

WUSC Cornucopia

On Wednesday evening, March 10th at 6:30 pm. W.U.S.C. will be having a Rich World-Poor World dinner. It will take place in room 26 of the S.U.B. and the proceeds will go towards the sponsorship of a refugee student from Ethiopia.

What is a Rich World-Poor World dinner and why do we have it? We have it to raise money but also to raise awareness of the world food situation and the reasons for it. In past years people coming to the dinner have had a quarter chance of having a 'rich' meal - steak, wine, dessert etc. and a three-quarter chance of getting a 'poor' meal - a bowl of rice. This is a reflection of the real world, in which a quarter of the world's population having four-fifths of it's income will rarely be hungry, while the other three-quarter who live on a fifth of it's income suffer hunger and malnutrition as a daily reality.

In January 1979, the executive director of the U.N. World Food Council stated that "a truly major effort to eradicate hunger with it's degradation and despair is a political imperative for building world cooperation and solidarity among all peoples." This has been recently echoed by government officials such as Prime Minister Trudeau involved in the "North-south dialogue" - it is in our self-interest to concern ourselves with the plight of the poor and their needs. We hear of the need for food in this country or that. But wait a minute. In 1975 the U.S. Congress ratified a 'Right to Food' resolution which declared that the U.S. "reaffirms the right of every person in this country and throughout the world to food and a nutritionally adequate diet". To call a food a need is not the same as calling it a right. "Right" implies obligation or duty. With a right to food, individuals can claim to have that right fulfilled. Human rights are a matter of justice. On the other hand, need, even urgent need does not imply obligation.

If feeding the hungry is a matter of justice, then we may ask why are people hungry? Arthur Simon states that "people are hungry because they are poor". This insight can be expanded in two ways. First, they are capable of feeding themselves if allowed to do so. Secondly, they have not been allowed to do so because of their relative powerlessness. Hungry people are not poor or underdeveloped by nature, or because of a deficiency of the country's natural resource - most are potentially self-sufficient farmers, the problems are more economic and political than technological.

The idea that food is a right has two implications, first that there is a need for the redistribution of the means of food production, ie. land and credit, secondly there is a need for the redistribution of food. The second involves changes in the consumption patterns of the well-fed. Population growth in the Third World is not the only reason for hunger. It is true that there are too few resources for too many people but it is not the poor nations who are consuming these resources. The rich nations who represent 13 per cent of the world's population consume 87 per cent of the entire world's resources, including raw materials, energy and food. We are part of a free enterprise system in which food is treated as a speculative commodity, as a source of profit. Thus in many countries where the need for local food production is utmost, Multinational corporations use land for production of cash crops - coffee, tea, sugar, bananas, cocoa etc. for our consumption. We are told constantly that we are what we have, that consumption is the way to happiness. It seems ironic that while we over eat protein, calories, sugar and processed foods which are more expensive and less nutritional, lament the size of our grocery bill and are in constant search of the successful reducing diet, that there are so many hungry people. The point is to see the connection.

This year at the dinner we are offering an alternative meal as well to reflect the possibility of living more simply and consuming less, with dishes that are good tasting, just as nutritional and cheaper.

We hope you can make it to our dinner, followed by a film and speaker. Prof. Sylvia Hale of STU will address 'The World Food Crisis'. Tickets (\$3.00) at SUB Info booth and the door.

Brain expert to lecture

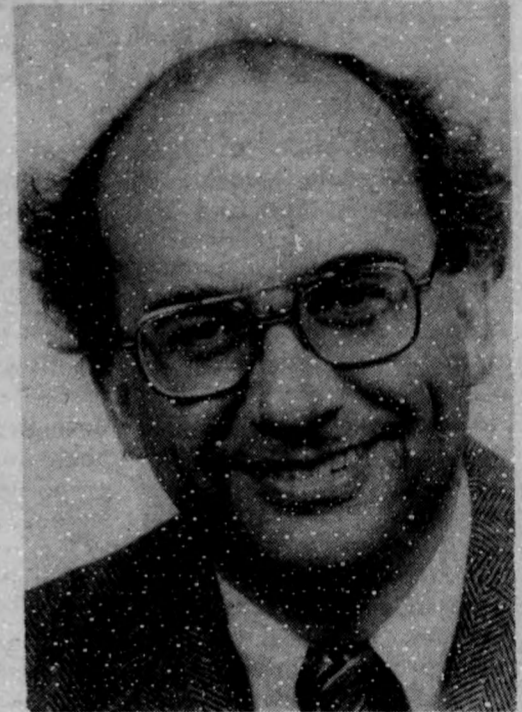
The way the left and right sides of the brain influence human behavior and thought will be the subject of the second Desmond Pacey Memorial Lecture to be given by Michael S. Gazzaniga on Monday, March 8 at 8:00 p.m. in the Tilley Hall auditorium on the Fredericton campus. The lecture, which will include a slide presentation, is open to the university community and the general public.

Entitled "Brain Mechanisms and Conscious Experience", the talk will be based on Dr. Gazzaniga's research with split-brain patients - victims of the severest epilepsy who have had an operation to sever the corpus callosum which connects and transmits information between the two hemispheres of the brain. By studying these patients, who are able to function normally in everyday life, Dr. Gazzaniga has shown that the two sides of the brain can function independently, like to separate minds.

In the past, psychologists have thought that the left side of the brain was responsible for everything a person did consciously; for example, speaking, remembering, planning. They believed the right side of the brain was the unconscious part of the mind which could not express itself to the outside world, controlling such involuntary things as dreaming, the desire to overeat or to smoke. Dr. Gazzaniga's work with split-brain patients has demonstrated that the right side of the brain is aware of what is going on in the person's external world and can react to it.

Dr. Gazzaniga is a professor of psychology and neurology and the director of the division of neuroscience at the Cornell University Medical Center. A graduate of Dartmouth College, he received a PhD in biology from the California Institute of Technology where his thesis was the first description of the split-brain individual. His doctoral supervisor at CIT, Roger W. Sperry, recently received a Nobel prize for split brain research.

As part of the Pacey Lecture series Dr. Gazzaniga will also present his lecture on the Saint



Dr. Michael Gazzaniga

John campus of UNB on Tuesday, March 9, at 8:30 p.m. in the Hazen Hall Lecture Theatre.

Desmond Pacey, well-known Canadian literary historian, critic and author, served UNB as teacher, scholar and administrator for 30 years before his death in 1975. To honour

his memory, the university established an annual lecture to be given by an outstanding figure in the humanities or

social sciences. The series was inaugurated last year by the internationally renowned literary and cultural critic, Northrop Frye.

Friedman on campus

The UNB-SRC entertainment committee is sponsoring a lecture by well-known nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman on Thursday, March 11 at 8 p.m. in MacLaggan Hall lecture theatre, room 105.

It will be an illustrated lecture with a scale model of Point Lepreau donated by NB Power, and there will be colour slides. The title of the lecture is "Nuclear Power? Yes!"

Friedman will address a number of issues including Three-Mile Island, Nuclear Safety, and Point Lepreau, where he is a consultant.

There will be question and answer period at the end of the lecture and all are welcome to ask questions. Tickets are \$2.00 to cover the speakers fee. They will be on sale at the door at 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, March 7th, the Associated Alumni will be sponsoring a "Leadership Conference" to be held in the Faculty Club, Old Arts Building, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Any student interested in attending this Conference should inform the S.R.C. Business Office by 3 p.m. today (453-4955).

All are welcome to attend!