President says higher education still valuable

WATERLOO (CUP) -- The benefits of higher education may have been oversold in the 1960's but there is still need for university and college degrees for certain jobs, University of Waterloo President Burt Matthews said.

Matthews was commenting on a statement made recently by Dr. Harry Parrot the new Minister of Colleges and Universities, who said the belief that degrees can ensure recipients good jobs is "a myth".

Parrot, taking part in an all-day faculty development workshop at Conestoga College said he intends to repeat that view thousands of times, if necessary, to get rid of a false impression that has been promoted by high schools, employees, colleges and universities.

The pieces of paper offered by universities and colleges are of no greater or lesser value than satisfactory work experience, the Woodstock dentist said.

"The myth is there... it'll get worse if I don't challenge it."

Parrot feels that because he has a doctorate, the first to hold one in his portfolio, he can afford to make the statement about "the myth" with credibility.

Matthews said that while getting a degree doesn't necessarily land the student a good job, for certain occupations a degree is required.

"There is no doubt about it... higher education is required for some occupations."

"If one wants to become an engineer then one should persue a university degree rather than a community college one."

However, for some people the persuit of a degree isn't the best "route" to follow since they might find fulfilment in other types of education, he cautioned.

Matthews said that community colleges offer an education which isn't less desirable than a university one." The graduates from community colleges are just as important as graduates from universities."

So a person shouldn't come to university with the expectation of later getting a high paying job. In some cases a graduate ends up with no job at all, he explained.

Parrot said that because he feels so strongly about the "myth" perpetrated by university and college officials, he plans to re-organize his ministry and place an emphasis on its manpower branch.

The minister plans to name a director of college affairs and a director of manpower training.

Matthews said he would reserve comments on the minister's intentions as he doesn't know enough about the ministry's internal organization.

Parrot also said it is easy for students and educators to say they need money, but it's not as easy for them to tell him how to get it.

"I assure you these are difficult times for all areas of government. When you see the budget deficits of both governments (federal and provincial), it's about time we did not mortgage your future."

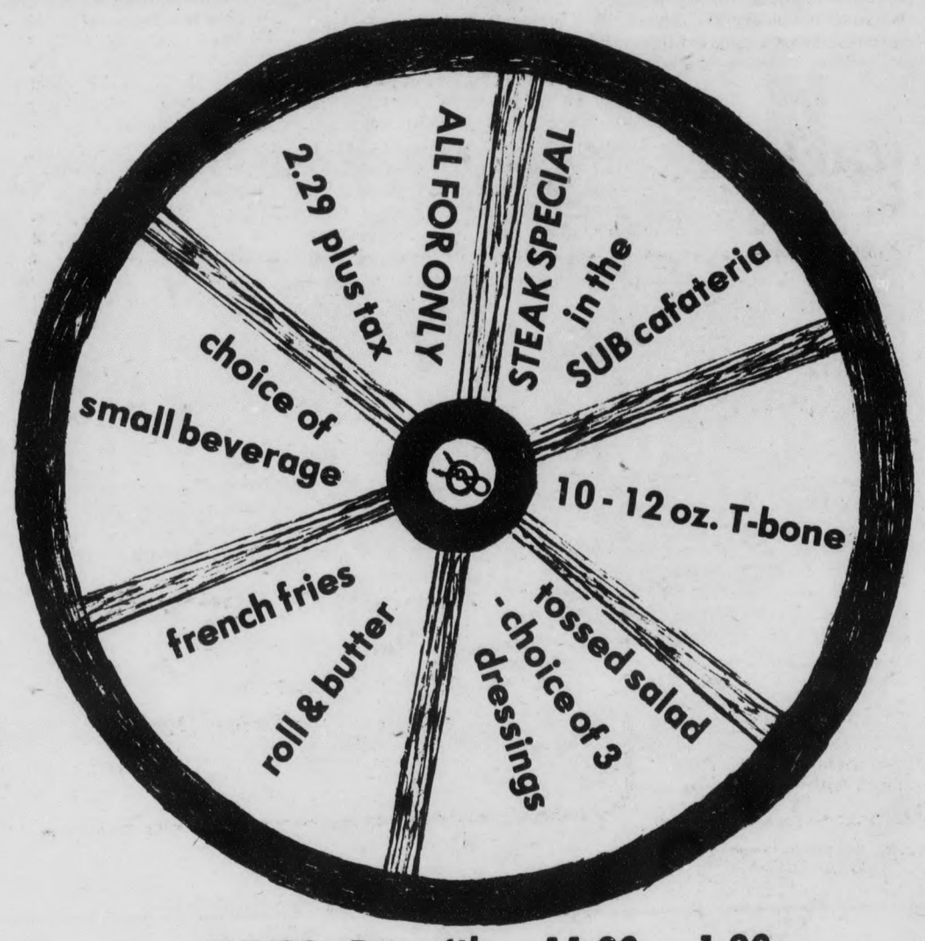
He hinted there would be government cuts beyond the 4 per cent reduction in the civil service already planned.

Not revealing what the cuts would be, Parrot said that provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough has given goverment ministries directives to do some drastic paring.

The latest figures show that the provinces will have a $1.8 billion dificit this year.

McKeough has also told municipal governments not to expect anything more than an eight to ten per cent increase in grants. The university system is often equated with municipalities in terms of spending priorities.

PONDER THIS ROSA !!



THURS., Dec. 4th 11.30 — 1.30

Ministry acknowledges grant

Students' council received word from the administration that lights have been put up in the Tilley Hall parking lot and more will be put up when more money is available.

Words was received from the campus ministry acknowledging the recent grant they received from council.

Bram Nelissen and Ursula Wawer were appointed to the Senate course evaluation committee.

Ron Ward was made chairman of the applications committee.

SRC asks for AUC seats

Student member on the Aitken University Centre Advisory Committee, Dave Miller said at last Monday's regular student council meeting, "There is still a lot there for the general student body."

On his suggestion, council passed a resolution asking for one third of the seats on the Aitken centre advisory board. The alumni has asked for similar representation.

Approximately one third of the members on the present advisory board are students, he said.

Outgoing student union president Warren McKenzie was reappointed to the advisory board which is to meet soon.

Three abstain on motion

Council decided at their last meeting to take free passes to the first Valdy show on December second but not to take in the second one.

Councillor Bram Nellisen said councillors should only take in the first show as a freebee out of deferance to students who pay to get in, as the second show is usually better than the first.

Eric Semple said if councillors are allowed to go only to the first Valdy show than they should not be allowed into winter carnival events.

Semple, Sally Davis, and David Porter voted against the motion, Chris Pratt, Steve Patriquein, and Kevin Garland abstained.

PRE CHRISTMAS REDTAG SALE

Sansui Amplifers

Sansui Receivers

Sansui Speakers

Epicure Speakers

Bowers & Wilkens Speakers

Dual Turntables

Taya Turntables

MAR - COMM

396 Queen Street

Council asks AB to advise

Whether or not the Engineering Undergraduate Society should get money from the students' union for conferences without contributing from their own funds was discussed at last Monday's student council meeting.

Councillor Damian Boae was against the policy, along with vice president Gordon Kennedy, because he did not like setting the precident of giving $200 per person to five persons to attend a conference.

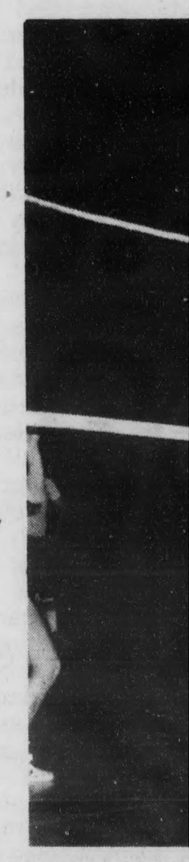
Council passed the motion allowing the money to be allotted, but then passed another motion asking the Administrative Board to give some policy advice in this area.

Faulk

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