

Queens questions morality

KINGSTON (CUP)—The Queen's University senate has voted to urge the university's board of trustees to oppose on moral grounds a plan by Noranda Mines Ltd. to invest \$350 million in Chile.

The senate's Jan. 27 decision followed a referendum in late November in which more than 2,400 students opposed Noranda's plan to develop a copper mine in Chile, because of the Chilean government's continued violation of human rights.

Queen's has about \$236,000 worth of shares in Noranda. At a shareholders' meeting in May they will decide whether to go ahead with the investment in Chile.

Although the senate motion, which passed by a 25-15 vote, does not call for withdrawal of Queen's funds from Noranda, it nevertheless drew spirited opposition.

One professor argued that the university should not take stands

on public issues on moral grounds because it could place itself in a position where it couldn't pay for education because it would have to refuse revenue on moral grounds. "We do have to live in a capitalistic society and we have to do the best we can," he said. Another opponent of the motion said: "We're going to open up a question so broad that we don't know where we'll come out."

A professor supporting the motion pointed out: "Morality is a big part of the thinking of a university. Would we have said that the universities of Germany should have said nothing about the persecution of Jews? If morality is not the business of the university, then whose is it?"

University principal Ronald Watt said the board of trustees has set up a committee to establish a policy for Queen's on investment in companies that operate in countries which abuse their citizens.

Government spends \$1 million against insurance cheaters

OTTAWA (CUP)—While more than a million Canadians are without jobs, the federal employment ministry is actively involved in cutting them off unemployment insurance rolls.

In December, an estimated 225,000 people lost rights to benefits by lengthened work requirement periods. Employment Minister Bud Cullen is still seeking out other "disincentives" which he implies are keeping people from seeking jobs. Cullen recently invited members of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce "to come up with further productive ideas for change" which would bring the program "back closer to insurance principles."

As well, the ministry has launched a \$1 million advertising campaign against the less than one per cent of claimants who cheat on unemployment insurance. Newspaper and television advertisements beginning in January and ending in March are telling Canadians that "cheating on unemployment insurance is stealing from your neighbours, friends, fellow employees, employers and the government of Canada."

The Canadian Labour Congress says the government is aware the economy will get no better in the near future and is attempting to shift the blame onto the victims of the economic crisis.

"Why else would Cullen say that Ottawa might again move to tighten unemployment insurance at a time when well over a million Canadians are jobless?" asks CLC president Joe Morris. "Why else would the Unemployment Insurance Commission announce a \$1 million advertising campaign to warn cheaters that they shouldn't cheat?"

"A \$1 million advertising campaign will not catch the cheaters but it will serve to deflect public opinion away from the real problem of the lack of jobs," he says. "But I have no doubt that this is the real intent of this spurious tactic anyway."

The government plans to spend more than double what was allocated to explain the new regulations in December.

The CLC suggests that any significant increases in unemployment insurance cheating over the last few years can be attributed to the growing desperation of the increasing numbers of jobless.



Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet John Ashbery gave a witty and revealing reading on Thursday evening at the invitation of the Dalhousie Department of English.

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Gazette Constitution meeting tonight at 7.30

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