

Canadians in solidarity with Polish people

by Vicki Grant

Although moved by the present situation in Poland, many Canadians feel helpless to do anything about it. Their government has taken an ambiguous stand on the imposition of martial law. Their letters of support to Polish friends or to members of Solidarnosc, seldom reach their destination. When they do, they have been censored. Much of their aid meant for Polish workers is rumored to be intercepted by authorities to feed and clothe the national army.

Marek Mieszkowski, a member of a local Solidarity Support Committee agrees that these obstacles are real but feels that they can be overcome. His newly-formed group, like others across Canada, continues to mail letters, organise marches and raise money for the Polish people. Its recent activities in Halifax include the International Day of Solidarity demonstration at the Cenetaph and Tuesday's sale of Solidarnosc T-shirts and buttons in the

SUB. The Committee only made about \$150.00 at the latter event but was pleased with student interest.

Mieszkowski suggested several ways that concerned Canadians could effectively show their support for the Poles. Food, clothing and financial aid could be channeled into Poland through large organizations such as the International Red Cross, the Canadian Polish Congress, or the Roman Catholic Church. These donations are less likely to be tampered with than "care packages" protected by smaller groups. Although communication links between the Polish people and the outside world have been all but severed, Mr. Mieszkowski believes that gestures of moral support by the West are still appreciated within the beleaguered country.

Both exiled Solidarity members and the Polish ambassadorial staff take note of signs of sympathy for the union - such as demonstration, letters and the

wearing of Solidarnosc buttons and T-shirts. The Solidarity members convey this support through radio broadcasts beamed into their homeland by the BBC. (The USSR has only been partially successful in its attempt to illegally jam the airways.) The Polish embassy if sufficiently shaken by the same signs of support, could eventually be moved to ask its government to temper its policies.

Although letters of support to the Solidarity Headquarters in Gdansk, such as those distributed in the SUB earlier this week, will probably only make it as far as the censors, they are still worthwhile. The censors too are Poles and agents of the government. It is therefore not unimportant that they recognize Western disapproval of the state of siege.

Letters can also be sent to members of the Canadian Parliament demanding that a tougher stance be taken against the Jaruzelski regime.

The Solidarity Support Com-

mittee advocates that trade sanctions be imposed against Poland and the USSR. Mr. Mieszkowski suggests in particular sanctions on equipment needed for high technology and cultural sanctions; such as restrictions on Polish ambassadorial staff in Canada. He favours these measures over the cutting off of food supplies as they would not affect the Polish people but could seriously hamper the workings of the government and army. The Poles have gone without food before, he said, most recently because of artificial shortages instrumented by the government and blamed on the striking Solidarnosc. A food shortage that was the result of Western sympathy for their plight could be endured.

You can help the Polish people by sending food, clothing and badly needed drugs to Poland through the Canadian Polish Congress - 288 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6R 2L7, tel. (416) 532-2876. Also, money to buy food for Polish people may



be forwarded to the Canadian Red Cross Society - 95 Wellesley Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 1H6. (place note on the cheque 'Food for Poland')

In order to provide badly needed **Support for the Solidarity Fighters** contribute to the: Solidarnosc, account No. 25817, Credit Union Ltd., 220 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M6R 2L7, tel. (416) 527-2181.

Arts Societies brief Dean Betts

by Kathy King

On February 9, 1982 Dean Donald D. Betts, three of his Assistant-Deans and the Secretary of the Faculty of Arts and Science met with twenty students representing the following Arts Societies: Arts, Economics, Education, French, German, History, Music, Political Science, Sociology, and Spanish.

The representatives gave brief reports of the aims, problems, and achievements of their societies. Some problems common to many societies were: lack of attendance at meetings and academic functions sponsored by societies, lack of places to hold meetings, lack of financial support and lack of faculty encouragement and/or involvement.

Not all societies, however, aired complaints. Many reported successful social and academic activities.

The possibility of forming other Arts Societies, such as Classics, English and Philosophy, was also discussed.

One of the items on the agenda for the meeting concerned improvements in the quality of life on campus. Positive suggestions included the provision of benches on campus, study carrels in the halls, and student lounges in the A & A, Life Sciences and Killam Library Buildings. Other ideas mentioned were the lengthening of Coffee Shop hours in the Life Sciences Building, the provision of a Coffee Shop open during Library hours in the Killam Complex, the establishment of a "buddy-buddy" system to help first and second year students register and the need for "problem solvers" to help students to adapt to the academic environment at Dalhousie. It was also suggested that Alumni representatives be present at registration, and other student affairs, to give

support and advice.

Complaints were aired about various doors being locked at different times in the Life Sciences Building, the complications of transferring credits to Dalhousie from other universities, and the red-tape involved in Registration, the lack of renewable scholarships and the general problem of students identifying with Dalhousie as an institution. This may be the cause of the low level of participation of alumni in arts and science activities.

This was the first meeting of its kind, and the general consensus was that it was a success. Many thanks to Dean D.D. Betts for opening the lines of communication between Arts students and the Administration.

This is just the beginning. If you wish to become involved in further developments, join a society or form your own and keep your representatives well informed of your opinions.

Anti-CFS group

PRINCE GEORGE (CUP) In a five-day brainstorming session ending January 24, student delegates from campuses in British Columbia formed a new provincial wing of the national student organization in the portable classrooms of the College of New Caledonia.

And while they met to analyze the successes and failures of the organization they are replacing, the British Columbia Students' Federation, posters condemning the new Canadian Federation of Students as "the great student hoodwink" were tacked outside on bulletin boards.

The Concerned Students Association, a college group opposed to their campus' membership in CFS and its Pacific wing, was responsible for the posters. It wants to "get information out to the students" about the new student organization, narrowly accepted at New Caledonia last fall. CSA co-ordinator Sonja Filipovic claims more than

75 students are members of the anti-CFS organization at New Caledonia. Other students estimated membership at nine or ten.

"I'm not saying CFS is entirely wrong," said Filipovic. "But aligning with the Canadian Labour Congress I disagree with. Supporting the leftists in El Salvador I disagree with. There was a thing in the student association office saying they gave so much money to a pro-abortion group."

"Bunk," said CFS fieldworker Mike Miller. "I've never heard of anything like that. We don't have enough money to throw around."

Miller said CFS formed alliances with the labour congress last year to battle a common threat: escalating interest rates, which affect student loan payments, and rising food and housing costs.

"If I had a chance to sit down with every student at CNC I would tell them CFS is just the independent student societies right across the country," he said.

IMASCO assists disabled

Application forms for The Imasco Scholarship Fund for Disabled Students are now available for completion and submission to The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada by not later than June 1st.

The Fund, established recently with Imasco's \$100,000 endowment to the AUCC, was set up to provide financial assistance in the form of \$1500 scholarships to disabled students who wish to attend university but are unable to do so due to additional expenses incurred because of their physical disabilities.

Candidates for the scholarships will be selected by a committee composed of thirteen university

representatives, functioning on behalf of The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada who administer the Imasco Scholarship Fund along with 71 other scholarship programs.

Qualifying candidates are those students disabled according to the 1975 United Nations Declaration which states that "a disabled person is any person unable to ensure himself or herself wholly or partly the necessities of a normal individual and/or social life, as a result of a deficiency, either congenital or not, in his or her physical or mental capabilities."

Candidates must be Canadian citizens who have successfully completed the schooling

requirements or equivalent for admission to an undergraduate program of study, or be presently registered as a full-time undergraduate student as defined by the university and have successfully completed the last academic year.

Imasco Scholarships are tenable at any Canadian university which is a member of, or affiliated with a member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

Additional information and application forms may be obtained by writing to The Awards Officer, Canadian Awards Section, AUCC, 151 Slater Street, Ottawa K1P 5N1.

Melanies

Feb. 15-21

Spoons

Mon. - Wed.

Special Student Night

Citadel Inn

1960 Brunswick St.