

U.S. in Vietnam Her legal position is almost "farcical" says Aitchison

By CATHERINE MacKENZIE
ASSIT, NEWS EDITOR

The legal case for the United States presence in South Vietnam is nothing short of "farcical" says Professor J.H. Aitchison, head of the political science department.

Dr. Aitchison speaking at the first "Topical Hour" (a weekly discussion of international affairs) outlined the political events which he says have complicated the Vietnamese situation since the signing of the Geneva Accord of 1954.

This agreement called for elections throughout Vietnam in 1956, under supervision of an international commission, to establish a unified government for the country.

The elections never took place. Why not? Who was responsible for the violation of the 1954 agreement? Was it the government of Ho Chi Minh, or the American backed Diem regime.

Dr. Aitchison said it is universally recognized that if elections had been held in 1956, the Vietnamese people, both in North and South, would have voted overwhelmingly for the government of Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi.

However the U.S., with the blessings of Diem decided to "prevent the Vietnamese from voting for their own suicide." Thus the legal status of both the North and South Vietnamese governments was shattered with the violation of the international agreement.

It was not until 1959 that the opposition organized militarily into the Vietcong. Until then they had concentrated solely on political action, Aitchison said. Whether or not Hanoi was the organizer is still disputed.

He quoted a noted authority on Vietnam, Devillers as maintaining that the Communists had entered the conflict reluctantly, and that opposition was, in fact, a "grass-roots" movement organized to combat strong-arm policies of the Diem regime.

The U.S., who had up until this time merely supplied the payroll for the South Vietnamese army, began in 1961 to send advisors to the foundering Diem forces. The story of the subsequent overthrow of Diem, and the constantly vacillating policies of the generals is well known.

In addition to the American decision to send massive military man-power into the conflict, this summer has seen other interesting developments said Dr. Aitchison.

In August, H. Cabot Lodge made the surprising statement that the U.S. would not pull out if asked to do so by a government of South Vietnam.

Subsequently General Maxwell Taylor said that the generals would not support any government which did not support U.S. presence.

Bill Moyers, press secretary to President Johnson, made an announcement to the effect that the U.S. could not leave if asked to do so by a government which it felt did not reflect the views of the South Vietnamese or the generals.

On the other hand, the U.S. could hardly stay if asked to leave by a government commanding both military and popular support.

This leaves the military which has been described as "an army in search of a country", in the position of calling the shots in South Vietnam.

Dr. Aitchison said that, although the Americans genuinely long for peace, they refuse to suffer the humiliation that would result from their withdrawal.

Both the U.S. and Russia recognize, he said, that such a withdrawal would result in a stepping up of the Chinese activities on behalf of violent revolution.

Thus he foresees the continuance of the existing stalemate so long as the Chinese are contesting the leadership of the Communist world.

The "topical hour", primarily for students of international politics but open to all members of Dalhousie's academic community, are held at 2:30 every Friday afternoon in Room 217 of the Arts and Administration Building.

Dalhousie to have own carnival

IN BRIEF

Liz Campbell, council vice-president, said on Monday night that it is the duty of Council to encourage people to make fools of themselves.

She was speaking in favour of the mass participation program scheduled for this week-end's Fall Festival. It has become the policy of the Council she said, to foster mass participation activities in the future rather than the mass audience type of the past.

This week-end, Ian Henderson, recently appointed Canadian University Students Overseas Chairman for Dalhousie, will travel to Ottawa for the Annual Meeting. The Council intends to promote CUSO activities on the Dalhousie Campus.

Council has been investigating the possibility of getting reduced air fares for Dalhousie students, it is hoped that a similar service may be provided for the railway.

The Constitution Committee presented a revised bylaw regarding elections and nominations to Council. Since no effective method of policing the amount of money used in campaigns can be found the committee recommended that the length of the campaigns be controlled. The by-law was accepted with one amendment.

October 7 Pat Kenniff national president of CUS, will be present for a special meeting of the Dalhousie Student's Council, to discuss union policy. In addition, the new Winter Carnival Chairman will be appointed at this meeting.

Council is considering holding one of its regular meetings in the rink or gym to allow students to see their Council in action.

AUSTRALIANS TO STRIKE

Melbourne - Australian students are considering a one-day general strike to protest poor conditions in primary, secondary and higher education.

The Council of the National Union of Australian University Students (NUAUS) has voted to support the proposed strike.

The motion will now be debated by individual student bodies. If there is general support, the strike will probably be held in the spring of 1966.



CAN WE ROBBIE. CAN WE REALLY!

Along the hustings

Party chiefs promise aid to education in appeal for vote

By Gazette News Staff
and The Globe and Mail

Conservative leader John Diefenbaker last weekend began his nation-wide campaign for the Nov. 8 general election with a national plan for education that includes a \$3 increase in per capita grants to university students.

Meanwhile, in Ottawa, Prime Minister Lester Pearson made a bow in the direction of the student vote.

He said he will seek ways to allow students to vote at university residences and that the Government will lift the provincial ceiling for federally-guaranteed student loans.

The increase in the per capita grants to university students to \$5 from \$2, would be on an interim basis until a new formula is established, said Mr. Diefenbaker.

There would also be a special allowance for universities

which draw a large proportion of their students from outside the province or country.

"We will increase research grants to the National Research Council. We will very greatly increase grants to the Medical Research Council. We will carry out all the recommendations of the Hall Royal Commission in the education and health fields and set up a capital fund for research and teaching hospitals. We will increase income tax deductions, now allowable on gifts to universities."

In previewing the party's policy on education, Mr. Diefenbaker called for an increase in the per capita grant to universities from \$2 to \$3 a head, with periodic further increase, earlier in October, 30 or Monday, Nov. 1.

Mr. Pearson said also that he will ask university presidents and principals if they can facilitate voting by students in their home ridings on Nov. 8 or at the advance polls on Saturday, Oct. 30 or Monday, Nov. 1.

Mr. Pearson also announced a step to expand the student loan program to meet unexpectedly large demands.

Under this program the federal Government guarantees bank loans of up to \$1,000 a year to students who can meet a test designed to discover if they need the cash to get a higher education.

During the first year of operation, ending last June, loans totalling \$26,400,000 were made to 42,500 students.

The provinces administer the plan and Mr. Pearson says "it is now evident that more students are qualifying for loans than can be accommodated within the current allocations of some provinces for this academic year."

"The provincial Governments have been notified that the federal Government will recommend to Parliament that provincial allocations be increased to such a

degree that no student who can meet the agreed standards of eligibility need be denied a loan because of the size of the provincial allocations."

Under the present law, if a province exceeds its allocation of loan funds this year, it can charge the excess against next year's allocation. Mr. Pearson proposes to ask Parliament to amend the law to wipe out the charge against next year's allocation so that provinces have freedom to accept all qualified loan applicants this year.

Here is a breakdown of funds paid out to the provinces to date, with the number of students involved: \$450,000 (737); Prince Edward Island \$293,000 (469); Nova Scotia \$1,760,000 (2,513); New

Brunswick \$1,350,000 (2,027); Ontario \$14,060,000 (21,920); Manitoba \$1,380,000 (2,272); Saskatchewan \$1,880,000 (2,992); Alberta \$2,100,000 (4,519); British Columbia \$3,110,000 (5,030); Yukon and Northwest Territories \$17000 (21).

These students "disfranchised by distance" represent roughly one out of every 300 Canadian voters.

Malcolm Scott of CUS in releasing these figures said: "The Prime Minister couldn't see why it was difficult for students to go home to vote. Perhaps if he realized the distances involved, he would be able to see their plight more clearly and sympathetically."

Over 7,000 of those affected live at least 500 miles from home. Nearly 4,000 of these live at least 1,000 miles from home.

Mr. Scott commented, "The student vote is nearly as large as the armed forces vote. Can you imagine the fuss if one-third of the servicemen were disfranchised?"

CUS is advising students to appeal in person, since there is no nationwide ruling on what constitutes "ordinary residence". Each student's case will be decided locally on the basis of the facts presented.

Students not on the voting list in the university constituency may

Students' Council has called for a "Dalhousie University Winter Carnival, aimed at the Dalhousie student," in a unanimous motion passed at Monday night's meeting.

In accepting the resignation of Carnival chairman, Frank Hennigar, Council criticized the far-reaching aims of his program as being too risky, both financially and academically.

It was felt by many Council members that Hennigar's program was not primarily aimed at the college student. In Carl Holm's words "it was geared to Joe citizen rather than Joe college."

It was concluded Hennigar's resignation was due to personal pressures, combined with the assumption that the "campus atmosphere" was not favorable for the implementation of his program.

The chairman himself, was not at the meeting and has since been unavailable for comment.

According to Liz Campbell, Council vice-president, the scaled down carnival should be based on "mass participation and fun for the student."

Sliding down snow hills on pieces of cardboard and building ice palaces were features of the Queen's Carnival which Shaw felt might well be considered for Dal's program.

The new motion, which revokes last year's "compromise" pronouncement on Carnival stipulates that any "major events such as a concert" may be held in conjunction with other Universities and "any other events which outside groups will plan, sponsor, finance and publicize will be encouraged."

The Carnival steering committee, headed by Bob Murphy of S.M.U., was criticized during discussion of the motion.

Dal's representative, Kay Freeman said she has had "no communication whatsoever" from either Murphy or Hennigar.

The question of Senate relations was brought up by Shaw, who said that if Council decided to sponsor a Halifax Winter Carnival this year "we would be in trouble" with the Senate. He said he hopes to report back to Council on Senate relations, in the next few weeks. This problem was, he said "his main reason for running for Council President."

Applications for the position of Carnival chairman will be considered during the coming week, the appointment to be made at the next Council meeting.

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Quebec students to walkoff

MONTREAL (CUP) - Student governments of all universities and classical colleges in Quebec, with the exception of Laval University, have agreed to withhold co-operation from the province's government-student committee on bursaries.

McGill and Montreal Universities led the way for the break. McGill Students' Society President Sharon Sholberg said of the government:

It's time to stop playing games which is what they have been doing with us recently."

McGill and Montreal councils now are asking for their negotiations with the government to be carried on at the ministerial level.

Miss Sholberg and Michel Pelletier, president of the U of M student union, have asked for a meeting with Education Minister Paul Gerin-Lajoie in the near future.

The government-student committee on bursaries was set up by Mr. Gerin-Lajoie, then Minister of Youth, as part of the Quebec Liberal party's election platform. It has included representatives from all Quebec universities and classical colleges.

The committee, during its first two years acted as a political pressure group. During this period provincial bursaries rose from twelve to twenty million dollars a year.

Last year however the government changed the nature of the committee to a working body whose student representatives would only be technical advisers.

Meetings of the committee and its research documents are now kept secret.

Miss Sholberg does not object to the new role of the committee. But she wants its documents made public.

"Every year the government promises we will have a voice in that years bursaries, but we never do," she said.

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Villagers to make scene at Hoot

An internationally-known folk singing group, The Villagers will headline Fall Festival events during the weekend.

The Villagers, who come here from Toronto, appear Saturday night at the Dalhousie Rink during a festival hootenanny. The hoot starts at 8:30.

A Montreal newspaper review of The Villagers on June 12 of this year said: "They call themselves The Villagers, but hicks they are not."

"This enthusiastic and cohesive trio of Torontonians has been together only since January but are drawing larger audiences than most Canadian name groups."

"...They are young, smooth, full of vitality and put on a very entertaining show."

"Others have come up with fine voices and good instrumentation, but The Villagers add that all-important quality - the ability to transmit enthusiasm to an audience."

"To make sure Dal's female students take the field day seriously, the mens residence has issued a challenge on behalf of the male student body."

"From the magnificent muscular men of Dalhousie University to the women of Dal hereafter to be known as Pestiferous Petticoated Plebians or Plebs for Simplicity - GREETINGS:

"Let it hereby be known that on this the twenty-eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty five, it has become apparent that once again it is our solemn and profound duty to reassert indubitably our indefatigable male superiority."

"To this end we shall humble ourselves to assemble on the eve of Friday next our might and kindred on the field of honour. With no venomous animosity, we challenge the plebs to gather their forces in like manner to show just cause why this supremacy exists."

VILLAGERS SWING INTO FALL.
Will appear at rink on Saturday night. Promises to be terrific show.



We shall overcome! Voter registration drives on campus urged by C.U.S.

OTTAWA (CUP) - The Canadian Union of Students has called on its member unions to carry out a voter registration drive on each campus.

Since enumeration was completed last week, students must attempt to register through the revising officers on October 21, 22 and 23, by claiming the university as their ordinary place of residence.

Almost half of all Canadian students eligible to vote in the November 8 election may be disfranchised, according to estimates released by the Canadian Union of Students today.

Of the 75,000 students of voting age, about 35,000 live more than 25 miles from their parents' home, according to CUS estimates based on figures from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Most of these students - over 24,000 - live more than 100 miles from home, making it quite difficult for them to travel to their home constituency to vote if they do not succeed in getting on the voting list in the university constituency.

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DON'T FINK FALL FESTIVAL