

the Ring



"Now, it is I who possess the Cosmic Power which once was his! Never before has any one human being been as totally supreme — as invincibly superior — as I! Now let mankind beware — for Doctor Doom has attained powers without limit — power enough to challenge Galactus himself!"

— Dr. Richard Doom, From *Fantastic Four* No. 57
(1966 Marvel Comics Group)

Volume 2, Number 17, November 17, 1976

University of Victoria

Unhappy GSS president shuts down 'happy hour'

By Bryan McGill

Angered by what he terms an indifferent membership, Al Rydant, president of the Graduate Students' Society, is considering the possibility of dissolving the GSS.

As starters, Rydant told *The Ring* he is cancelling all GSS social functions, including the time-honored "happy hour" which is held every Friday evening in the Student Union Building and which has been a popular draw for faculty, staff, students and alumni wishing to relax over the cheapest beer on campus (50 cents a bottle).

The happy hour, beginning this Friday, will be dropped indefinitely.

"I have no qualms about closing the GSS down," said Rydant, who is considering one alternative of throwing its membership under the authority of the Alma Mater Society, which now represents undergraduate students.

What is griping Rydant is that while he and his executive have been working for better financial deals for graduate students, they have received little or no support from the membership-at-large.

Rydant, a graduate in the Geography Department, made appeals to the members to step forward for five positions coming vacant on the executive, but only two persons did so, Steve McClelland and Judy Wigmore, both first-year graduate students in Geography.

One of the positions left unfilled is that of social director, which is the reason for the cancellation of the happy hour, all wine-and-cheese socials, and the annual GSS dinner-dance.

"Since we have no social director we are going to divert funds from GSS social functions to other purposes," Rydant said.

Rydant is also going to discontinue GSS representation on the Canadian Union of Graduate Students.

"If graduate students are not interested in working with the executive we will determine what will happen."

Rydant said he is forced to work two or three hours a day on GSS business, while at the same time he has his studies and teaching to do. "Frankly I don't care if we have the GSS or not."

Nevertheless, whether the GSS continues or not, Rydant is still concerned that fairer pay is granted to teaching assistants and that a more equitable way of distributing scholarships and fellowships to graduate students is worked out.

Last week, the GSS executive presented a brief to the university's executive council outlining the "inequities" in teaching assis-

tant pay rates and graduate student fee structures among UVic, Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia, an "unfair and inadequate" allocation of fellowships and scholarships among UVic graduate students, and the "lack of quality control" in the present set-up of graduate studies here.

"It was a productive meeting," commented Rydant, who added that the executive council is sympathetic to their complaints.

Rydant said President Howard Petch told the GSS executive that the council will make the GSS case "a high priority item with the aim of supporting us more in line with what graduate students get at other universities."

Because government money is tight these days, the GSS was told higher allocations for teaching assistants will have to come from within the university.

Rydant speculated that if half the approximate total of scholarships and fellowships distributed annually to graduate students was allocated to help pay teaching assistants this would bring their level of income up to that of U.B.C. teaching assistants, who are paid more than those at UVic, but less than those at S.F.U.

Some 191 graduate students out of a total of 500 are teaching assistants here, and they are all paid \$370 a month for a 14-hour week compared to \$546 for an M.A. and \$665 for a Ph.D. at SFU for 15 hours, and \$450 for both at UBC.

About \$275,000 in scholarships and fellowships was allocated to a number of graduate students this year.

Rydant is critical of the way in which this was done, that is on the basis of marks, when he feels it should be more on what university the graduate comes from and on his financial need.

At the meeting with the executive council, the GSS was told by Dr. Steve Jennings, Dean of Graduate Studies, that he agreed different criteria should be used for allocation of scholarships and fellowships.

It was also suggested that such monies be given in lumps to the various departments to be passed on to their graduate students, instead of the current practice of distributing through the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Rydant said that though the GSS might be absorbed into the AMS, he doesn't want to see the position of graduate students weakened on the economic issues.

If the AMS takes over the affairs of graduate students, it would also represent them on official university bodies, such as the Board of Governors and the Senate, he pointed out.

Rydant said if graduate students go under AMS, they will have to pay a \$42 fee, compared to the \$15 they now pay, and if they are dissolved as a society and become some kind of bargaining unit on their own

(Continued on page 2)



What are these antedeluvian students laughing at? See page 4.

...Unhappy

(Continued from page 1)

they will have to pay \$30 in athletics fees, instead of the present \$6.50.

The GSS subsidizes happy hour to a tune of \$811 a year, which covers the cost of selling beer at 50 cents a bottle rather than at 70 cents, which the AMS offers through its SUB pub.

Rydant is already sitting on \$7,000 from membership fees, and he is thinking of spending it either on creation of a graduate scholarship fund or diverting it along with social function money into research or "some relevant community projects".

In his anger at the membership, Rydant said he is particularly annoyed at History in Art graduate students who recently complained to him about the way a GSS representative was appointed to a committee answering to the Dean of Arts.

"They said I let them down, but they have really let down the GSS because none of them stepped forward to work on the executive."

Employers on campus

Frank Schroeder, manager of the Canada Manpower Centre on campus, has been looking for ways to develop better communication between the university community and the world of business, industry and government.

That's why from Nov. 15 to 30, representatives of a variety of employers are at the Student Union Building holding career information sessions for graduate and undergraduate students.

Manpower, with the co-operation of the Canada Manpower Committee on campus and the Alma Mater Society, has invited representatives of 28 employers to give presentations.

"We have been doing this sort of thing for

years, with employers coming to UVic on an individual basis," said Schroeder.

"We've had reasonable success but this is the first year we have made a concerted effort and we are hoping the response will be greater."

Schroeder described the process as an "educational one, making students and faculty aware of the opportunities that exist in the job market."

He said it was important that undergraduates be aware of this opportunity to look at alternatives in the world of work. "By the time they graduate, it's a little late."

Some of the companies who are appearing on campus will also be recruiting, and Schroeder advises any students interested in individual appointments to contact Manpower.

Schroeder is hopeful that faculty will be interested in the presentations as well so that they can better counsel students on careers.

"The faculty are key people in this program of making students aware of employment opportunities," he said. "More faculty are accepting this program but there is still a need for a more co-ordinated effort."

Schroeder said the process is a two-way street with the university community able to give feedback to business and industry. "Employers I have talked to are very interested in more dialogue with universities," he said.

Employers on campus during the next two weeks include representatives of insurance companies, banks, newspapers, a radio station, real estate, chartered accountants, department stores, and the federal government.

The career explorations sessions are being held in various parts of the SUB from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. (See coming events for time and place of individual sessions).

Additional career information sessions are planned for January.

Canadian artist Robert Aller, who has been working since 1958 with Indian and Inuit children and their arts and crafts, gives some advice to a student during a workshop he recently gave on campus for the Faculties of Education and Fine Arts. The workshop included an exhibition covering an impressive range of contemporary Canadian Indian crafts from several provinces. Aller, who studied with Group of Seven artists Lawren Harris and Arthur Lismer and whose work has been displayed internationally, sees child arts as spokesmen for a culture "unbelievably different and remote" from the white urban way of living. He works in schools and on reserve communities in the south and in the most northern fly-in areas of the country through all seasons of the year.



In search of a definition of the child care worker

By John Driscoll

Child care work is an elusive, volatile field with charismatic leaders, agencies that spring up and sometimes fly apart, rapid shifts in emphasis and continuous development of new treatment methods.

Workers within this field are a bit of a mystery group. You can find them in classrooms, agencies, homes, institutions and on the streets, but little effort has been exerted in exploring the field to find out just who they are and what they perceive their role to be.

Now two UVic researchers are involved in a year-long study interviewing child care workers to determine their educational requirements.

Dr. C.D. Webster, director of the Child Care Program at UVic and his research assistant John Rathbun, have received a \$32,694 grant from Health and Welfare Canada for the study.

"The study could have implications for the field of child care work in Canada generally and it will definitely have a great effect on curriculum development within our program," explained Webster.

Rathbun is visiting child care workers at all levels in the Vancouver and Okanagan areas. Visits will also be made to the University of Montreal and the University of Pittsburgh where other programs are in existence.

"We want to find out what child care workers are doing that we don't know about," said Rathbun. "We want to know what level of knowledge there is among child care workers, how much movement there is within the field and who the agencies are hiring."

Rathbun calls the project "exciting", pointing out that it is the first time anyone has gone to child care workers to find out what they do.

"No matter if agencies grow or close there will always be a population of disturbed kids and there will be workers to look after them," he said. "They're important people, society depends on them, and we want to find out what they need to prepare them for the job."

Along with the structured interviews, a follow-up study of graduates from the UVic program is also planned.

Webster is looking forward to the results of the survey and is quite prepared to change the program at UVic.

"Once a child care program is set it ceases to be effective," he explained. "Within the field, the knowledge of treatment is constantly changing and you must allow new influences to reach you."

There are about 120 students in the program, in second, third and fourth year of a Bachelor of Arts degree course with emphasis on child development and care.

The program is a popular one with many more applicants than positions and applicants go through a personal screening process. Along with the B.A. program, students who acquire 16 months of supervised field experience may apply for a Diploma in Child Care.

"The diploma and not the B.A. signifies professional accomplishment in the field," explained Webster.

Now in its fourth year of operation the program has eight diploma students out in the field. However about half the B.A. graduates of the program go into careers that are related to but not specifically, child care work.

"There is a whole group of careers for child care workers," said Rathbun. "Many graduates go into education, counselling, or social work."

One confusing aspect of child care work is the lack of any standard qualifications. It has been traditionally taught at community colleges or as a one-year course after a B.A.

Individual agencies set the standards for hiring and they vary from agency to agency.

Ted Dunlop, a special lecturer in the Child Care Program at UVic this year, feels the identity of child care workers often gets lost with the varying qualifications and the shifting of emphasis from institutions to the community.

"We're suffering a crisis of identity," he

said. "You can become a child care worker with a three-year diploma program or a one-year program in different places. What is needed is a standardization of qualifications."

The key to the program at UVic is community involvement and Webster spends more time visiting agencies than he does in his own office.

"The original impetus for our program came from the community and it's our reason for existence," said Webster. "It's necessary to give something back."

"One of the things that worried me when I came here in 1975 was getting into the agencies," said Webster.

"The agencies have been very receptive and seek our help. This is a relationship that has been built up over the years."

The Child Care program is now involved in helping to provide instruction to and co-ordinate the research of agencies in the community.

Some projects include organizing seminars for pre-school teachers, and symposiums on treatment of handicapped children.

Among projects undertaken by child care students has been a weekly seminar for prisoners at William Head Correctional Centre. The men at William Head have been working with mentally retarded residents of Glendale Lodge and students are providing some basic instruction on child care.

Field work by students is very much a part of the community involvement in the program.

Dunlop is in charge of the practica program and he sees it as "both a service to the community and professional preparation."

Among agencies participating are the Boys' and Girls' Club, Bishop Cridge Centre for the Family, UVic Day Care, Crisis Line, Girl Guides, and the Pearkes Clinic.

Students also go to centres for mentally handicapped children and adults and participate in programs offered by the Corrections Branch of the Department of the Attorney-

General. They are involved with nursery schools and detention homes.

Dunlop explained that students are introduced gradually into the agencies.

"Students are introduced where the level of involvement is not too great and they are not placed in stressful situations."

In the third year of the program a select group of 25 students are expected to work a minimum of six hours a week in an agency under close supervision and instruction.

"In the past the practica have been largely dependent on the student and there's been little direction from the agencies or faculty," said Dunlop. "This course will include group sessions, ongoing observations in the field and final evaluations by student, agency and faculty."

By the fourth year in the program students are expected to play a large role in determining the thrust of the program and have specific administrative duties. "We're strong on student involvement," said Webster. "In fact the students drafted the main recommendations for this year's program."

Changes in the future may include integration with the new schools of Nursing, Social Welfare and Public Administration. All are now located in the Sedgewick Building and there is an ongoing study of the feasibility of combining them into a single faculty.

Webster believes the Child Care program is vibrant and flexible enough to adapt to changes both within the university and in methods of child care treatment in the community.

"There are often major upheavals in the field," he said. "Right now they're changing from residential treatment centres to bringing the children back into the community."

"These things go in cycles and while you can advise and suggest policy, one goes to where the children are. They are what this program is all about."

ringers

The recent three-day Red Cross clinic on campus is considered a "very definite" success, according to **Gerald D. Savage**, field co-ordinator for Victoria and Vancouver Island. Some 855 persons attended, short of March's near-record turnout of 1,032, but nevertheless a substantial number, he said. Combined with 130 donors at the Summer Session Clinic, this gives UVic a total of 2,017 for the year. That means UVic's contribution is about 15 per cent of all clinics this year held south of the Malahat, Savage noted with satisfaction. During the last clinic, a competition was held among faculty and locals 917 and 151 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the winners being Local 951, or the inside workers. May Croft, Local 951 secretary, said 3.91 per cent of the inside workers turned out, compared to 3.35 of the outside workers and 3,125 of faculty.

It was billed as a non-political "panel discussion" for National Student Day Nov. 9, but with the line-up of speakers it could scarcely have been anything but a political meeting. Representatives of the Social Credit, NDP and Progressive Conservative parties shared the platform with student politicians and Dr. Neil Swainson, acting chairman of Political Science, to discuss fee increases. Before a sparse crowd at the SUB theatre they debated the issue which is scheduled to go before the Board of Governors in the near future. Swainson pointed out that there had been no fee increase at UVic since 1964-65 and he felt there was a "legitimate claim for a modest increase". Former Minister of Education Eileen Dailly was "against a fee increase at this time". She launched into an attack on the Socreds for "adding financial burdens" to B.C. residents. P.C. leader Scott Wallace felt fees shouldn't be raised because of the economic condition but added that "a contribution by the recipient of a service is not unreasonable." Esquimalt MLA Lyle Kahl suggested the BOC should sell the property on which Camosun College is located and apply that money to tuition fees. He pointed out that his was strictly a personal opinion and not that of the Socred government. Kahl was highly critical of the money being spent on universities and high schools. "Children learn more before they get to school, thank God, than afterwards," he said. "Far too much money is being spent on universities, community colleges and senior high schools and not enough in kindergarten and elementary school." Student BOC representative Frank Waelti said students should lobby for a system of grants rather than loans to assist those at the lower end of the economic scale. Panel moderator was Alma Mater Society Vice-President Brian Gardiner and other panelists included student senator Theresa Kerin (GS-M) and Camosun Student Society President Janice Gottfred.

Mr. Justice John Bouck, vice-chairman of the Law Reform Commission of Canada in Ottawa, is here this week visiting the Faculty of Law. Bouck, a member of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, has been participating in both first and second year classes as well as giving seminars in his stay yesterday and today. Murray Fraser, Dean of Law, noted that a number of Law Faculty members had been involved in Law Reform Commission work, both federally and provincially, and that Bouck's visit would provide an excellent forum for discussions on the progress of law reform across the

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country. "It is also important we introduce students to the processes and problems of law reform at a very early stage," said Fraser. Bouck is on leave from the Supreme Court to permit him to fulfil his obligations as vice-chairman of the commission.

Dr. Norma Mickelson, Dean of Education, has been named chairman of the Canadian Association of Deans of Education.

This week, starting tonight, is a good one for music lovers. Two concerts, sponsored by the Department of Music, will be held at Christ Church Cathedral. Tonight (Nov. 17) at 8 in MacLaurin 144 will be the latest in the "Faculty Chamber Music Series". Featured will be the Pacific Wind Quintet as well as Lanny Pollet (flute), Eileen Gibson (oboe), Timothy Paradise (clarinet), Richard Ely (horn), Jesse Read (bassoon) and Robin Wood (piano). The program will include works by Irving Fine, Gordon Jacobs, Alec Wilder and Beethoven. Admission will be \$2.50 general and \$1.50 for students and pensioners. On Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. in MacLaurin 144 will be a free concert by the UVic Chamber Orchestra, conducted by James Walker. Guest artist will be Jesse Read. The program includes pieces by Mendelssohn, Mozart, Vivaldi and Respighi. A recital featuring the UVic Brass Ensemble and the Victoria Choral Society (conductor, UVic's Bruce More) will be held Nov. 20 at 8 p.m. in Christ Church Cathedral. Admission is \$2 general and \$1 for students and pensioners.

notices

The new television studio, with its two color cameras, is now fully installed and ready for use, says Gerald Testar, supervisor of Television Services, Media and Technical Services (MATS). Faculty wishing to use this facility, which is located in the basement of the McPherson Library, are asked to call Arthur Hall, media co-ordinator, at Local 4507. Testar says Television Services also provides full or partial 16mm film production, television program production for in-class use or cablevision telecast, and video taping for student and professional evaluation.

The Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies will sponsor lectures in English by two distinguished scholars next week. Dr. Olga Ragusa, professor of Italian at Columbia University, will talk on "Pirandello's Six Characters in Search of an Author", Nov. 25 at 12:30 p.m. in Cornett 265. Professor German Bleiberg, of Vassar College, will lecture on "Pablo Neruda and the Spanish Civil War" Nov. 29 at 2:30 p.m. in Clearihue 306.

A panel discussion on "Mao Tse-tung: The Man and His Legacy" will be held Nov. 18 at 12:30 p.m. in MacLaurin 144 under the sponsorship of the university lectures committee and the departments of History and Slavonic and Oriental Studies. Visiting participants will be Rene Goldman, Department of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia and James Townsend, Department of Political Science, University of Washington. From UVic will be Harry Hsiao (Slavonic and Oriental Studies), Howard Biddulph (Political Science), and Ralph Croizier (History).

J. Les Green, vice-president of the Victoria section of the International Association of Cancer Victims and Friends, will speak during an opening meeting on campus Nov. 25 on "The Laetrilae Cancer Cure Controversy". The meeting, to be held at 8 p.m. in Elliott 167, will include a film and discussion. "Some say laetrilae is a cancer cure when others insist it is sheer quackery," said R.H. Mitchell (Chemistry), who will be chairman of the meeting. He noted the drug is banned in the U.S., though not in Canada. The meeting is sponsored by the Chemistry Department and the Chemical Institute of Canada.

The Faculty Club's popular Friday buffet is being extended 15 minutes to 1:45 p.m. to accommodate those who have to give 12:30 lectures, according to R.H. Mitchell (Chemistry), chairman of the club board. "I would, however, like to point out that the best time to attack it is between 11:45 and 12:15 when most tables are empty," he said in circular notice. "We are sorry if you have to wait awhile in between, but on last Friday, for example, the club served a record number of 220 lunches."

notebook

Faculty members or departments often send us small submissions, usually about lecture tours and research visits to other parts of the world, which **The Ring** doesn't necessarily publish. We like to be kept informed about what faculty are up to, and it is possible some of these small items qualify as news and lead to expanded features. But because a faculty member travels to Hong Kong or Paris or wherever to give a lecture it isn't automatically news. However, when a faculty member publishes, we do invite a bibliographical description (Chicago style) which we will list. We are particularly interested in hearing about research projects, for often they make excellent stories. Some departments have appointed one of their members to act as liaison with **The Ring**. This is helpful. We then have a more balanced and informed view of what is going on in a particular department. We wish more departments would follow this practice.

In the past we have published letters from persons who are politicking for seats on the Board of Governors or Senate. As of now we are declining such material. We feel that when an election is on we should print everyone's platform or no one's. But we can't promulgate everyone's views, because we don't have the space, coming out as we do every two weeks with normally only eight pages, or the time, that is, trying to track everyone down in the interests of fair coverage.

We are shuffling around a few of our **Ring** distribution boxes. One is being moved from the Faculty of Law lounge area to the main entrance of the new Clearihue wing to accommodate such departments as English, French Language and Literature, and Slavonic and Oriental Studies. (Sorry about that, Murray, but we will still leave a stack in your lounge.) Another box is being moved from the Elliott Building tunnel area up into the Elliott's main lobby. Incidentally, the slums, or the hut area, has not been entirely ignored. A box has been installed in "M" Hut. New Sedgewick Building dwellers will find boxes in what used to be the English Department reception area near the Classics Department. Usually each issue appears around campus by about 10 a.m. each second Wednesday.

Two more Rings are scheduled for this term, on Dec. 1 and Dec. 15. The first **Ring** of the second term is planned for Jan. 19, the deadline for which will be Jan. 12.

Bryan McGill
Editor



letter

To the Editor:

I suppose it is laudable that Board of Governors member Dr. I.D. Pal is enough of watchdog to question the number of wives of male faculty members who have been hired at the university this year. The trouble is, I firmly believe that his concern is misdirected.

He said, "When we appoint wives of faculty members I hope we aren't depriving any local, qualified people of employment. I believe in spreading the goodies around." The word local stands out first, since I can't imagine anyone more local than a wife, who is usually tied in every way to the city in which her husband works. Whereas a male counterpart or a single person could pursue job opportunities wherever they may arise, a wife usually has no such freedom, and as an academic in Victoria, she has little choice other than work at the university. If one wants to "deprive local, qualified people of employment," then close the university doors to faculty wives!

Qualified is the next word to tackle. Despite changes in the university's hiring policy, which was formerly entitled "Employment of Relatives" and is now called "Conflict of Interest", it is still exceedingly difficult for a faculty wife to be employed by the university. Administrators have been known to simply look elsewhere for job candidates rather than go through the hassles involved in order to prove that no conflict of interest exists and that the faculty wife is far and above the best candidate.

Vice-President Pedersen emphasized in **The Ring** article that in all cases those appointments (faculty wives) have gone through the required channels

and hired the most qualified candidates, a position that I believe, from experience, is true. He then proceeded, however, to open another can of worms—one which I hope entices Dr. Pal's watchdog curiosity.

The hiring of sessional lecturers is an inexpensive and reasonable way of providing a service, said Pedersen. Dr. Alfred Fischer pointed out that it is sometimes impractical and extremely expensive to provide regular full-time faculty, such as for the prison program. Although the discussion has begun to mix hiring a wife and hiring a sessional instructor, 1975 university statistics show that although only 20.3% of the men teaching at UVic are on sessional as opposed to regular appointments, almost half of the women are hired on sessional appointments (45.3%). (Those appointments are also more heavily part-time for women than for men.)

So here's the rub: a qualified wife of a male faculty member faces stringent hiring requirements cannot seek a job elsewhere, and is considered by the university to be cheap, practical labor. On top of that, she is expendable, since a sessional appointment carries no guarantee of continued employment and often excludes the person from departmental decision-making of any kind.

In the event that Dr. Pal and other readers are still not convinced that faculty wives deserve more consideration, let them re-read this letter, substituting "faculty husband" wherever appropriate.

Sincerely yours,
(Ms.) Connie More
Part-time sessional lecturer
and faculty wife

The Young UVic *Toddling towards baptism by fire*

It's an age of nostalgia when people are looking back to what they think were the good old days. The good old days for UVic were the Sixties, when it started out with high expectations as a university, and wound up at the beginning of the Seventies torn by dissent and bitterness. You might say UVic, with some hindsight, is looking more ahead these days to the jubilee year of Victoria College and the 15th anniversary of UVic. Anyhow our office has hundreds of photos taken on campus during the Sixties, and everytime we thumb through them we can only chuckle. So here are some of the better ones. There are some faces in them which are still around, though it is hard to believe they are the same people. Such as that fellow with the hair on his head thumbing through an ancient book.



POW POW POW BOOM! BAM! POW POW

Take that you effete, utopian ★✂❗❗

By John Driscoll

Dr. Alan Gowans takes the comics seriously.

When he first started describing comics, television and advertising as art forms, Gowans, chairman of the Department of History in Art, found that most people got terribly upset.

Now when he describes *L'il Abner* as an "American Adam in Eden" or a particular *Wizard of Id* strip as an "allegory on socialism", he finds fewer people turning up their noses.

Gowans is an internationally recognized authority on architectural history, and he lectures at universities around the world. His reputation, however, does not prevent some people from scoffing at the idea of serious consideration of the popular arts.

"Some people are conditioned so that they feel in their bones that popular arts are cheap and vulgar and commercial," said Gowans in a recent interview.

Gowans does not press the issue with these people. "Increasingly people are becoming more tolerant and less elitist, less snobbish about it."

But why study the comics as an art form.

Gowans explains that his interest in the popular arts stems from his belief that "they do in our society what traditional arts did in earlier days."

"Art in historic times had a function enabling social institutions to work and society to hold together. Popular arts today preserve the historic conscience of art in the past."

When most people talk about art they mean painting and particularly modern painting, but Gowans includes many other forms.

"My interest in the popular arts is that they preserve the historic conscience of art in the past."

Gowans hastens to add that he is not a person who sees the popular arts as being great or even good. "I'm interested in looking at them in terms of what they do and who they are for."

While he doesn't feel that television commercials are a 20th Century sonnet, Gowans does feel the comics, in reflecting the mood of the people they are written for, can become quite profound.

Some, such as *Peanuts*, *The Wizard of Id* and *B.C.*, often have great allegorical values.

"The comics are consistently opposed to utopian schemes and in general to the notion that we can cure all human problems by changing social institutions," he said.

"They are skeptical of all governments, the present one and any future ones."

Gowans said this is not something that makes the study of the comics particularly attractive to many intellectuals who, in many cases, are very much committed to visionary schemes.

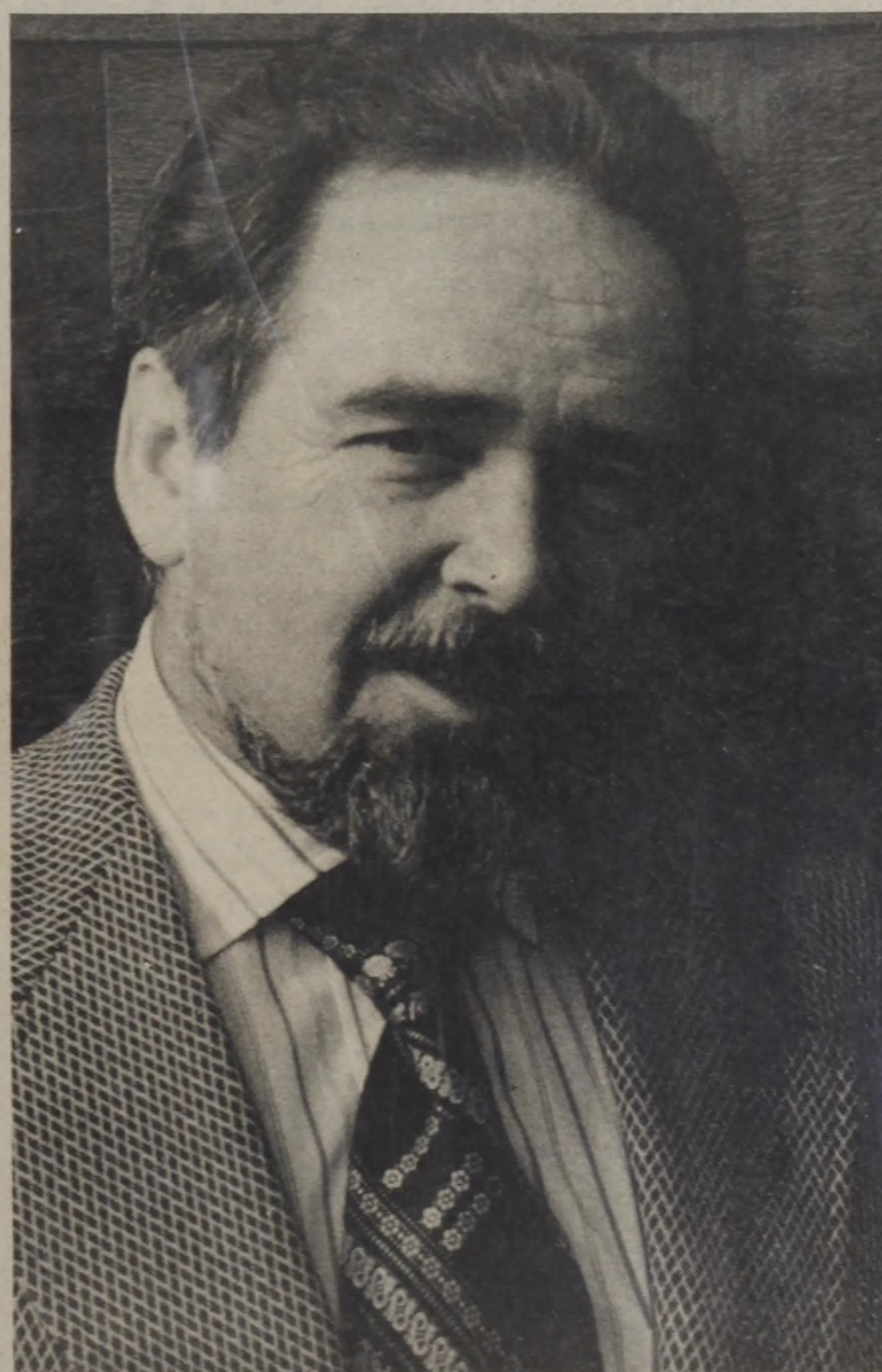
"Comics make fun of any kind of enthusiasts, of capitalists at one end and communists at the other."

Gowans said the typical intellectual tends to swing from one extreme to the other, from a feeling that everything's going to collapse to a belief that man can achieve heaven on earth.

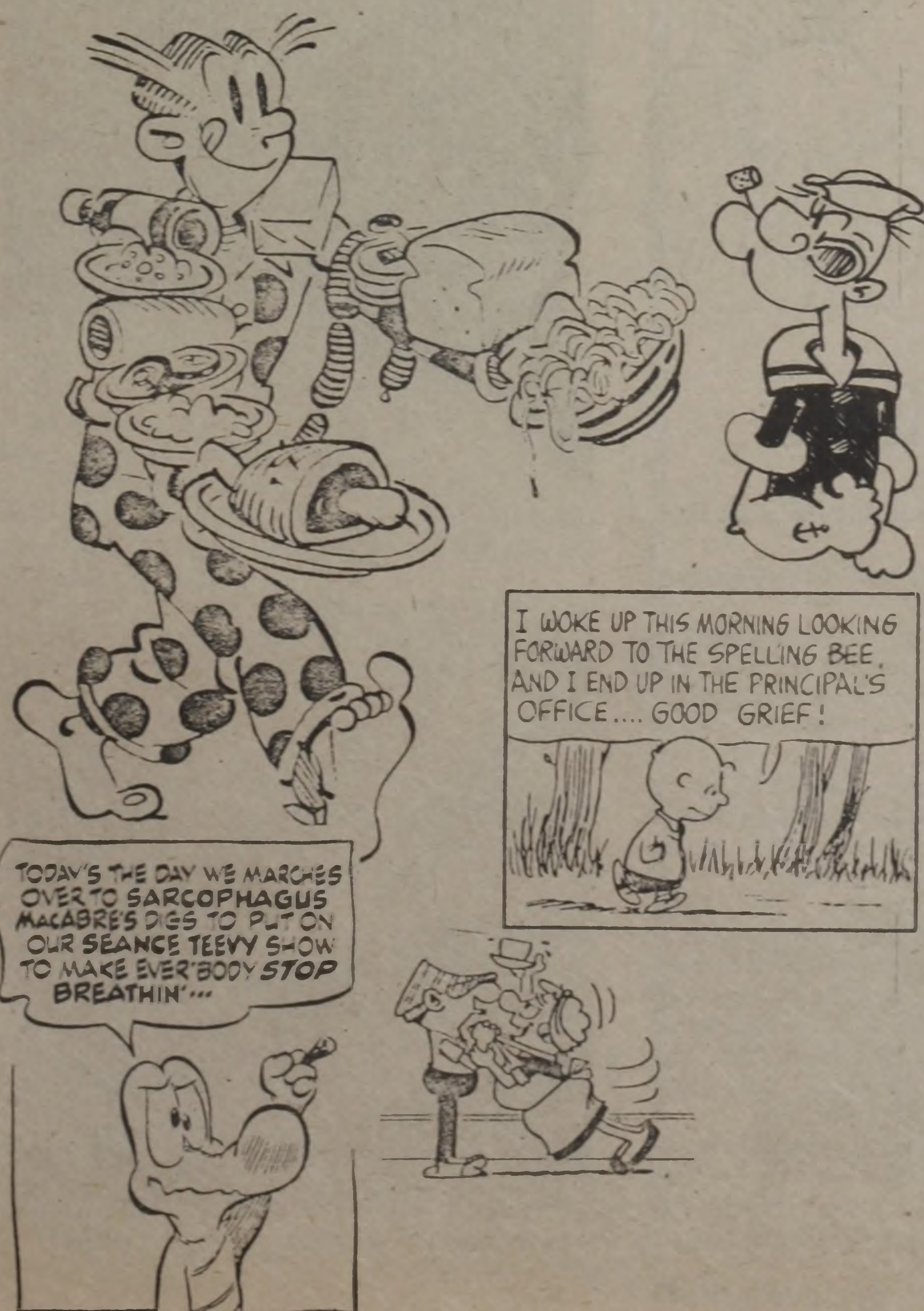
"The comics have known all along that you can't change human nature by changing social institutions and that there is no heaven on earth."

Gowans said the successful comic strip creator is almost invariably someone who shares the general views of his public, and when he oversteps that line he fails.

"An outstanding example is Al Capp, creator of *L'il Abner* who



Gowans: sees profundity in comics



became very consciously political in his strip. As soon as he did so, of course, his strip collapsed and ceased to be of interest to anyone."

Gowans said the whole secret of any successful art form is that "you don't persuade or propagandize openly."

Comic strips have existed since the beginning of art history as storytelling devices. They were never a major form of art, said Gowans, but in the 20th Century painters have often borrowed from them.

The first completely mature strip was *Mutt and Jeff*, by Bud Fisher who developed the drawing style and the development of characters. The first comic book, in 1910, was about Mutt and Jeff.

Mutt, the tall, gangly, mustachioed hero of the strip is the first fully-realized "American Adam in Eden", said Gowans.

The image arose from the industrial revolution and was a fantasy of lower-middle American culture which believed that America really was an Eden where men could get along without working and where all opportunities lay open for everyone.

"Mutt who never worked, never starved was the universal symbol of the new American man, freed from the primeval curse of work, at ease in Eden."

Gowans sees the comics as a continuing reflection of the fears and fantasies and after the First World War they underwent a drastic change.

They shifted to scenes of "domestic felicity" with the rise of white-collar workers and Dagwood and Blondie, Maggie and Jiggs, the Wallets, the Willets and the Gumps became popular.

"This was an escape from realities into the old American dream

(Continued on page 6)

FACULTY PAY HIKE APPROVED

This time it is for sure: Anti-Inflation Board (AIB) approval has been received on pay increases for faculty and office and technical staff (Local 951 of CUPE).

Earlier *The Ring* had jumped the gun in erroneously reporting such approval had been given.

Bursar Robert McQueen said the only university group not yet to have their pay hikes ratified are specialist instructional staff.

Approval was earlier granted to administrative and academic professionals and to maintenance and Food Services staff (Local 917, CUPE).



Billed as "updated Moliere" but "a long way from Moliere" is the forthcoming Department of Music's production of SCAPINO!. It will play Nov. 25 to Dec. 4 at the Phoenix Theatre, curtain time at 8 p.m. Said to be one of the great comedy scripts of the last five years, SCAPINO! was created by Frank Dunlop and Jim Dale and is about the escapades of Scapino, "the double-dealing rascal, the eternal, lovable wise-guy". Here in one madcap scene are grad students Stephen Lloyd, left, and Michael Boucher. Direction is by Prof. John Krich and the sets by Bill West. Tickets are \$2.50, adults; \$1.50, students and pensioners; \$1 for children; and two for one on Nov. 29 and 30. Phone 477-4821 for reservations and information.

calendar

Tuesday, November 23

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information, SUB; Clubs Room: Royal Bank, East Lounge: Institute of Chartered Accountants, West Lounge: Victoria Press.
4:30 pm
Liberal Arts—305. Cornett 163. Dr. A. Fehm (History in Art) will speak on "The Shift from Mediaeval to Renaissance Art".

Wednesday, November 24

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information, SUB; East Lounge: Bank of Montreal, West Lounge: Canadian Restaurant Association and Hotel and Motel Association.
3:30 pm
Meeting—Women's Action Group. SUB Rm. 144.
7:30 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre. Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest".
8:30 pm
Badminton, Old Gym.

Thursday, November 25

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information, SUB; Clubs Room: Wood Gundy, East Lounge: Dept. of Manpower, West Lounge: Canada Permanent.
12:30
Lecture—Cornett 265. Dr. Olga Ragusa (Columbia University) will speak in English on "Pirandella's Six Characters in Search of an Author".
3:30 to 5:00 pm
Petch Peeves. Sedgewick Rm. 4. Students, Staff and Faculty welcome to see Dr. Petch. Call Local 4201 for confirmation of room.

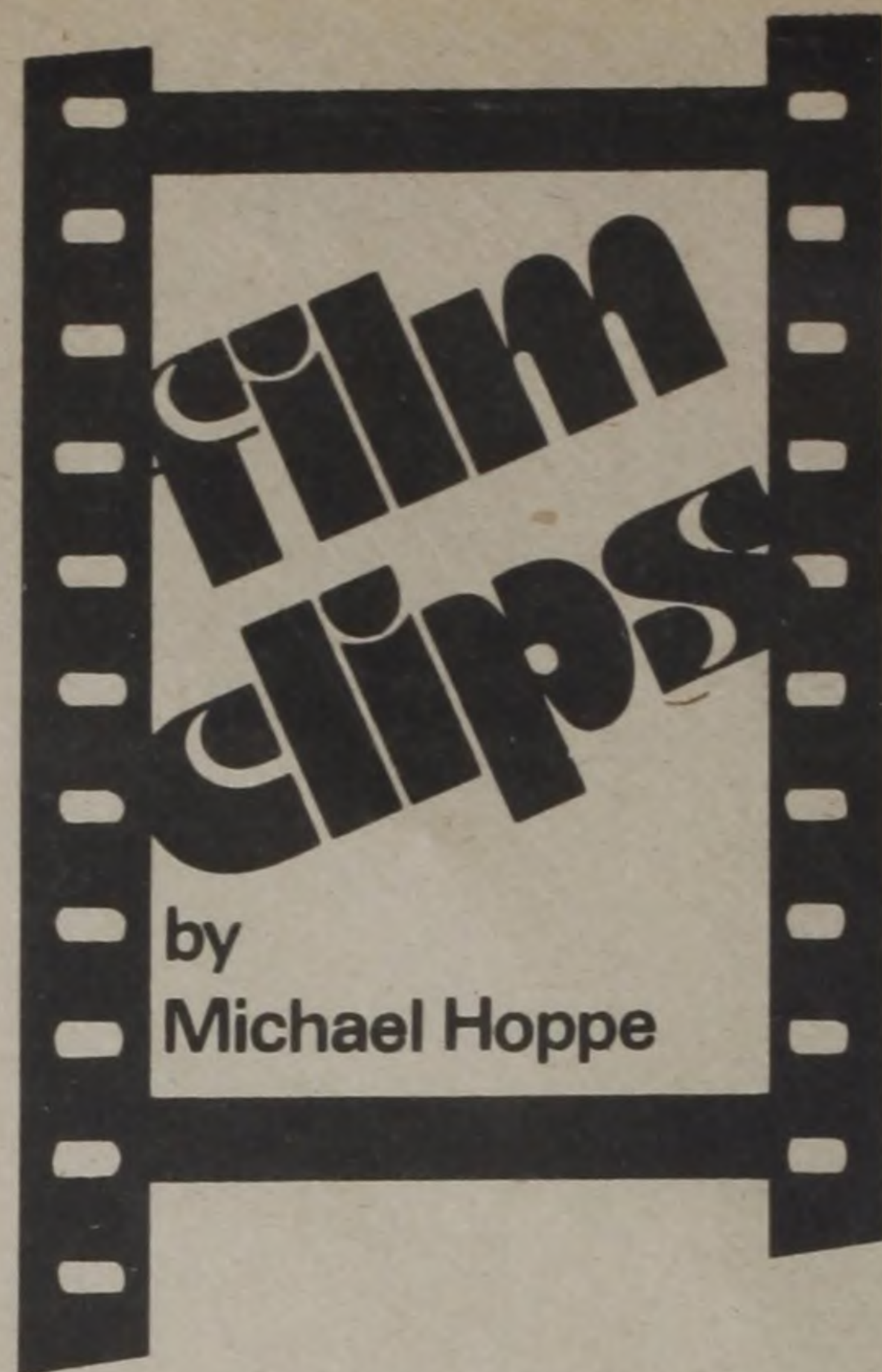
Friday, November 26

10 am to 9 pm
Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild Annual Sale and Exhibition. Mayfair Mall.

12:30 pm
Fridaymusic—MacLaurin 144.
12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information, SUB; East Lounge: Sun Life, West Lounge: Frontier College.
1:30 pm
Meeting—Education. Cornett 112.
3:30 pm
Seminar—Cunningham 1102. Dr. D. Jamieson (UVic) will speak on "Systematics in the Musci and the Genes Hygrohypnum".
Meeting—Graduate Studies. Cornett 108.
6:30 pm
Basketball—Vikettes vs. University of Saskatchewan. UVic.
7:00 & 9:15 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz".
8:00 pm
UVic Wind Ensemble—MacLaurin 144. Jesse Read, Conductor.
8:30 pm
Basketball—Vikings vs. University of Saskatchewan. UVic.
11:30 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre. "King Kong" and Serial Chapt. 12.

Saturday, November 27th

10 am to 5 pm
Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild Annual Sale and Exhibition. Mayfair Mall.
12:45 pm
Ladies' Field Hockey—Mariners vs. Vikettes—Beacon Hill Park.
6:30 pm
Basketball—Vikettes vs. University of Saskatchewan. UVic.
7:00 & 9:15 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre. "Lenny".
8:30 pm
Basketball—Vikings vs. University of Saskatchewan. UVic.



The Ritz is a gasping, madcap farce written by Terence McNally, based on his Broadway play of the same name. The standard farcical elements—mistaken identity, preposterous situations, frantic chases, and burlesque caricatures—are all there but they've been given a trendy, cynical, Seventies twist: homosexuality. "The Ritz" is a New York City bath-house which caters to an exclusively gay (as they say) male clientele; there are facilities for swimming, dancing, drinking, steam bathing, sleeping and sexing. The suitably decadent decor is the stuff movie-buff's kitsch fantasies are made of: Art Deco ornamentation, marquee and make-up mirror lights, and posters of Marilyn Monroe, James Dean and Jean Harlow.

Into these sultry surroundings walks Gaetano Proclo (Jack Weston), fat, middle-aged, balding, on the run from his Mafia-connected brother-in-law who is trying to kill him. To make the farcical most out of this, McNally makes poor Mr. Proclo naively unaware of the fact that he is escaping into a gay gathering place. The Ritz also provides live entertainment in the form of Googie Gomez, a Puerto Rican fizzig who can neither sing nor dance, but makes up for it in sheer upwardly-mobile showbiz drive; and she lavishes her attentions on Mr. Proclo whom she mistakes for a theatrical producer. Googie is played with winning comic authority by the alluring Rita Moreno, who also played the role on Broadway.

It is interesting to note that most reviews of *The Ritz* barely make mention of the fact that it was directed by Richard Lester and I can understand why: seeing *The Ritz* is like going to Richard Lester's funeral. Those of us who are so fond of his films made in the 1960's—especially the comedies *A Hard Day's Night*, *The Knack*, *Help!*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*—leave the theatre with head bent, hat in hand, mourning the loss of one fine, if not crazy, comedy director. His Sixties' films were galvanized by an inventive energy which affected every facet of film production; Lester was one of the few in the early Sixties to experiment with the jump-cut and other editing devices, and they gave his films a dynamic comic force. He took plays like *The Knack* and *Forum* and burst the bounds of theatrical time and space.

One can see why Lester was drawn to *The Ritz* but he doesn't do a thing with it. His latest films, *Juggernaut*, *Royal Flash*, and *Robin and Marian*, have revealed less and less of the Lester touch;

Sunday, November 28th

5:00 to 6:30 pm
Steak Dinner Night—Commons Dining Room. Please reserve early at Local 6678 or 6679.
7:30 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre. "Lenny".

Monday, November 22

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information. SUB; East Lounge—Canadian Imperial, West Lounge—Block Brothers.
7:30 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre. Marco Leto's "Black Holiday".
8:15 pm
Meeting—University Extension Association. Rm 168 Elliott. Prof. Donald Ferfuson (UVic) will speak on "Labor's Participation in Management—Some Experiences".

Tuesday, November 23

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information. SUB; Clubs Room—Royal Bank, East Lounge—Institute of Chartered Accountants, West Lounge—Victoria Press.
4:30 pm
Liberal Arts—305. Cornett 163. Dr. A. Fehm (History in Art) will speak on the "The Shift from Mediaeval to Renaissance Art".

now with *The Ritz* it has evaporated completely. The film isn't as crummy as all that; the actors are quite good and one can glean enjoyment watching them go through their waggish routines—but there is no interplay between them and the camera. We are either kept at a sullenly objective distance or are jolted forward for overemphatic close-ups. Lester began in television making commercials and worked his way up, but who ever thought he would retrogress to TV direction at its functional flattest? Ashes to ashes, dust to dust...

Shout at the Devil, starring Lee Marvin and Roger Moore, purports to be a grand-scale adventure epic, the likes of which the movies haven't seen for years. It is set in German East Africa just before and during the outbreak of the First World War. Marvin plays Flynn, a salty, gin-guzzling rakehell (what else?) who enlists Moore's aid in trying to capture a fortune in ivory. They eventually become entangled in fighting the Germans, who are headed by Fleisher, Flynn's adversary. We know what a bad guy Fleisher is meant to be because he smiles while he shoots and hangs the natives—he is supposed to provoke Saturday-matinee hisses but he's too preposterous to accept even on that level.

The director, Peter Hunt (who was adept at handling the action in the Bond movie *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*) keeps things hopping here: we are treated to an alligator attack, a boat being rammed in two, an airplane crash landing, and the bombing of a German warship, among other things. And, of course, interspersed among all that is the requisite romantic interest—Lee Marvin's daughter just happens to be the comely Barbara Parkins (whose hair is anachronistically frizzed in the freak-chic Seventies style) and who just happens to be conveniently available for Roger Moore (looking as tanned and unctuous as ever).

As adventure movies go, this one is, frankly, distasteful; it tries to be a light-hearted entertainment and yet carry its share of emotional clout, and it fails on both counts. The first half is mostly played for laughs, and one winces at Lee Marvin's over-baked attempt at a frisky characterization—he practically sandbags the audience with cuteness. And we're supposed to respond to Marvin's relationship with Moore as boys-will-be-boys macho preciousness. It's unbearably cute—and who wants to see a cute adventure movie?

But the last half of the movie is more serious, as if to prove it is worth its salt as an adventure flick. There is a horrible scene where Barbara Parkins' baby is wrenched from her arms by Fleisher and his baddies and thrown into the flames of the house they have just set fire to; so, if it's not cloying cuteness we're presented with, it's gut-punching emotion—and the one is as spuriously attained as the other.

This "hate-the-Kraut" emotion is aroused only to provide the illusion of continuity to the movie and to carry us through to the end of the picture when Fleisher is dutifully exterminated. At the end of *Shout at the Devil* the producers assure us that "not a single animal was injured in the making of this film." That's fine—I just wish the same could be said of the audience after sitting through this junk.

CINECENTA

Of particular interest is the 1973 Italian film *Black Holiday*, directed by Marco Leto, a fictionalized account of the Italian government's insistence in 1931 that all university professors sign a loyalty oath. Adolfo Celi stars as Rossini, who refuses to swear allegiance to the Fascist regime. Monday, Nov. 22 at 7:30 in the SUB Theatre.

Monday, November 29th

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings, Career Information, SUB; East Lounge: Great-West Life, West Lounge: Sears.
2:30 pm
Lecture—Clearihue 306. Professor German Bleiberg (Vassar College) will speak in English on "Pablo Neruda and the Spanish Civil War".
7:30 pm
*Cinecenta Films. SUB Theatre. "The Pedestrian".

Tuesday, November 30th

12:30 to 2:00 pm
Meetings—Career Information, SUB; West Lounge: Public Service Commission of Canada, East Lounge: IBM.
12:30 pm
Tuesdaymusic: MacLaurin 144.
4:30 pm
Liberal Arts 305—Cornett 163.
Dr. R. Sullivan (English) will speak on "Canadian Literature and Change".

Wednesday, December 1st

3:30 pm
Meeting—Women's Action Group. SUB Rm. 144.
7:30 pm
Meeting—Senate. Commons 205.
8:30 pm
Badminton, Old Gym.