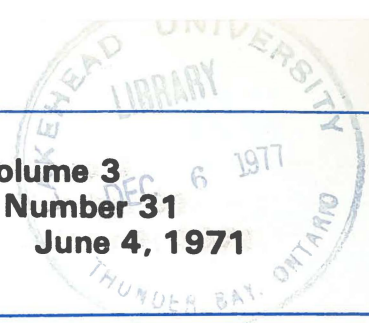


WEEK

a publication of the Lakehead
University information office

Volume 3
Number 31
June 4, 1971



Convocation 1971

Saturday, May 29th was a bright, sunny day, especially for 771 students of Lakehead University who received degrees, diplomas and certificates in the impressive Convocation ceremonies.

The Fort William Gardens swirled with gowns, hoods and excitement as parents, families and guests watched the graduands, faculty, administration and special guests take their places after an impressive procession.

A special honor was added by the presence of Senator Patterson, retired Chancellor of the University who witnessed the installation of Justice Bora Laskin as the new Chancellor.

Special Awards and medals were presented to a number of outstanding students.

The Poulin Award for outstanding citizenship and highest contribution to the welfare of the University through student activities was presented to Patrick O'Brien. Dr. Tamblin presented President's Awards to Michael Pawlowski, Paul Paularinne, Dave Curtis, Harry Jaako, Donald J. Goodwin, David V. Nuttall, Marya Zajac and James Marsh in recognition of their contribution to University life.

The Chancellor's Medal was presented by the Honourable Justice Laskin to Simone Piorier. This medal is awarded to the highest ranking graduating part-time student in the graduating class of the Bachelors' or Honors Bachelors' degree. Proxime Accessit was Mary Cecilia Foley.

The following awards were presented to students who ranked highest in their respective programs:

- Dean Braun's Medals
- Business Administration . . Kenneth Manson
 - Engineering Technology . William Fauconnier
 - Forest Technology Carson Herrick

- Library Technology Diane Buhlman
- Honors Bachelor of Commerce Robert Brown

- Education Medals
- Education Diploma . . . Patricia Allane Fenske
- Bachelor of Education Sharon Jean Lawrence

- Nursing Medals
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Post-Basic) . . .
H. Marie Paradis
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Basic)
Anne Reise Platt

- Science Medals
- Three-Year Program . . Adrianus Grootenboer
- Four-Year Program G. Douglas Martin

- Arts Medals
- Faculty of Arts Margaret Hollingsworth
- Lieutenant Governor's Medal Winston Rennie
- Proxime Accessit Adrianus Grootenboer
Anne Reise Platt

The Governor General's Medal for the highest ranking graduating student in the graduating class of Honors degree programs was awarded to Maurice Wayne Benson.

In his remarks, Dr. W. G. Tamblin, President of the University, noted the continued growth of the University and made note of the fact that in this seventh Convocation Honors Bachelor of Commerce degrees, Bachelor of Education degrees, the Graduate Diploma in Economic Development, the Forest Environmental Certificate and the Logging Technology Certificate were being conferred by the University for the first time.

Chancellor Justice Laskin gave the Convocation address (printed in its entirety in this issue).

A dinner for the Chancellor and special guests was held at the University following the ceremonies.



Chancellor's Speech

Mr. President, Members of the Board and of the Senate, Members of the Faculty, Members of the Graduating Classes, Ladies and Gentlemen:

For me, this occasion, this Convocation, this ceremony of induction is suffused in remembrance and in sentiment. It is invested with pride and with exultation.

One does not easily escape one's origins; but I can say, without reservation, that I have never made the attempt. The toll of years has not dimmed my appreciation of my antecedents. Indeed, time has strengthened it; and there is the pleasing reminder that comes from a continuing family presence in your midst. But now, what has been a tie at long distance has been converted, through the generous assessment of the President, the Board and the Senate, into a personal affiliation that restores, so to speak, my citizenship of this community. I thank all those associated with my election as Chancellor for the honour they have done me.

My duties are ceremonial only; I have the satisfaction and reap the pleasure of conferring degrees and awarding diplomas, without being involved in the arduous - and sometimes even hazardous - tasks of administration, tasks that are a necessary prelude to certifying candidates as qualified for graduation. I shall not speculate too much on the reasons that lift the Chancellor of Lakehead University above the maelstrom of events that engulf the Board and the Senate. Whether it be to allow him to act as an unofficial counsellor, able to bring both dispassion and compassion to the consideration of problems that beset the responsible academic administrators; or whether it be simply to ensure his neutrality on academic issues so as to have at least one blameless person in an administrative post, I do not cavil at a system that excludes me from membership of the Board and from membership of the Senate. My own particular circumstances make this a very congenial arrangement. And, in any event, how often is it that one can be part of a university, especially nowadays, where all is pleasure and there is no pain?

My roots in university life have been deep. They have successfully withstood my separation as a faculty member almost six years ago; and however formal be my role as Chancellor, the position will surely carry enough nourishment to keep those roots alive and strong. Although I can look back

upon more than thirty years of affiliation since I entered university as an undergraduate, I do not offer this span of years as a measure of my credentials for occupying this platform. My words will have to be self-supporting if they are to earn any approval.

I risk the accusation of triteness in saying that the university - and I speak now of all universities in Canada collectively - has been affecting all our social institutions. The point of this remark is simply to underline the fact that the one-time privacy of university life has been crushed between the pressures, internal and external, to which it has been subjected. Of course, it was never the whole truth that the university was a private enclave, whether this be related to the financing of its operations or to its teaching and research. There was, for example, (and there still is) a public presence in the Board of Governors, although its role was also a protective one. Yet it is a short recall to the days when Convocation exercises and Convocation addresses were looked upon as the formal means of introducing the graduating student to the world outside the university which had sheltered him and her for three or four or more years. In the past decade, it has become the greater reality that the world in its present state and in its social evolution is very much within the university; and graduation merely represents a readiness to test the fitness of the world to be lived in.

What this connotes for me is a greater consciousness of the need to harness our intellectual resources so that we may hit upon the seminal ideas that will lead to the improvement of the human condition and of the social and physical environment. The university is the place where we should arrive at and arrange our ideas before we are moved to action. If it is to perform this function, it must be free of commitment to any particular orthodoxy, and it must not be enveloped in an atmosphere of immediacy.

We cannot, of course, be detached from the immediate, from the present; and it would be folly to suggest that the university student be discouraged from involvement in the problems of the day. Indeed it is a fulfillment of one of the purposes of a university to induce such an involvement. I remind you of the words of Plato in *The Republic*: "You have received a better and more thorough education than those other philosophers, and are more capable of participation in both public life and philosophy. You



must, therefore, descend by turns to dwell with the rest of the city."

What is good and proper for the student is no less so for the faculty member. The danger, however, to the core of university life - the utmost freedom of inquiry, the search for knowledge, regardless of utility - is that in the concern of faculty and students to improve the present, it may be thought necessary to commit the university itself to particular stances in the realization of a particular set of ideas. It is in objecting to such a view of the meaning of a university that I emphasize the point - certainly not an original one with me - that a university is not like a railway or airline timetable, good for such and such routes at such and such times only.

I realize that I strike here at a fundamental concern that has generally been expressed in the proposition that the university as an institution of society must itself be relevant to that society and to its problems. As a lawyer and a judge, I am not entirely innocent of the significance of relevance. One's appreciation of relevance must take account of the matter in issue. How it is defined is a telling factor in connection with relevance. Addressed to the university, we must avow what we consider to be its function and its role. For me, it must stand not so much inside society as outside it, able to see it objectively and able, hopefully, to count on society to support this kind of externality. There is, therefore, no call in me for the politicization of the university, no wish to turn it into a social pressure agency, no desire to oblige it to provide social justification for its existence in instant results.

All of this is quite consistent with the expansion of university concerns, and with the reorganization of its administrative practices and procedures to embrace the wider spectrum of courses which now characterize its programmes. Indeed, it is all the more necessary by reason of such expansion and reorganization that the university itself remain open and uncommitted, offering hospitality to diverse beliefs and resisting attempts to force upon it particular conformities, whatever be their source.

I am aware of the deep responsibility which such a view of the university places upon professors and students if they are of the kind - as so many are - who would take up the challenge of commitment to some desirable social or political end. They must be trusted, of course, to balance their extracurri-

cular activism with their obligations under their approved teaching and learning programmes. The clash of interests among professors and among students suggests itself as a factor that supports such a balance; the inner strength of the university is the greater in the degree of such diversity. Beyond that, apart from their own self-discipline there is the collective restraint of the institution in which they teach and study.

In the past decade, what I may call university order has undergone strain and change. No doubt, the strain was a necessary prelude to change in many universities. Among the results has been a wider sharing of administrative responsibilities, a greater accountability for decision-making, a lessening of, if not an end to discretionary supervision over students. These have helped to make the university more a community than it had hitherto been. The reforms in university administration, in the interrelations of members of faculty, and in the relations of faculty and students have involved, of course, the introduction of new organs, new procedures, new rules of operation. In short, universities have been developing law systems to give the assurance of fairness in their treatment of faculty and of students and in the processing of complaints. I have detected, in my experience with some of these developments, a tendency to go from one extreme to another, that is, to react against the arbitrary discretion that may have existed in some places by seeking to bring all activity under specific rules. It is a hopeless pursuit, in addition to being bad administration. There must be room for the play of judgment, whatever be the machinery by which exercises of judgment are reviewed. This is especially so to sustain the civility of university life, which, I am sure, is one aim upon which we would all agree.

I have been general, and perhaps even sober in what I have said. I do have other moods, and will look forward to proving to you on another occasion that your Chancellor is not always as solemn as he may have appeared to you today. The warmth of the welcome I have received assures me that I need not fear that I have not earned my home-coming. I am particularly happy that my predecessor in office, Senator Paterson, Lakehead's first Chancellor, has come to this Convocation. He does me honour by his presence, and it gives me great pleasure to stand in the robes of office which he wore with dignity and grace in his years of service to this university.

weekly events

Wednesday Association of Municipal Electrical
June 9 Utilities Conference (June 9-12)

meetings

Wednesday Canadian Mathematical Congress Sum-
June 16 mer Meeting June 16 - 18.

Administrative Staff Changes

Dr. W. G. Tamblyn, President of the University announced this week that structural changes in Administration have been implemented to improve the effectiveness of operations and planning capacity in the area of physical facilities.

Mr. C. H. M. Smith, Chief of Physical Planning and Construction, will now concentrate on problems associated with capital planning, construction, alterations and space allocation and utilization and will retain responsibility for the mechanical and electrical aspects of plant operations.

Mr. J. E. (Ted) Broughton, formerly Administrative Officer in the Physical Plant department will become Director of Physical Services. In this position he will be responsible for housekeeping, security, groundskeeping and general maintenance. He will also assume responsibility for the supervision of conferences, tours and room bookings for non-academic purposes.

The Personnel Department was also re-located last week in Room UC2002 (formerly Mr. Lawrence's Office) and Mr. Grant Thain of the OCE has located in the office formerly occupied by Personnel. All phone numbers remain as they appear in the University directory.

Campus Notes

□ Dr. J. P. Ryder of the Biology Department received an award from the Edward's Paper Award Committee. The Committee selected his paper 'A Possible Factor in the Evolution of Clutch Size in Ross' Goose' as the second best paper published in the Wilson Bulletin (Vol. 82, 1970) a publication of the Wilson Ornithological Society. The bulletin is published in the United States and has an international distribution.

□ Eight faculty members of the School of Nursing participated in a conference "collaboration for constructive change" for faculty of University schools of Nursing co-sponsored by the Ontario Region, Canadian Conference of University Schools of Nursing and the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario at Barrie, Ontario, April 22-25th. The many resource speakers initiated considerable discussion of the changing role of the baccalaureate nurse today, particularly emphasizing the opportunities for extending her role. Mrs. D. Syposz was a member of the planning committee for this conference.

□ Six faculty members attended the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario Annual meeting in Toronto, Ontario, April 28th-May 14th. Miss Laura Butler, a lecturer in the School of Nursing, Lakehead University, presided over many of the sessions as President of the R.N.A.O. 1969-71. Concurrent sessions were held on various topics such as "Nursing in the Far North", "Legislation, and Nurses", and "The Chemophilic Society". Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence was keynote speaker at the Saturday luncheon.

