

# DRUG SYMPOSIUM HELD IN SACKVILLE

Temperance in all things. That was the consensus among the four panelists at a Symposium titled the High Way of Life held at Mount Allison University on October 26.

Doctor Robert Unwin, psychologist and director of adolescent services working out of Toronto, Dr. Mark Segal and Doctor Ron Siegal, pharmacologist and psychologist respectively, from Dalhousie University, and Eugene Westhaver, New Brunswick's deputy minister of justice, centered their discussion around marijuana and LSD.

Dr. Unwin spoke on the effects of all drugs on the mind, including alcohol, and referred to what he called our "drug culture" as the basic contributant to the extant drug "problem in high schools and universities."

The extensive use of all kinds of drugs including such things as aspirin, barbituates, amphetamines is indicative of North American societies dependence on various types of mental crutches, Dr. Unwin suggested. He related the use of drugs to personality defects.

Unwin further suggested that no evidence to this point indicates that marijuana is any

more harmful, mentally or physically, than alcohol. He regards the temperate use of drugs if used at all as the proper approach.

Dr. Mark Segal explained the pharmacological implications of drug usage. He supported Dr. Unwin's position on the temperate use of drugs. He closed his introductory remarks with an analysis of the LSD high. During the first hour after ingestion of an hallucinogenic drug, the user never fully loses contact with reality. It is during this time that "classical psychotic reactions" occur most frequently. If the user is not "freaked" by the end of the first hour, then it is likely that he will suffer no harmful effects.

Dr. Ron Siegal continued with an explanation of the "acid trip". The "trip" lasts from 2 to 12 hours and all contact with reality is lost. During this time the user is immobile. After twelve hours he may resume normal activity but there are still frequent periods of hallucination, up to four hours later.

An acid trip is "an all or nothing thing" says Siegal. Each drug has a different threshold which does not vary significantly from individual to

individual. "Either you take enough to precipitate experience or you don't". If a lesser amount is ingested then the user will experience only "the high" that Mark Segal spoke about but for a longer period of time.

Dr. Seigal also emphasized the danger the use of hallucinatory drugs. He noted that psychotic reactions resulting from the use of marijuana and hashish have also been documented.

Dr. Mark Segal and Dr. Ron Siegal are the first Canadians to receive governmental permission to experiment with marijuana. Both emphasize the necessity for a "supportive environment" for the user.

Westhaver talked about the legal implications of using what the criminal code defines as narcotics. Hallucinogenic drugs, marijuana and hashish are all considered narcotics under the Food and Drugs Act. Possession of narcotics is punishable by a fine and up to seven years in prison. Trafficking is punishable by life imprisonment. A recent amendment to the act gives the courts the alternative of issuing a suspended sentence to the offender in the case of a conviction on possession of marijuana.

Westhaver declared that regardless of whether or not marijuana is more hazardous than alcohol, its use is still illegal and he would be the last to advocate that anyone should break the law.

All four panelists emphasized the hazards of using drugs in any form and the consensus of opinion appeared to be that if one needs crutches he must choose them with appropriate Western temperance.

## Red n' Black develops

Plans for this year's Red and Black Review, to be held November 13, 14, 15 at the Playhouse are now underway.

In the past criticism of Red and Black has denounced it as an amateur talent show. This, according to Peter MacDonald, director, is "unfounded criticism. It is a student production, on a voluntary basis, where no one gets paid and no one wins - it is just fun." Another common criticism concerns the non-existence of a connecting theme. Says MacDonald, "this year we are trying to work toward a general theme." However, he refused to say what this theme is.

As MacDonald pointed out, "we can only work with what we get in the auditions." This year he expects a fine show, with both new and old faces; "all good talent."

In the past, Red and Black has always attracted a good audience. This year it should do equally well, with a program including folk music, piano, hard rock, modern dance, skits, the Kick-Line and a jug band.

"The show", says Peter, "has not been put together as yet", but he mentioned some people who have expressed interest in participating. These include Steve Crawford, pianist and folk singers John Wilson, Lynn Murray, Val Carson and Mary Campbell.

The staff for the Red and Black Review, consists of Peter MacDonald, director; Mike Ross, assistant director; Dave Hagerman in the pit, Dave Cochran on lights, John Turgoose, sound; and Gordie Church as stage manager.

## Announce dates for co-op finish

J.L.E. Price & Co. Ltd. recently announced the substantial completion dates for the new Montgomery St. Residence Co-op complex. The seven-storey married residence is scheduled to be completed by Dec. 7; the single residence should be finished on Dec. 23.

Construction on the residence system, which was due to be completed early this fall, was held up by strikes and accidents. The students who had paid for rooms in the complex had to be relocated, some as far away as Oromocto.

According to J.S. Watson, Maritime Area Manager for the construction company, the new completion dates have been "verified by all trades involved and we trust no further delays are encountered."

**"Do you really want to use what you've learned?"**

How many graduates move into jobs that fail to exploit the education they've received?

"I've had every chance to use both mathematics and my interest in business here," says Bill Cuthbert (B.Sc. in maths, at U.B.C.) who joined London Life's actuarial department when he graduated in 1966.

"After three years, I've served in two divisions and expect to move into another within a year." Bill also has completed four examinations leading to Fellowship in the Society of Actuaries. "The studies not only lead to professional status," he says, "but they also pave the way to advancement." Perhaps most important about his job, Bill says, is "a feeling you get of contributing toward something useful."

There's a challenge waiting for you, too, at London Life.

For further information consult your placement officer, or write to the Personnel Dept., Station 160A,

**LONDON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

London, Ontario

Interviews will be held on campus November 7.



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