

# Press lies

by Maureen Bourke

Journalists in Lebanon enthusiastically manufacture the news, reporting it as 'truth' to Toronto and New York news bureaus, said a visiting professor from Lebanon on Sunday.

Professor Hagggar of the Lebanon National University, Bekka Valley Campus, spoke at a forum on the massacres at the Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps.

Hagggar said that the Western media portrays the Lebanese conflict as a war between the Christians and the Druze.

He contended that it is in fact a war between fascism and National Liberation (socialism). The media portrays the struggle as a religious one to mobilize the world Christian and Jewish communities against the Palestinian people.

"Israel's motives for the invasion were not the protection of the Christian minority," said Professor Hagggar, but rather "the defamation of everything Moslem and the extension of their northern border to West Beirut."

Hagggar also maintains there is an "organic link between the Zionist State (Israel), the Christian Phalange, US interests, and Saudi Arabia." Saudi Arabia gives the US funds, and they, in turn funnel them to Israel where they are used

to train the Phalange.

Hagggar claims the Saudis support Israel, while claiming to be the voice of the Arab world, to maintain the status quo, and in this way retain their thrones.

"The Phalange is organized along fascist lines," said Hagggar. Although the party is not all Christian, the members belong to the affluent upper classes, and the party owns about half of Lebanon.

After the Israeli occupation the Phalange tried to create a Phalange state. They set up offices in Christian, but traditionally non-Phalange areas. The attempt failed.

As far as the massacres are concerned, Hagggar says they were carried out to rid a middle class of slums: "They wanted the lands for bourgeois, nice people."

Professor Hagggar concluded his 85 minute talk by saying "if present trends continue today's Lebanese are tomorrow's Palestinians" and "those who liberate Lebanon will rule the Arab World."

Dr. Hagggar maintains that Jews and Moslems should jointly form an organization for National Liberation. They must move away from the problems of the past 35 year that bog down Jewish-Moslem relations.



Professor Hagggar at Thursday's forum.

photo Martin Beales

## Social Credit chauvinism

**VANCOUVER (CUP)** — The Social Credit government is trying to force women to remain in the home and to be dependent on men, a child-care worker said Sept. 7.

The government's sweeping attack on social services in B.C. has placed the economic burden of domesticity and childraising back

on women, Ruth Annis told 200 people at a public forum on women against the budget.

"Women and children are being driven further and further into poverty. Women are going under," she said.

The B.C. government has cut funding for government sponsored treatment centres for sexually abused children, and axed emergency homemakers, family support workers and post partum counselling in a bid to return to the days when the church and the nuclear family took care of everything, Annis said.

"It's not an accident that women are the main attack of the budget and its accompanying legislation," she said, referring to the fact that several feminist services such as the women's health collective and Transition House have had their funding severely slashed.

"Feminist services are more than just social services. They politicise women," she added.

To win back their hard earned rights, women must organize other women and press for use of the "ultimate weapon" against the Social Credit party — "a general strike."

The highly enthusiastic audience cheered and applauded. But during the discussion period following Annis's speech, a woman representing the nurses union warned against using the term "general strike" loosely.

"We can't have a general strike until we have every woman behind us. When we do, we will succeed," she said as the crowd broke out in cheers again.

She suggested that everyone in the room talk to their neighbors who had Sacred signs on their lawns during the recent election and try to win their support against the budget.

Other speakers criticized the government for its attack on education, health and consumer services.

## Alberta aids handicapped

The Ministers of Education, Advanced Education, Manpower and Social Services and Community Health reached an agreement concerning the education and training of mentally handicapped Albertans.

Representative from the department of Social Services and Community Health, Alan Douglas, commented on the agreement. "We are trying to co-ordinate the various departments to make it easier for the guardians of mentally handicapped adults to find the agency appropriate for specific individuals."

The situation, as it presently stands, is explained in an Alberta Education News Release:

Alberta Advanced Education is responsible for providing college and Alberta Vocational Centre programs to mildly mentally handicapped students who would benefit from a one or two year vocational program prior to employment or more advanced training.

Adults who require a longer period of instruction and practice before they are able to proceed to

training are eligible for vocational training and activity programs offered by community agencies. These are the responsibility of Alberta Social Services and Community Health.

Social Services and Community Health will also arrange programs for adults who are residents in a departmental facility and who would not benefit from community-based programs.

Alberta Manpower will provide student allowances and tuition support for eligible students attending post-secondary institutions. Alberta Manpower Career Centres, located in 13 centres across the province, also provide career counselling services.

Alberta Education funds school boards for educational programs for mentally handicapped students up to the age of 18, except for those requiring 24 hour institutional care, 24 hour nursing or medical care, or both. For those over 18, school boards provide programs at their discretion, with funding from Alberta Education according to establish-

ed guidelines.

In making the announcement, Education Minister Dave King said: "In the past few years, there has been an increasing demand for education and training of mentally handicapped adult Albertans."

Although this agreement is a first step, there are still no real plans at this point to establish an office to act as a referral service for handicapped Albertans.

## Canadian KGB defended

by Simon Blake

The Alberta Human Rights and Civil Liberties Association held a forum on the October Crisis last Thursday evening.

The forum started with a film about the crisis. Following the film there were two guest speakers, Professor Leslie Green of the U of A Political Science Department and Mr. Don Bishop of the Canadian Bar Association. The two speakers spent more time talking about Bill C-157 — the bill to create a government intelligence agency — than the October crisis. Professor Green spoke first. His only comment on the film was that he believed the government has been correct to invoke the War Measures Act. Green then defended Bill C-157.

He said, "The Canadian government does not currently have the necessary mechanisms to control terrorist groups or espionage operations by foreign countries in Canada."

Professor Green added, "The RCMP cannot deal with these problems because they have neither the training nor the legislative backing."

He also pointed out that many policemen cannot differentiate between legitimate and non-legitimate political activity. He condemned Robert Kaplan, the Minister of Justice, for failing to get the bill through parliament.

Bishop, the second speaker, began his talk by emphasizing that he was not speaking on behalf of the Canadian Bar Association and

agreed with most of Professor Green's points.

He did not, however, agree with the professor's views about Mr. Kaplan. He said that Bill C-157 failed in parliament because it had been generalized too much from the very specific recommendations of the McDonald Commission Report that preceded it.

Both speakers heavily criticized the 'naivety' of the opponents to the bill.

The talks were followed by a rather awkward question and answer session. The audience had come prepared with questions on the October Crisis while the speakers expected questions on Bill C-157.

## Centre expands

by Mark Roppel

The Women's Centre has moved into a new and larger office at 270 SUB.

"The reason we've expanded into larger space is we want to expand our resource files - we are also looking for outside funding," said spokesperson Sheryl Jackson. The Women's Centre is hoping to obtain funding from the Secretary of State.

The Centre has about 60 members. "We haven't even had our first meeting yet," says Jackson. "We've got four times as many members as at this time last year."

Jackson hopes to establish a Women's Resource Centre with

reference materials about women's issues. "Everything from women in the workplace to sexual assaults... a lot of women on campus don't even have basic information about birth control," says Jackson.

In addition to being a drop-in centre, and resource centre, the Centre sponsors film and lecture series, has a monthly newsletter - *Changing Perspectives* - and a weekly radio show on CJSR with the same name.

"Some people don't understand the concept of a Women's Centre... it's basically a service," says Jackson, "we have many fewer male members, but it's open to both sexes."



**Gateway Rookie Night**  
**September 22, 1983**  
**Thursday, 7:00 PM**  
**Room 282 SUB**