

"We want jobs"

VICTORIA (CUP) — 1500 unemployed workers and students gathered on the Legislature lawns here Thursday (Jan. 21) to protest government inaction to relieve unemployment in the province.

The demonstrators jeered and booed as B.C. Lieutenant-Governor John Nicholson arrived by limousine to read the Speech from the Throne for the opening of Parliament.

The main body of the demonstration then moved into the streets of Victoria chanting "We want jobs".

Echoing their cry, many of the young people followed Nicholson into the legislative building. A few made it into the visitors gallery where they heckled the reading of the Throne Speech.

There was little in the speech to indicate what the government plans to do to ease unemployment, which at the end of December totalled 70,000 or 8 percent of the work force.

Premier W. A. C. Bennett is felt to have done little to help the unemployed in the province. His limitations on school construction, his export of unprocessed raw materials to the U.S. and Japan and general cutbacks in government spending are in large part blamed for the current economic situation.

U of T: Nay to strike vote

University of Toronto Arts and Science students narrowly defeated a strike motion January 26, by 54 votes.

A record 66.5 percent of the students in the two faculties turned out at the polls. The referendum was held on the question of striking to back up demands for student parity with the teaching staff in the governing faculty council.

The negative results, however, were followed by an evening of confusion.

At a SAC (Students' Administrative Council) executive meeting immediately following the results, there was considerable debate over whether the Erindale (a polling station) results should be included in the total vote.

It had been stipulated by the SAC at Erindale that these students would not be bound by the results of the overall vote.

The SAC executive voted in favour of including the Erindale results, which opposed the strike 499-407.

SAC External Affairs Commissioner, Vince Dolan, said that the results were invalidated due to voting irregularities. Dolan charged that 63 ballots from SMC had no names on them, and many more were not initialed by the polling clerk.

Cliff Jenkins, SAC Returning Officer, said that the voting at Sid Smith had been "an incredible screw-up" in which voter registration lists had been scrambled around the ballot boxes.

A decision was reached to have a re-count, but Jenkins said that the recount could not take place before the weekend.

Peter Hall, SAC University Commissioner noted that:

"Both the large turnout and the yes-vote were much larger

than I expected. I think we should remember that students have already overwhelmingly supported the principle of parity in the November referendum. And the important thing to remember today is that we are divided only on the tactics."

In November, a referendum on the principle of parity was supported by 88.5 percent of the close to 6,000 students who voted.

Almost one hundred sympathetic faculty members had signed a petition supporting a boycott of classes. The group supported student action — "whatever that action might be."

U of T administration president, Claude Bissell, has still refused to commit himself to any interference in what he calls an internal matter of the faculty of Arts and Science.

Skagit Valley in danger

OTTAWA (CUP) — The future of the Skagit Valley in British Columbia is still uncertain following a meeting between federal fisheries minister, Jack Davis and American officials in Washington, Monday (Jan. 18)

Davis asked the American government to consider re-opening the whole discussion about the contract between the Seattle Power Corporation and the government of B.C.

The U.S. government will decide whether they want to accept the Canadian proposal to re-open the discussions and will let Canada know in writing in a week, at which time the fisheries department will make an official announcement.

The B.C. government signed a

contract with the Seattle corporation in 1967. Since then the American corporation has been giving Wacky Bennett's government \$35,000 a year.

The question now is whether Canada will allow the American company to flood the valley by raising the water level of the Ross Dam in northern Washington.

The B.C. government cannot renege on the agreement because they will be liable for costs. They have asked the federal government to intervene for them.

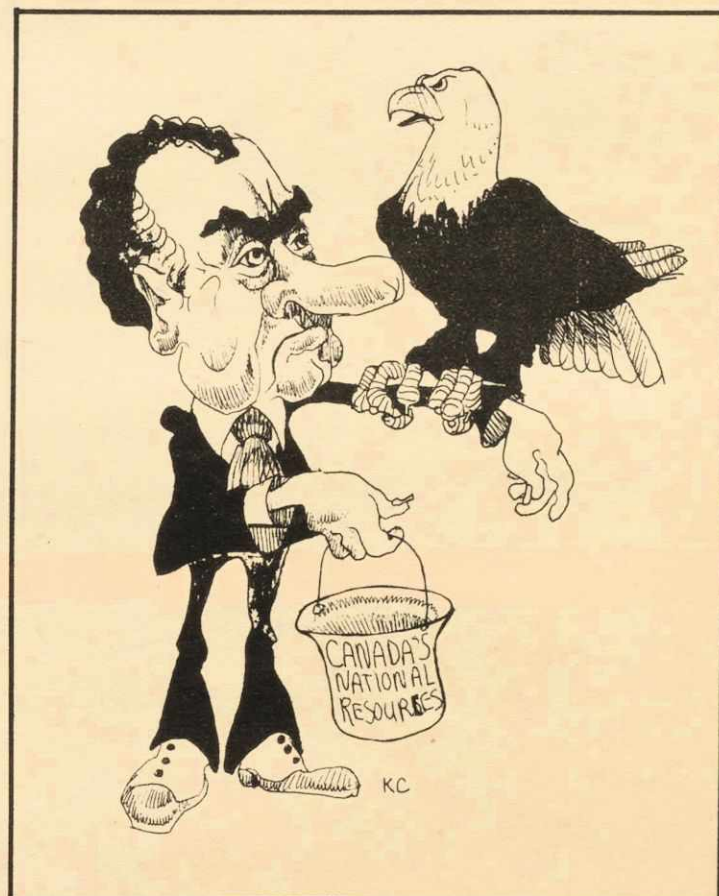
The agreement was made with the consent of the International Joint Commission, a body made up of three Americans and three Canadians who oversee agreements made

between Canada and the U.S.

Canada is hesitant about going back on her word because this would allow the U.S. to act in a similar manner and the IJC would lose its usefulness in overseeing the countries' commitments.

The Seattle Power Corporation has just applied for a permit from the U.S. federal power commission to begin construction of the dam. It will take almost two years for the hearings to be terminated before the company can go ahead with their development.

The valley, a potentially beautiful recreational area, has that long to see sunlight before being flooded by 124 feet of water.



Words from the wise . . .

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to express my concern about T.Y.P., or the Transitional Year Program.

T.Y.P. stands for the re-education of Blacks and Indians from different parts of Nova Scotia. This program is of vital importance to both Indians and Afro-Canadians, if they are going to determine their own destinies. It is also important to give them back their pride and dignity and awareness of their background.

The TYP course has a right to exist for just those reasons I have mentioned. It offers the students the necessary and basic background to entitle them to enter university.

The Transitional Year Program is based on regular daily classes. Courses are offered in science, math, communication skills, Black and Indian Canadian history, and the heritage of Black music. The TYP

program also has some of the best teachers and professors that are available who express their concern about the students, and help them in every possible way.

However, there are problems threatening this program. These problems come from lack of interest in the community and from lack of funds. Also student interest plays a very important role in the continuity of this program. The students attending this program have expressed their deepest interest in the continuation of the program.

The provincial government was approached for financial backing and refused. Therefore, I can only assume that the provincial government feels that existing programs are adequate to meet the needs of Black and Indian students. It is difficult to believe that the provincial educational system is not racist when it can accept the status quo of the current educational

achievement of Nova Scotian Blacks and Indians.

I also feel that there is a need for a black study program in the university so that all students may learn about the unique contribution of African Civilization.

Gentlemen, it is only fair that you should express your concern for the people of the community and in Nova Scotia, since you do represent organization dealing with people of all color and races throughout the province, or in the city. If you want to see TYP continue, we need your support in order to approach the new Premier with our demands for adequate financial backing. And remember that these students are here to help improve upon the situation, in the future.

Tim MacIntyre,
TYP student.