

'Israel is where the action is'**U of T symposium discusses 'elastic' Zionism**

By IAN SALAMON

Last Tuesday, the Toronto Student Zionists sponsored a symposium on Zionism, held at the University of Toronto. The meeting proclaimed itself to be "a small symposium on a big subject," and Professor Harry Crowe of York, who moderated the meeting stressed that it was to be a symposium and not a debate.

Professor M. Marrus of U of T spoke on the history of Zionism, while Prof. E. Fackenheim (also of U of T), described the "parallel" between anti-semitism and anti-zionism.

Although the history of the zionist movement may have been well known to the audience, Marrus stressed that zionism is "ideologically elastic and creative" and that the possibility for future compromise "rests on the willingness of the non-Jewish Middle East" to accept the existence of the Jewish presence.

In a dramatic speech Fackenheim charged that the word "anti-zionism" is "a new form of anti-semitism".

He received a standing ovation. Fackenheim claimed that the Toronto Star had refused to publish "counter-ads" by American Jews which rejected an appeal by the Iraqi government for Jews to

return to Iraq.

The most revealing speakers of the evening were MP Herb Gray and provincial Attorney General, Roy McMurtry. McMurtry who has a "deep conviction related to" the survival of Israel expressed a "personal viewpoint" on the Christian Church and its "lack of concerted attack against anti-semitism." He strongly criticized the Christian Church for its "silent death-with for Jewish people" and its opposition to Israel, an attack seldom heard from influential Christians.

MP Herb Gray dealt mainly with the Arab economic boycott in

Canada and the government's response or, as he termed it "lack of response". He said that the Canadian government did nothing in response to calls for action against the boycott. Although Don Jamieson announced measures against the boycott on October 21 none of the measures have yet come into effect according to Gray.

Upon questioning the government on the issue Gray said he received a "vague and general reply" indicating that by December 20 guidelines had not yet been drawn up. The government did make it clear that it will take

no action against companies which don't need government support and which comply with the boycott. Gray is presently a member of a private committee studying the effects of the boycott in Canada and stated that there is a large number of companies in Canada complying with the boycott, and that Canadian charter banks are among those doing so.

Gray expressed the feeling that the boycott has implications with the Canadian civil rights, and that at question is the government's "good faith and credibility". Responding to a question from the

audience as to whether "chickiness or self-interest" is representative of the federal government, he answered that the government mirrors the consensus of the community, even if it is chickiness.

One particular question addresses to Professor Fackenheim concerned itself with how individual Jews living in Canada could help turn the page of Jewish history. Fackenheim expressed the view that since Israel is "where the action is", aliya is vital. Yet since living here is "second best," Jews in Canada must persist with Jewish culture and concern themselves with Israel.

Students at Laval go back to classes ending the longest university strike ever

QUEBEC CITY (CUP) — A four-month strike by Laval University professors, which cancelled classes for 25,000 students, has ended with faculty making considerable gains in their demands.

After 18 months of bargaining and the longest strike at any Canadian university, the faculty union voted 85 per cent December 23 to approve a contract that

provides a 34 per cent wage hike as well as a grievance procedure, job security, a sabbatical leave system, a salary structure and increased decision-making power in the university.

Students began the first of two thirteen week terms January 11. Classes will extend to early July, instead of the usual mid-April, to make up lost time.

The long and bitter struggle revolved around academic freedom and faculty involvement in university decision-making. Throughout the 16-week shutdown administration charged the union with illegal picketing and strong-arm tactics.

Under the new contract, grievances about tenure, promotions and non-renewal of professor contracts will be arbitrated by an internal committee composed of union and university representatives, union president Joel de la Noue said in a recent interview.

The former committee, chaired by the university vice-rector, gave unfair consideration to grievances from several professors whose contracts were not renewed the union said.

The new agreement provides full job security by disallowing the firing of tenured faculty, although they must agree to changes in job description, said de la Noue. Positions cannot be removed without departmental approval he added.

Along with the wage increase, a salary structure was agreed upon which will equalize current

disparities between professors of similar rank and experience, the union president noted.

During the dispute faculty argued that the university's lack of minimum and maximum salaries, or rules governing them, led to considerable variations between equally qualified professors.

The contract also establishes departmental committees to discuss working conditions, and hiring and assigning of departmental tasks in response to union complaints that professors were virtually powerless in the university structure.

Despite the favorable settlement the union has an \$800,000 debt for strike pay and, as a result, union dues will increase by about \$600 over the next 18 months for each member. Donations from faculty unions across the country are expected to slice almost \$70,000 off the debt.

According to university rector Larkin Kerwin the cancellation of agriculture and forestry research for the strike's duration was the greatest loss. He added the university faces a deficit this year because of extra expenses incurred during the strike.

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**Tommy Douglas interview**

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EXCALIBUR — You mentioned the gains of Social Democrats in your talk. I was wondering about the example of Sweden where the Social Democrats have had power for the last 44 years had built a very strong economy and an egalitarian society but where capitalism is still fundamentally their economic system. Do you think there will be a faster move away from this system under a federal NDP administration in Canada?

DOUGLAS — No, I would not agree, of course, that the Swedish system is fundamentally capitalist.

What do we mean by the difference between a socialist government and a capitalist government? The difference isn't in the mechanisms they use but how they are used. You see, what are the mechanisms a government has? They don't come down from heaven. They are simple things. Every time you put on a tax, every time you give a tax concession, every time you provide for some new transfer payment either to individuals or to a certain class in society, every time you give a group a preferred subvention all this changes the system.

Now, in Sweden its true that 60 per cent of the economy is run by private firms, 30 per cent by co-operatives, and only 10 per cent by the government. But, none of these companies whether public, private or co-operative make the basic decisions. Every company in

Sweden is required to put a percentage of its profits into the Bank of Sweden on which they draw interest and pay no income tax. But when they want to take it out it must be invested for a purpose and in an area approved by the government of Sweden. That means you can direct investment into high unemployment areas. You can direct it into areas where there isn't arable land so that farm land isn't used up for factories. It means you can hold back investment in times of prosperity when there is too much demand for manpower, material and capital and save it up against a recession.

Now all that means the main trust, the decision-making process, is no longer in the hands of private companies. It is in the hands of the people. And that makes all the difference in the world.

They do the same thing with their manpower. There is no unemployment insurance or welfare in Sweden. They have a very elaborate pension system that guarantees a pension to anybody who is not able to work either because of old age or of sickness or physical disability. But if you can work, they either put you to work on a public works project, or they move you to where there is work, or they retrain you for a new skill. And that again is government intervention. But it is using the tools we have in the present society for a totally different purpose.