

Rally orderly and rational; proposed liberation bombs

Full house listened, went home

By DAN JAMIESON

The proposed liberation of the Arts building fell flat Wednesday, when the Student Defense Committee failed to get their action out of SUB theatre.

The failure of the speakers to call for the estimated 800 students to march on the office of Dean Smith to present student demands to the administration, after the SDC had decided to do so is still unexplained.

"I guess Ron MacDonald, (one of the speakers), liberalled out," said Jon Bordo, one of the planners of the confrontation.

The march and the ensuing presentation of demands had been planned to protest the recommendation of professor Gordon Hirabayashi to the Dean's Tenure Committee that two professors be denied tenure, the universities holding secret files on all of its students, faculty and administrators, and the lack of student involvement in tenure decisions.

The liberation was to have opened up the classrooms in the Arts building for the purpose of discussing issues of importance to the students, and the carrying on of unstructured seminars on a variety of subjects of interest to the students.

Members of the SDC were disappointed in the failure of the liberation and march to materialize, but they were no more put out than the administrators, who had gone to the trouble of removing their files from the offices in the Arts building.

The liberation was to have been

the climax to a week filled with SDC activity.

It began Monday morning, when a group of 40 students confronted the University president Walter Johns to discuss secrecy of files, the Whiteside-Fisher case, and "other matters of interest to the students."

Tuesday morning the SDC stumbled on the the meeting place of the Faculty Tenure Committee. In spite of orders to stay out of the meeting, they entered with the intention of observing the proceedings of the committee. When they refused to leave, the committee meeting was adjourned.

Later in the same afternoon Ron MacDonald and Jon Bordo, leading members of the SDC, were allowed to address the General Faculty Council. The highlights of that meeting are reported in another story in today's paper.

Students trying to shift classes from the Arts building to other buildings on campus so the liberation would not disrupt classes were rebuffed by the administration Tuesday.

L. P. Morgan, the university's associate registrar, told students they would not be allowed to use the lists for the purpose of relocating classes because classes could only be relocated with the approval of the GFC.

Though the lists are generally made available to students, Ron MacDonald and Jon Bordo were denied access to the lists because of "the purpose for which the lists were to be used."

In spite of this action, SDC members had managed to get the agreement of professors to clear the

classrooms for Wednesday afternoon, so the liberation could carry on for at least one afternoon.

"The administration forces us to disrupt classes," said Jon Bordo at a meeting Thursday. Now it looks like no one is going to disrupt anything, at least not for the time being.

Though Ron MacDonald did not call for a march or lead the liberation as planned, he did say SDC members would be going to the arts building at 5 p.m., after classes had ended, and he invited other students to join them for the "discussion of the issues."

Jon Bordo, who originally presented the idea of a liberation to the SDC, however, said that students shouldn't bother going to the Arts building.

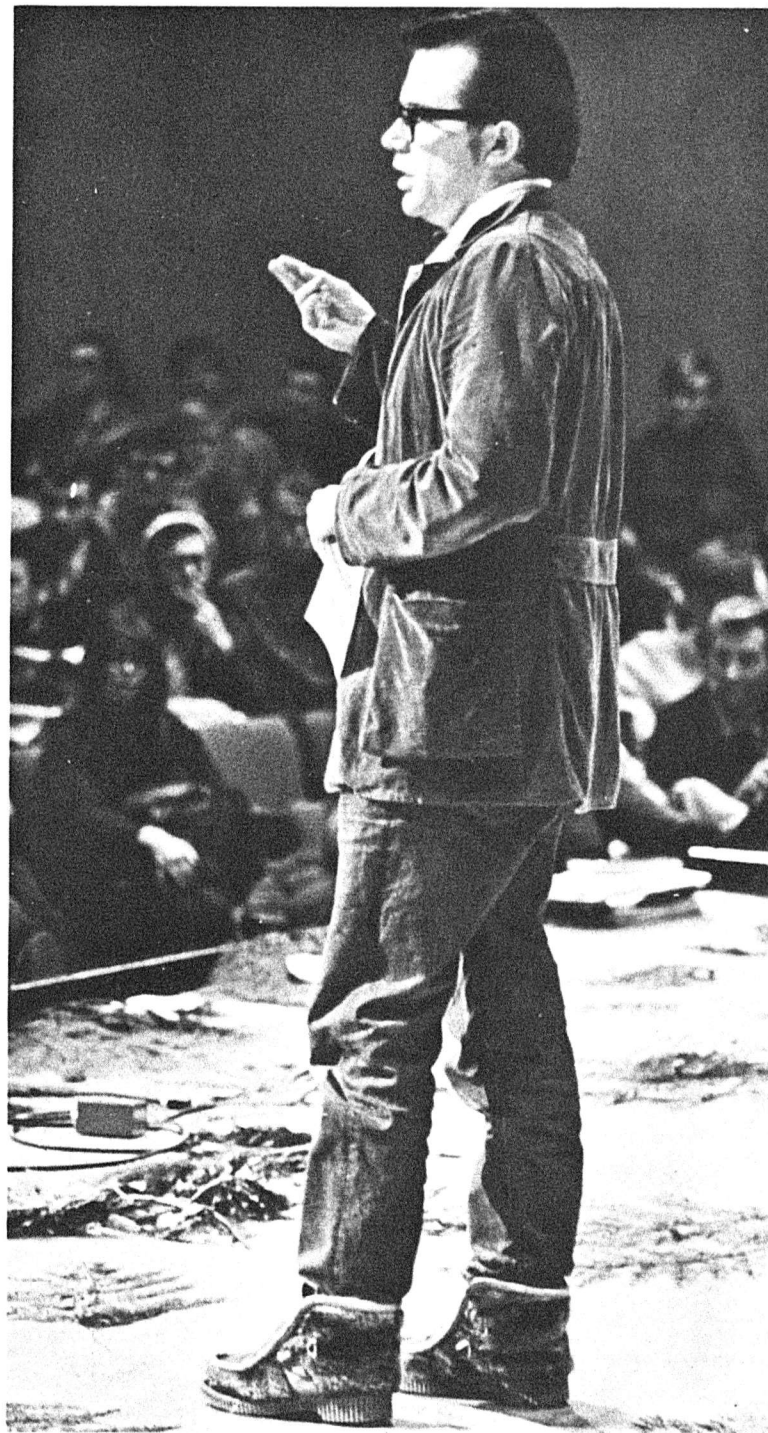
"Go out and talk to these people, (administrators), and try to get some answers," was Bordo's advice.

The only speech which went unheckled, and which received the largest ovation at the rally, was that of Marilyn Pilkington. Speaking from the floor, she outlined the procedural rules governing the tenure committee, and she pointed out that procedure had hardly begun yet.

Professor Seth Fisher, one of the professors against whom the recommendation was made, replied from the floor, saying the procedure was, in this case being misused.

Ron MacDonald further stated that "while we play the procedural waiting game, professors Fisher and Whiteside are eliminated from this campus."

Roger Wade, an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, kicked the meeting off with a review of the events in the sociology department which led to the recommendations of Prof. Gordon Hirabayashi, head of the department, that Fisher and Whiteside be denied tenure.



RON MacDonald

... explained issues as he saw them

In ed building Wednesday

No Bomb, No Comment

The education building was evacuated Wednesday morning after an anonymous call was received by the city police that a bomb had been placed in the building.

Firemen and campus security officers checked the 10-storey structure floor by floor until the all-clear was sounded about noon.

At 10:50 a.m., the campus patrol had cleared all but two floors. As classrooms were checked, students returned to their classes. C. A. Breakey, head of campus security, said in a statement released through the public relations office about that time that "the fire people have been dismissed and sent

back to the fire station."

Faculty and non-academic staff had been requested to report "any strange objects or articles they may observe which could be the alleged bomb."

Mr. Breakey refused comment on the situation to The Gateway. He said when contacted by phone that he was unhappy with articles published in the paper in connection with the police. For this reason, he said, all information must come from the public relations office. That office reported it had experienced its own difficulties in obtaining information from Mr. Breakey on the threat and evacuation.



JON BORDO OF THE SDC

... a thousand students and nothing happened

Public hearing here

The Edmonton public hearings of the Commission On The Relations Between Universities and Governments opened Wednesday afternoon on campus.

As part of the commission's efforts to rethink or redefine the role of Canadian universities, it was expected to receive briefs from The Alberta Teachers' Association, The Alberta Universities Commission, U of A President Walter Johns, U of A students' union presi-

dent Marilyn Pilkington, the students' union, The Alberta Federation of Labour and Prof. Willard Allen from the chemistry department here.

The commission is attempting to find the proper balance between autonomy and state control as well as methods to obtain that balance.

A complete report of the proceedings, sponsored by AUCC, CAUT, CUS and UGEC, will be published in Tuesday's Gateway.

—Steve Makris photos