Gazette Dalhousie Litte

Number 5

Volume 112

October 11, 1979

Perinbam

FOREIGN AID NOT A WASTE



by Greg Morgan

Foreign aid is not a waste, and universities have an important role in international development, said Lewis Perinbam, speaking last Tuesday at Dal to an audience of students representing a wide range of racial groups. Perinbam is an executive of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), which administers our foreign aid policy.

Alluding to public skepticism about giving aid, he briefly sketched the rationale behind it.

It is not a futile gesture of goodwill. The economies of many poor countries have grown more dramatically since the last war than did those of Europe at the dawn of the Industrial Revolution.

The Third World draws 85% of its development needs from its own resources. It could raise the remaining 15% which aid furnishes, but probably at the same high social and political prices paid by China, which refuses all aid. Perinbam contends that Western foreign aid helps to create conditions favourable to open societies.

Furthermore, giving aid serves the West's self in-

terest. The Third World forms a vast new economic frontier which development, helped by aid, will continue to broaden. It already absorbs over 1/3 of our exports. If only for our own good, we cannot afford to hinder the expansion of this market.

Canada, as much as any other donor, benefits from its own aid policy. In places where she would otherwise be unknown, the projects financed represent a Canadian presence. Like all nations, we offer "tied" aid: 60% of the money must be spent here. This shores up the economy and provides jobs. Apart from being "tied", however our aid is virtually free of "strings".

Perinbam believes the universities of the West have a necessary job in furthering international co-operation. With special leadership, brains and an international background they can do things which government and big business can not.

The Universities of developing countries are far more elite and aloof from society. Perinbam feels the experience and advice of our own institutions could correct this tendency. They can also work with foreign countries on

joint development projects, like the ones in Ghana and Brazil partly run by departments of Dalhousie.

The university, he said, as a cutting edge for new ideas in society ought to promote a sense of internationalism and contribute to a better understanding of the global community.

To believe Perinbam's comments on the state of the Third World any help at all would be welcome. He blamed the colonial period for more than mere material damage. It destroyed the relations which had existed between people and eroded local initiative. Political independence alone will not suffice. It is the Havana Conference which most recently demanded a "new economic order" in response to this extreme vulnerability.

Several countries possess one crop economies which a relatively small crisis can easily devastate. Also enormous national debt and now expensive oil cripple a large part of the developing world. These facts make Perinbam's observations much more relevant.

Crackdown on illegal liquor sales coming

by Sandy MacDonald

Reports of on-campus parties, unlicensed for the sale and dispensing of alcohol, reached the inner chambers of the Student Council meeting held Oct. 1. Umesh Jain, representative of the Board of Management of Campus Security, told council of the

board's concern over the incidents of abuse of campuslicensing regulations.

At present Dalhousie University is the holder of a Special Premise License, granted by the Province of Nova Scotia. This license provides for specified areas in the University where liquor

may legally be served. The sale of liquor in unspecified areas is prohibited, with the exception of rooms rented to individuals, such as resident rooms.

Specified areas include Howe Hall, Shiriff Hall, the Arts Centre, the Student Union Building and some department houses. The sale of liquor elsewhere on campus is legal only through the purchase of a temporary license issued by Student Union Services.

One incident now under investigation by the campus security board involves a rather boisterous party held in the Life Sciences Building last year, where unlicensed liquor was allegedly sold. Reports of activities ranging from excessive drinking to an alleged illegal entry into one of the science laboratories and subsequent removal of alcohol to bolster the party punch has prompted security officers to

look into the matter.

The University is responsible for dispensing oncampus liquor says Student Union president Dick Matthews, and the campus community must show its concern to rectify this situation. Until the student body is willing to accept responsibility for these infringements upon the liquor laws, security will be tightened on University property.

At present this sensitive issue is only being looked into, says Matthews but further incidents may warrant a deeper investigation.

P.C. 's Energy Plan

Zero oil imports by 1990

by Paul Tyndall

Last Friday Premier John Buchanan announced a P.C. energy policy that he claims will reduce Nova Scotia's reliance upon OPEC oil to an almost zero level by the year 1990. Presently, Nova Scotia is dependant upon foreign crude oil for 84% of its total energy needs (the national rate is 44%), the other 16% of the province's energy requirements being met by coal, wood and hydro power.

This new energy policy is an attempt to convert Nova Scotia from an oil consuming province into one that relies primarily upon coal for fuel. Mr. Buchanan will attempt to capitalize upon the more than 3.5 million tons of coal found in various coal fields throughout Nova Scotia (800,000 tons of which can be recovered with the existing technology).

The Premier's plan will rely heavily upon federal funding, both through DEVCO (Cape Breton Development Corporation) and through direct grants to the province of Nova

Scotia. The proposed budget will cost \$1.2 billion 1979 dollars.

Through development and research the P.C. government hopes to increase the annual production rate of thermal coal from the 1.6 million tons for the year of 1980 to 5.5 million tons by 1990.

"At a production rate of 10 million tons annually there will be at least 80 years of continuous production avail-

able," says Mr. Buchanan.

The major flaw with this policy is the supposition the federal government will fund the program to the extent that will enable the Nova Scotla government to implement their policy. Premier Buchanan is optimistic about Ottawa's role in our energy policy but it is difficult to determine where the federal government's priorities lie.

Gerald Regan, Liberal leader of the opposition, says that the P.C. energy policy is "vague and deceptive."

Regan says it is no more than a proposal which states what the present government would 'like' to see happen with regards to energy in the preovince. Regan says it evades any definite statements of dates, or alternative proposals if federal financing is not what the government hopes it to be.

Regan also says the policy is a simple carrying through of matters that the former Liberal government set in to motion. He says that "nowhere in the province of Nova Scotia is there an electrical generating plant that was built by the P.C. government. They were all begun by the previous Liberal government." Regan claims this to be the case with the Lingan mines which he says were initially begun by the former Liberal govern-



Dal Photo / Dayal