



Racism pays

BERKELEY (ZNS-CUP)—US banks are loaning more money to South Africa than was ever previously known, and this money is reportedly playing a pivotal role in supporting the apartheid regime, according to a study released in August by an independent research group known as Corporate Data Exchange.

They say 100 American banks currently have outstanding loans to South African business and government agencies totalling more than \$2.5 billion. The study noted that, if the half-a-billion dollars supplied by the US Export-Import Bank to South Africa is also included, it means that more than \$3 billion in US bank loans have been made available to South Africa.

This figure represents near-

ly twice the amount of money cited in a report from Senator Dick Clark, following a major Senate investigation earlier this year into US loans to South Africa.

Both Senator Clark's report and the new Corporate Data study concluded that, by extending credit to South Africa, US banks continued to support the suppression of basic human rights in that country.

The authors of the most recent study claim the South Africans are using the American bank loans to finance major industrial projects and to buy military-related equipment. The military equipment being purchased, they said, included Cessna airplanes and advanced computer hardware which reportedly could be used for military purposes.

Alberta students boycott S.A. smokes

EDMONTON (CUP)—The University of Alberta Students' Union has stopped the sale of all Rothman's tobacco products from its retail outlets to protest that company's ties with South Africa.

The decision, made by the student council over the summer, is part of a campaign to oppose the South African regime's apartheid policy. According to external vice-president Steve Kushner, they are interested in investigating student union links to South Africa with the eventual aim of severing all links with that country.

The council is also looking into the possibility of banning Carling-O'Keefe products from all students' union liquor functions. According to the student who brought the matter before council, 50.1 per cent of Carling O'Keefe stock is owned by Rothmans of Canada, which in turn is owned by the Rothman Group of South Africa.

A few difficulties are expected as a result of the boycott, said student union officials. At present, Alberta liquor laws require licensed lounges to carry all brands of alcoholic beverages. The students' union will be lobbying the provincial government to change that regulation.

The boycott of Carling-O'Keefe products will also have to be ratified by the University's Board of Governors, who are co-holders of the liquor licenses.

The immediate removal of Rothman's cigarettes angered a few regular customers, according to the director of one of the outlets.

The council also voted to form a committee to conduct an educational campaign on South Africa's apartheid policies.

Students to pay the whole shot?

OTTAWA (CUP)—The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) has commissioned a study on the feasibility of students paying for almost all costs of university education.

The study, to be undertaken by Conservative MP and former finance critic Jim Gillies, is to examine the feasibility of funding universities wholly or partly through contingency repayment schemes for students.

According to a statement from CAUT, this would involve tuition fees rising to meet some or all of universities' costs, combined with a system of loans to cover the tuition fees. Students would later repay the loans according to their income after graduation.

Thus, the statement said, a graduate from medicine with a practice in a wealthy area would pay back more than a graduate who chose to work at low pay among the Indians or Inuit.

The scheme has been opposed by the National Union of Students (NUS) because it is based on loans. According to NUS executive secretary Pat Gibson, "We continue to see loans as a deterrent to those least financially capable of furthering their education."

The study was initiated, according to CAUT executive secretary Dr. Don Savage, because the CAUT was worried about the stability of govern-

ment funding for universities.

The issue of government funding for education was not resolved fully at the last round of federal-provincial negotiations on shared-cost programs, he said, and with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's "recent pronouncements about unilaterally cutting federal funding, it's clear the whole issue is up in the air."

Proponents of the scheme argue it would "drastically reduce" universities' dependence on provincial governments, Savage said.

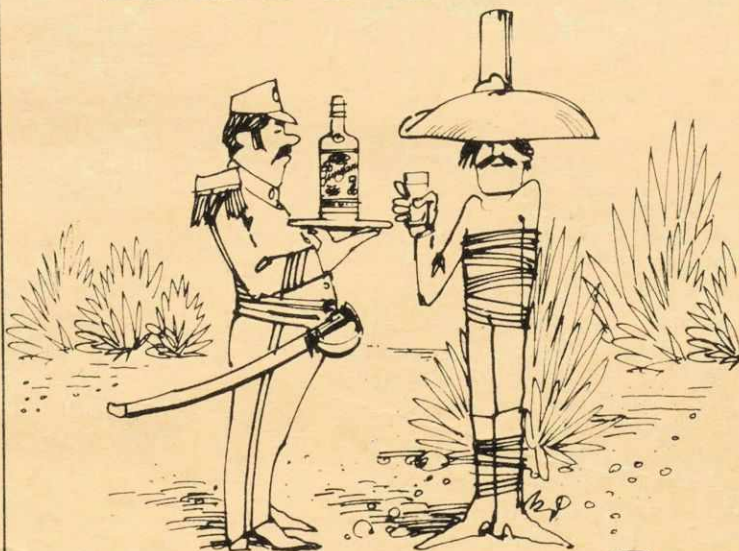
As well, he said, they argue that it will recognize the "economic byproduct" of university for students, by making those students who obtain higher salaries because they went to universities pay a larger amount.

When asked if this would not be unfair to those students who might be better paid for reasons unconnected with their degrees, he said that "inevitably some cases will not fit very well".

"You can make a case, though, that university graduates, if they're financially capable, should contribute something back to the system."

The commission has already started, Savage said, and is expected to have its preliminary report ready in October. Gillies has invited submissions on the question from all Canadian faculty associations, university presidents, and NUS.

One Last Shot

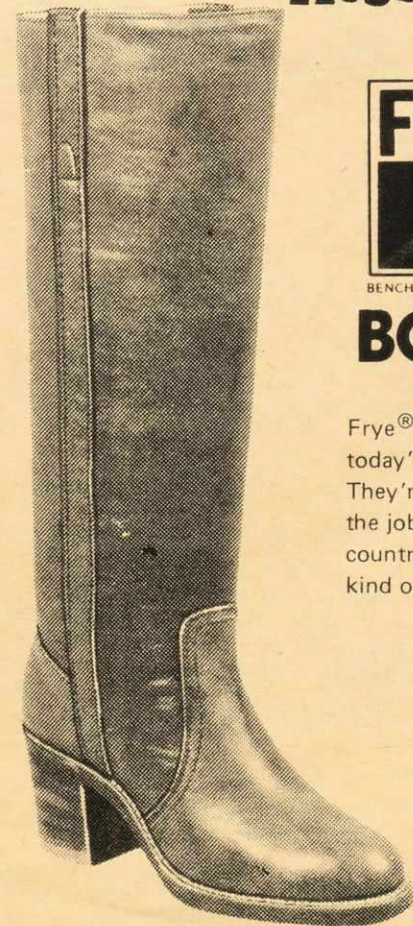


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