

Social mobility perpetuates capitalism

TORONTO (CUP)—One of the two student members of the Ontario government's Commission on Post Secondary Education has expressed dissatisfaction with the draft report of the commission's findings released last week.

David Black, a graduate student from the University of Waterloo, will submit a minority report to the commission this week outlining his criticisms of the main report. He said in an interview in Toronto that it completely ignores the crucial question of the quality of post-secondary education in the province.

He also criticized the commission report for not questioning the goals and directions of education.

Among the major recommendations of the 13-member commission under the chairmanship of former Engineering Dean Douglas Wright: Proposal to raise fees to 50 per cent of the cost of education

The establishment of a new government bureaucracy which would control the setting up of all faculties and departments within universities.

Payment to organization and institutes which provide "practical" training to students, on the same basis as grants are

made to universities.

Abolition of the Ontario student awards system to be replaced with a modified loan-grant scheme. Full tuition grants would be available to those in financial need, but only for the first three years of their education. Loans, now available interest-free, would be open to all, no matter what the financial status, but on a principal plus interest basis.

Para-medical courses would be encouraged and admission to quota courses such as medicine would be done by lottery.

The creation of a University of Ontario which would provide educational services by means of the mass media to the people of the province.

An evening up of the numbers of male and female faculty member in post-secondary institutions.

Black, who signed the draft report with reservations, said that the commission. Members were individuals who had personally experienced upward social mobility and were committed to the principle of equal opportunity.

Greater accessibility to the type of university the commission envisions is just a means of providing everyone with an equal opportunity on the job market, he said.

"They see education as a vehicle for social mobility. It is the grease which oils the system. Otherwise capitalism would come to a halt."

The final report of the commission which was originally set up in 1969 by then education minister William Davis is expected in June.

Edmonton CCYDA Creative Drama Workshop for students on Saturday, January 29th, 9:00am - 4:40pm at W.P. Wagner School. \$1.00 registration fee. U of A students welcome.

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and pay.

Is persuasion of the Royal Commission type with board and panel appointments, enough to break the cycle? Dean Chambers thinks not. He suggested that each government agency should be challenged to explain the existing disproportion of women in responsible positions. Better development and enforcement of laws against job discrimination is necessary. Until the cycle is completely broken, specific quotas for women employed in every field should be set and enforced, perhaps for a five-year period, and monitored thereafter.

Mrs. Pederson represented the rural Albertan woman, who willingly functions as hired hand on the farm. If the husband pays her a wage for this work, it's not

deductible from the farm income tax - but if he hires his neighbour's wife, it is deductible. The husband is sole owner of the farm, unless out of great magnanimity he bequeathes some of it to his

wife, in which case she must pay a gift tax. If he dies without making a will, she must go to court to try to gain possession of the land.

Sharon Stevenson criticised the underlying value framework of the Royal Commission Report, saying it did not examine the institutions it is so eager to get women into. Women don't want to be RCMP. What's male is not necessarily good. Here she included the whole profit-making area. Perhaps we could try to humanize our institutions at the same time as we try to integrate women into them - for example, by creating more employment with a four-day or six-hour per day week. She deplored the sentence of the Commission Report which reads: "The role of the female will necessarily change as society evolves." Women are no longer this passive. They don't need to wait for someone at the top to implement the recommendations of the Commission. A grassroots organization is the only way it will get done.

North Garneau tenants halt land grab

The University has apparently decided against the conversion of backyards in North Garneau into parking lots.

Nearly one quarter of the 350 residents of the area turned up Tuesday night to hear a spokesman for the residents informing the meeting of a Campus Development Committee (a committee of the General Faculty Council) proposal to the Building Committee (a Board of Governors sub-committee). The proposal recommended that the university grade the back lanes and gravel them, repair or replace broken fences, repair garages where possible and quarantine not to cut down the trees. The recommendation also suggests that no action of any kind be taken until the plans are discussed with the residents.

The proposal followed the university's announcement several weeks ago that it planned to expropriate fifteen feet off the Garneau back alleys to use

for additional space. The Garneau residents immediately mobilized in the form of a tenant's association to apply pressure on Vice-president for Planning and Development, Dr. W.D. Neal and Associate Vice president for Finance and Administration, Dr. L. C. Leitch. Although official confirmation has not yet been received it is felt that the new proposals represent a "responsible attitude on the part of the university administration".

Tuesday's meeting of the residents also saw the official formation of the North Garneau Tenant's Association under the Alberta Societies Act. The association was formed to give some form of "quasi legal status to the residents' voices" and to present a united front to the university administration. The association would like to see the university get approval from the association before going ahead with any future projects for the area.

Women's Week contributes to woman's oppression

Editorial

It's Women's Week at the U of A and yesterday the theatre lobby was full of the displays of middle-aged, well-heeled, well-intentioned women with their displays of quilts and chocolates. One sign implored the visitor to become a "total woman" by joining the Junior League. Another display offered a course on how to become totally feminine. It looked like the annual Hadassah Bazaar.

But the organizers missed the whole point. Displays like those in the Theatre lobby yesterday aren't accomplishing a damn thing towards helping men understand women or even to help women understand themselves at all; they are simply reinforcing the belief of a lot of men and some women that a woman's place is in the home with her husband, 2.3 children and her home-made bread,-- not out in the business community competing with men.

The whole week seems to be a whitewash or perhaps it never had any pretensions to being more than a session for women to reassure themselves that it's not really so bad after all. Men can continue with their male-chauvinist attitudes, patting themselves on the back for attending the forums and reassured that they have nothing to fear from the women since all they seem to want is equal pay for equal work.

The myth of "equal pay for equal work" is itself unfortunately just that -- a myth. It will probably never be accomplished simply because men are in the position of being able to classify women's jobs under different job classifications and use this as an excuse to pay women less.

This week is a great liberal trip with lots of liberal bullshit, but it is saying absolutely nothing. For one thing, it's totally unrepresentative. Where are the young women, the poor (for example women members of Humans on Welfare and the Women Liberationists)? They are absent because their presence would force women to ask questions that might disturb their collective middle-class consciousness. They might ask why society can exist that allows the oppression of one sex over another or a system that allows one fifth of all Canadians to exist in poverty.

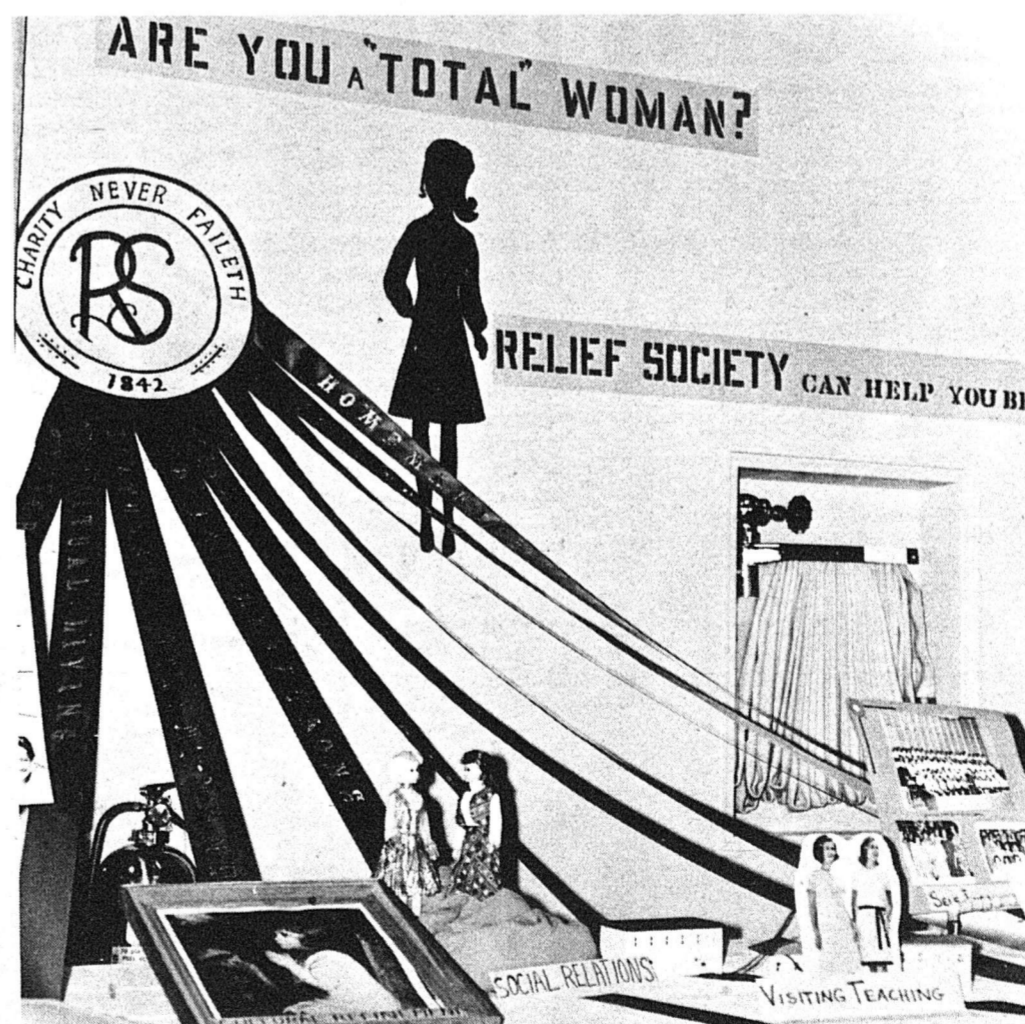
Women's Week is simply not coming to grips with the fundamental issues of women's oppression by man. We have to question the society that forces woman into economic dependence on the male

-- and into the role of wife and mother whether or not she wants it. We have to question the society in which women willingly sell their bodies, and their souls, for a husband who will provide them with the economic security they feel they need.

This week is failing to do this. A woman from the audience Wednesday night who very deeply felt her oppression and wished to speak upon it was quickly silenced by the chairman of the panel, apparently acting upon a rather perturbed glance from Dean Munroe. The woman was told that her belief that society is hate-directed towards women would better be raised in a seminar group.

One of the few times all week that

anyone attempted to come to grips with the gut issue of women's oppression and they were fed the platitudes that one would be better to concentrate on the hopeful aspects of a belief in the family!!! But how easy is it to be hopeful when a woman is going through an unwanted pregnancy because the abortion laws framed by men would not allow her to obtain an abortion? Once again sugar coated pills of nothing so as not to offend the sweet and gentle matrons in the audience. The organizers should realize that until they come to grips with the fundamental issues of women's liberation and at the same time the liberation of men (which has been largely ignored) then the whole week will simply be an exercise in futility.



The Total Woman is culturally refined.

Photo Vic Post