

Asbestos Clean Up

WINNIPEG (CUP) -- Asbestos insulation in the food services area at the University of Manitoba, originally scheduled to be removed in September, will now wait until Christmas for removal.

Asbestos is a potential health hazard in that, should it become dislodged, it would release asbestos fibres into the air. These fibres are known to be a cause of lung cancer.

Manager of food services Ray McQuade is pleased with the delay since business will not be interrupted for the clean-up.

"It is a better time for us," McQuade added "the way other asbestos clean-up went on campus, it would take longer than a week to remove the asbestos from food services. We would have all kinds of staff problems." He commented that the asbestos threat "is not that great a hazard. They did an air test and it seems okay."

Director of operations

and maintenance at the U. of Manitoba, Ralph Robbins, said clean-up will start as soon as classes end for the Christmas break December 5th.

Robbins said the delay was made in order to prevent the "suspension of service to the students."

Work at other areas affected by asbestos at the university of Manitoba have also been put off until the Christmas break, Robbins said. This action, however, will make the holiday workload quite hectic for repair crews, he said.

Included in the area where work will be delayed are the women's locker room for the university pool as well as the concourse connecting the pool to the locker rooms.

The universitie's swimming pool, which also was closed because of asbestos removal, is now open after a month-long delay in repairs there.

Lawn burning

RED DEER (Cup) -- Three lawn-burnings with racist overtones have shocked this central Alberta city in recent weeks.

The burning of lawns in the shape of a cross at the homes of families of Asian descent have corresponded with an upsurge in activity of the Ku Klux Klan in the area.

But local RCMP have ruled out Klan involvement in the incidents which they prefer to call "willfull damage to lawns".

The three lawn-burning incidents all occurred in quiet suburban neighbourhoods of this city of 42,000 to families who have lived in Canada for at least six years. The first two incidents occurred early in the morning of Sunday August 10th.

The two families - one of East Indian and one of Japanese descent were away from their homes when gasoline was poured on their lawns in the shape of a cross and set ablaze.

The East Indian family reported earlier incidents in which eggs were thrown at their car and house. On one occasion someone jimmed open the kitchen window and hurled eggs into their home. A third, similar incident occurred ten days later at the home

of another East Indian family. Police suspect that lawn burning was the act of a "copy cat", but no arrests have been made in any of the cases.

Two days after the first incidents, a teen-age boy found a recruitment poster urging "keep Alberta strong, join the Ku Klux Klan" a block from the two homes. But Tearlach Dunsford MacPherson, Alberta leader of the Klan, says the group had nothing to do with the incidents and may begin its own investigation if RCMP are unable to find the culprits.

The Klan has two chapters in Red Deer and plans a public rally in the city this Fall. The group's literature says the Alberta Klan is separate from all other Klan organizations. It has been legally registered with the provincial government under the name of the Invisible Empire Association of Alberta, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Klan membership is open "to men and women of all races, religions, and colors", says the literature.

An editorial in the Edmonton Journal interpreted the incidents as "only the miasma of maniacs, not an infection of Red Deer's liberal lifeblood."

Canadian University Press News



Students Rally

MONTREAL (CUP) -- Some student associations at the Universite de Montreal are collecting tuition fees and withholding them to pressure the University into dropping charges against one student.

Guy Heroux was charged by the university with theft and possession of \$70,000 in cheques, withheld in protest of a residence fee hike. The U of M students are now demanding that the charges be dropped, says residence students' association member, Daniel Denis. A rally will be held in support of Heroux on October 24, the opening of the preliminary judicial inquiry into the case.

The McGill student council is organizing the demonstration and Quebec's two provincial student associations are supporting it.

Bye, Bye Skin Mags

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Skin magazines may be banned by the Carleton University Student Council. The student association is taking steps to prevent the sale of playboy, Penthouse and similar publications from the council campus store. "We think it is a gross contradiction to be against sexism on principle and profit from it", said council president Greg McElligott.

McElligott said he feels magazines of this type are "clearly sexist, degrading to all women and to a civilized society."

The first step toward removal of the magazine will be a motion from the council, expected Oct. 21. The council will decide whether or not it will "publish or promote any publications on campus which contravene our efforts to promote an academic and social atmosphere free from prejudice."

Dan Loewen, council executive vice-president, said the council is not going after all magazines with sexist content but only "those magazines which are most blatantly sexist, those intended specifically to objectify and degrade people."

The council executive

Beniot Laurin, leader of Quebec's provincial universities students' assoc., outlined the implications of the Heroux case on all student groups in Quebec. "If they sue one kik for taking action on the part of the collective, you know what can happen", he said. Rejean Plamondon, director of communications at U of M, said the Heroux case was out of the university's hands since it is

the Crown prosecuting him, not the university.

Since Heroux was charged, students and administration have negotiated a residence fee. The university has lowered its demand to \$86 for a single room for this year and \$91 next year.

has the power to remove the magazines, but McElligott said it would be unfair to do so without council debate. If council agrees a magazine is sexist, it would be obligated to carry out its mandate not to stock the magazine. Journalism professor Tom McPhail objects to such a move.

"I think it's a shame that at a university they want to restrict freedom of expression an elite group deciding what people can and can't read. The next thing you know, they'll want to take certain books out of the library."

Loewen disagrees with McPhail. "We are not limiting freedom of expression. These magazines can still be published and sold and can still be brought onto campus. They can even be bought on campus (in other stores)."

McElligott said he will try to have the magazines banned elsewhere on campus. "If we were selling a magazine put out by the KKK it (removal) would be very easy. It's not so easy against sexism which is just as serious as racism." McElligott said he expects protest - lots of protest!!!!