

## S.D.C. IN CONTROVERSY

## Kangaroo Court Strikes Out

By Michael McCormick

Most of the students of this university are unaware that a student discipline committee exists on this campus, and the few who are, haven't got the slightest idea who is on it, or how it operates. The Red and White, in the interest of protecting everyone, will attempt to fill as many as possible of you in with this article.

The Student Discipline Committee, or the SDC, consists of a representative from each class, and a whole shitload of prefects chosen, more or less at random, from the residences.

In the old days discipline was handled by priests and/or nuns, who, while strict, at least showed some common sense. Not so the SDC. They have met several times this year to consider various cases, and have klutzed up practically every one. At times they have convicted people with no evidence, while at others they have completely disregarded the first precept of any court by exhibiting the most ridiculous bias imaginable. And even when they have done something right, they snafued it by levying preposterous fines.

Now we come to a particular case. Peter Sprague, not always the most subtle of characters, but certainly harmless, recently had a run-in with a fellow employee in the coffee shoppe. The details don't really matter. The new manager immediately referred it to the Shoppe's Board of Governor's. (The

now-retired Board). The Board, already famous in certain circles for their lack of astuteness under pressure, sent the matter to the SDC.

The SDC fined Peter to the tune of thirty bucks, and promised to recommend expulsion unless he paid before the 9th of April. Since his remittance from his palatial family estates in Bytown was not due until the fifteenth, our hero decided to do something else about it.

With the help of a friendly priest, he managed to get the female employee to withdraw all charges on a signed paper in front of witnesses. This paper, the signing of which more or less proves that it was merely a MINOR DISAGREEMENT between friends, was completely disregarded by the Board and by the SDC. The conviction stands, and our committees haven't the brains or the sense of fairness to even meet to reconsider their stupid decisions.

While the Sprague incident is regrettable, and should not have happened, it has been decided that both of the parties involved have accepted some share of the blame for its occurrence and have resolved the matter between themselves. Since no other party was injured, or even involved, we suggest that the Board and the SDC reverse the conviction, and get back to serious matters, like revising stupid rules, and figuring out how to run the Coffee Shoppe in an efficient manner.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(Editor's Note: In the interests of fairness, since this is our last issue, we have allowed Mr. Jackson to read, and make his own comment upon, Mr. McCormick's opinion of the incident discussed below.)

Dear Sirs,

Upon the understanding that an article on the Peter Sprague incident is to be published in your paper I would like to voice an opinion. Some people feel Peter was dealt with a little too harshly, but since it is not the first incident of its kind involving Peter we should all wonder what a fitting punishment would be.

I do not feel that any man, not even Mr. Sprague, has the right to strike a woman. This is more than a minor disagreement, and I would even consider it as a serious problem. When this issue was to be considered by our S.D.C., Mr. Sprague refused to attend and defend his position as he was supposedly too busy with his studies. While the meeting was in progress the defendant was indulg-

ing in a card session with his friends. If he had nothing to say then, I don't see how he can expect to get any changes now.

Personally I have never been in favour of fines — ask anyone on the Main Building House Committee — but apparently Peter didn't learn from his first episode, so what else is there to do?

In closing I would like to ask you all to stop and think of how often one is allowed to get away with such conduct, and for how long? Ask yourselves how you would deal with events similar to this. I say "BRAVO" S.D.C. and stick to your guns!

Sincerely,  
Ron Jackson  
Manager, S.D.U.S.U.  
Coffee Shoppe.

## THE ADMINISTRATION SCORES AGAIN

By Sam Evans

For a number of years, S.D.U. has been practicing a subtle yet obviously discriminating policy towards the admission of Hong Kong students. The prospective student from Hong Kong must pay a fee of \$450.00 to the university as a deposit towards his junior years tuition before he is sent a letter of acceptance. The fee is refundable only when the student, after being admitted, notifies the university of his withdrawal before he leaves Hong Kong. The discriminatory nature of this policy lies in that it applies to Hong Kong students only: no other foreign students have to oblige this regulation.

If the student, after enrolling at S.D.U., stays for his junior year, the fee is deducted from the tuition charged for that year but no interest whatsoever is given to the student for the use of his money. If the student transfers before reaching his junior year he loses the \$450. altogether, to say nothing of the interest that this money might have otherwise accumulated. This measure places the Hong Kong students in a position similar to that of a criminal who must post bail to insure that he does not run away from the authorities.

To say that the university has tried to conceal this policy would indeed be an understatement. The information is not contained in the booklet entitled "Information for Prospective Students" nor is it found in the S.D.U. Calendar. The Hong Kong student is not even told about it until he has returned his application for admission to this university. One might feel less surprised if he only knew that S.D.U., to the best knowledge of the author, is the only Canadian university adopting this policy.

According to the administration, this policy was primarily instituted in order to prevent Hong Kong students from using their letters of acceptance as a passport to Canada and then disappear. If this explanation holds true, students should have their money applied to their first year's tuition once they show up at S.D.U. for registration. But it is not so.

Thus it would appear that S.D.U., through this discriminatory policy, is trying to achieve results such as the

following:

- Restrict the number of Hong Kong students;
- Keep the Hong Kong students at S.D.U. until graduation (at times against their will).

If either of these factors is the motivating factor for the said policy then it would only seem fair that the administration should at worst, issue a statement which might clear up the institution's thinking behind this policy

## Miguel Scores Big

By Jim Burke

The SDU Music Department presented another original musical on Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22 at Confederation Centre. The script and lyrics, written by Marlene Wells and Hugh MacDonald, reflected a contemporary theme — that of the "not-so-cool" side of student power. The music, written and orchestrated by Bert Tersteeg, was, above and beyond an occasional sour note, colorful and appropriate, and perhaps the element which turned "Miguel" into an evening of entertainment.

The title role was played by Frank Turgeon, who came across well as the idealistic Latin-American exchange student. His natural stage presence and singing voice combined to produce a most believable character.

Professor Ivan Dowling performed as a typical "Dean of a small University". This character part was well written, and very well played from beginning to end.

Barney, the strong-willed student leader was played by

Jim Hornby. Jim performed well, but the character alteration written into his lines was perhaps the only significant change of situation in the script. A fine example of character balance can be seen between that of Barney, and his right arm, Arnold, played by Owen Aylward. Owen did very well not only in his scenes with Barney, but also in his solo numbers. He also managed to raise most of the laughs and, of all performers, Owen had the best audience contact.

The female interest in the play, the Dean's daughter, was well-managed by Sharlene MacLean. Her musical number with Frank was probably the singing highlight of the show.

Delaying mention of the chorus is deliberate, as they were the backbone of the show. The colorful costumes, along with the moving musical numbers and choreography, brought the evening to a high point. Credit for the beautiful scenery goes to Dan Darling, and costumes were expertly designed by Mrs. Tersteeg.

## USSPA Condemns Hayakawa's Suppression of Student Newspaper

SAN FRANCISCO (CUPI) — The United States Student Press Association has severely criticized S. I. Hayakawa, acting administration president of San Francisco State College, for his heavy-handed muffling of the Daily Gater, student newspaper here.

The Gater has been a strong supporter of the four-month-old student strike at S.F. State and a harsh critic of Hayakawa.

Hayakawa suspended operations of the paper Monday saying he did so because the student council board of publications is ineffectual. Members of the board say it does function but Hayakawa is upset because it has not reported to the administration through the strike and more importantly, has not "dealt with" an underground newspaper appearing on the cam-

pus.

The Gater has continued publishing despite the suspension and now its staff members may face disciplinary action.

In a telegram sent to Hayakawa, Robert Johnston, executive director of USSPA, said: "The United States Press Association cannot condemn too strongly your arbitrary and irrational suppression of the Daily Gater. The suspension Monday constitutes the most blatant attack of the rudimentary expression of free speech yet seen at San Francisco State and betrays your devotion to martial law over any semblance of learning, teaching, or discussion, let alone the free exchange of ideas.

"In this action," the telegram continued, "you have clearly and intentionally,

backed by the force of arms, cut off every voice on the campus but your own, thereby announcing your intention of listen to no one but yourself. We hesitate to say, under these circumstances what San Francisco State College might best be called, but an "institution of learning" it most certainly is not any more."

The Gater's funds — along with all student government funds — were frozen by a court order taken out by the administration. Continued publication of the paper has been made possible by student contributions and by the willingness of the paper's printer to wait to be paid for his work. The Bank of America, which holds the student fees, has requested a court order to free \$40,000 for various student activities, including the Gater.

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