

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT *Lakehead College*

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WHAT HAPPENED?

This is the question that the second year students were mumbling to each other after the results of last week's election were posted. Out of the three positions in the S.A.C. up for election, first year students walked off with first spot in two of these positions. What is more surprising is that they were the only 2 first year students seeking election (as compared to 6 second year students). What happened? It is quite obvious that most first year students voted for their first year classmates in this election. The main purpose of this article is to point out, in a factual manner, that some revisions in our college election system are absolutely necessary. Why are they necessary? Very simply, they are necessary because the present system is totally unfair to all second year students. Out of a total of 318 registered students in the college, 251 are in their first year. This leaves only 67 second year students.

Now someone may ask, "so what? Isn't the aim of the S.A.C. to serve all of the students, and not just second year students?" Here, I would agree. However, in order to best serve the interests of all the students, I think everyone will agree that the most qualified persons should be elected to the S.A.C. Now, I'm not stating that the best candidates were defeated in this past election. This may or may not be the case. What I am stating is that I definitely do not believe that the first year students should have the power that they have, to decide who should represent the whole college.

I believe that a second year student is more aware of the problems that will arise during the course of a college year. He has had the experience of similar problems when he was in his first year. Whereas, a first year student is almost totally unaware of many of the problems. In short, the second year student has had one full year's experience with problems confronting a university. A first year student, who is thrown into such a high office of responsibility in his first few weeks of college life, cannot possibly know what to expect. Looking at a few more figures from last week's election, I find that only 3 second year students failed to vote (4.5 per cent), while 63 first year students failed to vote—a relatively large 26 per cent. When we summarize these figures, we find that 64 (of 67) second year students voted, and 188 (of 251) first

year students voted. These figures certainly show that the second year students were more interested. The first year students won the big prizes and yet only 74 per cent of the first year students voted, compared with 95.5 per cent second year voters.

Obviously, from the above figures, a new system of voting should be initiated next year. Since a new constitution is to be drawn up by the S.A.C. this year, I sincerely hope that this matter will be given full consideration. One possible solution is to inaugurate a new ballot system, whereby the second and third year students' overall votes will be weighed and adjusted so that their total votes will be proportionally equal to the first year students' votes. In this way, the interest and incentive shown by the second year students in this past election will not be smothered by the sheer force of being outnumbered.

...Ron Hodowansky—Arts II

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MAYORS TO BE INTERVIEWED

Why do our two Lakehead cities remain politically separate? It seems that a sort of superficial loyalty, on the part of citizens of both cities, coupled with a rather uninformed guess that nothing is really to be gained by amalgamation has led most to be satisfied with the current situation. But a little research on the matter reveals that the benefits of amalgamation would be many. To mention just two of these: a metropolitan council would reduce inter-city conflicts and would foster the development of the area as a unit; combined city offices would reduce administrative costs and make for a better use of the taxpayer's dollar. Today at 12:15 in Room 6 the S.C.M. weekly lecture series raises this issue of amalgamation. Len Anderson (Arts II) will interview Mayor Reed of Fort William and Mayor Laskin of Port Arthur.

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RE AMALGAMATION

On Tuesday, October 8, I was given an opportunity on "Project Lakehead College" to air my views on amalgamation. Among those that listened there seemed to be some doubt as to my views, and I wish to take this opportunity to clear up any confusion. I am opposed to the amalgamation of Fort William and Port Arthur, that is the joining of the two cities. What I did advocate was the creation of a metropolitan area comprising the two cities and surrounding townships.

This would create suburban areas of Fort William, Port Arthur, Shuniah, Vickers Heights, etc. with some individual control and autonomy. This I think would satisfy even the most rabid "separatist". Otherwise, in 'amalgamation' we would have to adopt a ward system of selecting aldermen, a system which we abandoned years ago. A metropolitan area would allow us to adopt a system headed by a controller. This gentleman would be a specially trained professional. Anyone even casually acquainted with municipal politics can realize the value in this. Another point that I made was that the areas of the twin cities proper would reach a saturation point of 75,000 each by 1970 under current trends. After 1970 the surrounding townships, with their limited resources, would have to handle the overflow. It was also noted that as long as the cities were separate, duplication of such items as sewage plants, etc. is occurring. From an expansion of population viewpoint, this is a good thing and, of course, the creation of a metropolitan area is a logical follow up.

I hope that I have clarified my views for the sake of those who listened, and for those who didn't listen I would suggest that they show a little more interest in "Project Lakehead College."

...Maurice Koroniak

Editor's Note: Project Lakehead College is heard weekly on CJLX--every Tuesday, from 7:30 to 8:30.

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COSA NOSTRA OR LEGALIZED GAMBLING?

Many Americans, and indeed Canadians, are wondering if the "singing of Joseph Valachi will herald the beginning of the end for the Mafia or Cosa Nostra, the 40-billion dollar a year crime syndicate (compare this with the 24-billion dollars of American Telephone and Telegraph, or 22-billion dollars of General Motors). Obviously, anyone who recognizes the flaws in American legislation will know that Bobby Kennedy, Senator McClelland, etc. will not destroy this Sicilian-oriented organization which not only takes in four times the amount of money that our own federal government in Ottawa does, but which is also ranked as efficient and as well organized as any enterprise in the world. And in addition, this illegal enterprise has the sympathy of the public at large. In the 1920's, certain Congressmen who belonged to prohibition and temperance societies had seen to it that the United States was dry, i.e. the country couldn't make, sell, or distribute liquor. This was the signal for the gangs in New York, Chicago, etc. etc. to leave the unrespectable businesses such as bank-robbing and take over where the defunct distilleries left off. Americans, being better

than 90 per cent "wet", merely purchased their liquor from the syndicate's neighborhood outlet.

I don't have to tell you what a mess the prohibition era was. Congress repealed the 1918 act and the country was wet again in 1933. However, the big gangs that grew and got rich in the 1920's because of prohibition, didn't die. They found another loophole. The country, except for Nevada, was overrun with gambling legislation that belonged in the Victorian era, or in Cromwell's England. Accordingly, bookmaking, the numbers game, rool tickets, slot machines, and narcotics became the big source of revenue for the syndicate.

Today, over three-quarters of the syndicate's money is derived from bookmaking and gaming devices (prostitution, protection, etc.). This 30-billion dollar a year gambling income could be a big source of tax revenue if gambling were legalized. But, the backward legislators we have steer away from legalized gambling in spite of public support for it, as the sum indicates. In fact, the government spends several million dollars in vain, trying to kill the syndicate.

To conclude, as long as bookmaking is illegal, the syndicate will thrive, although the personnel may vary from time to time. Legalized bookmaking will kill the syndicate, the government treasury will fatten, and order will be restored "o'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

.....Ken Mucha

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WILL PROJECT LAKE COLLEGE CONTINUE?

Several weeks ago the programme, "Project Lakehead College" was inaugurated on a local radio station and assistance was asked for in its presentation. The response to this appeal was very light --in fact it was almost non-existent-- and the resulting quality of the programme has not been as high as it might be if more organization was put into it. An endeavour such as this can do a lot to project the image of the Lakehead College to northwestern Ontario, and is also an excellent medium by which students can express themselves. Nothing has been heard from the technology students regarding this programme, yet they outnumber all other students in the college two to one, and should be playing a major role in its presentation. Are all students at this college totally apathetic or do some of you believe in working for your college? If you are not prepared to make excuses as to why you cannot help with "Project Lakehead College" come to Room 7 at 12 noon on Friday.

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Have you registered at the Student Placement office for next summer's employment, or even for part-time jobs? Early registration ensures you of the best opportunities.