

S.A. activist seeks meaningful change

ANTAGONISH (CUP)—Workers' co-operatives are a good way of organizing social, economic and political change in underdeveloped rural areas, according to South African activist Rob Collins.

Collins recently warned students at St. Francis Xavier University that "meaningful change" takes place very slowly.

"One of the difficult things of working for social change is that we want it to occur immediately, but it just doesn't," he said. "That, though, should not be an excuse not to do anything; we have to hang in there."

Collins spent ten years working in rural development in South Africa, the last five with workers' co-ops.

"Ignorance is propagated by the political system of South Africa," said Collins. Education is compulsory and free only for white South Africans, he added.

Collins said the people must rely on themselves for help and must work together to change the community; that this is the basis of workers' co-operatives. Self-help, which inevitably involves hard work, is crucial to establishing an organized community, which is a facet of social change, he said.

The impact South African workers' co-operatives may have on the political system is somewhat limited, and it will take years before significant change will occur, he added.

However, through such industries as textiles, where raw materials for production are supplied by co-ops, workers are able to make political, economic and social statements, he said.

"Restructuring organizations and working environments more democratically and with worker control would be beneficial to workers and the community as a whole, as opposed to state control or control by outside interest."

Brazil rigging elections

(RNR/CUP)—The government of Brazil has a new angle on how to rig an election: weed out illiterate voters.

In the upcoming vote, those going to the polls must write the names of the six candidates they select, spell their names correctly, list

them in order of rank and select all candidates from the same party. One mistake and the ballot is thrown out.

In a country where about 40 per cent of the public is illiterate, future leaders could be picked by a very small electorate.

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A UNIVERSAL PICTURE


8:00 pm. - DEAD MEN DON'T WEAR PLAID/THE BLUES BROTHERS (Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid - 1982, USA, 89 min. Dir. Carl Reiner Cast: Steve Martin, Rachael Ward **Adult**) (The Blues Brothers - 1980, USA, 132 min. Dir. John Landis Cast: John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Aretha Franklin. **Adult** not suitable for children.)



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