

# Council Comment

by Al Robertson

SC President

As the results show, we have a very capable and I hope, enthusiastic Students' Council to take office on March 12th. May I add my personal congratulations to Messrs. Cooper and Read, who I am sure will provide incentive and leadership when needed, and to the other representatives from the various faculties and departments who form the core of student government.

After the excellent coverage giv-

en it by the Gazette, there's little to reiterate what everyone else is saying about it. And now that the Acadia trip is over maybe we can get a little studying in. It seems that the people down there are a bit wary of Dal students. I can't figure out why, but we were asked to send "Provost Corps" along with the annual escapade. And even so, I'm told that the town jail is missing a bed, or something

like that. Must have been the excitement.

The results of the questionnaire on Christmas exams are being compiled and will be made public as soon as possible. We felt that if we, or the new Council, were to deal effectively with the administration on this matter, our arguments would be that much stronger with the views of the student body as ammunition.

## CUP

By Ed Schwartzberg



## COMMENTS

CUP Editor

### EXAM THEFTS

An investigation is underway on the University of Western Ontario Campus into the possible theft of a mid-term examination question paper prior to its writing.

Two students are believed to have taken the paper the night before the exam was scheduled, and copied the questions onto a pad of paper.

Three other students reportedly witnessed the action and sprinkled graphite on the paper remaining on the pad. The graphite showed on the questions on the exam paper had been written on the sheet of paper removed from the top of the pad.

The impression left on the second sheet of paper on the pad showed up when the graphite was rubbed over it.

According to a report in the UWO student paper, The Gazette, both accused students have proclaimed their innocence and claim the other was guilty of the actual stealing.

The investigation is proceeding.

### HIRE COMMUNIST?

University of B. C. professors have described as ridiculous a proposal by New Westminster mayor Beth Wood that faculty members be investigated for leftist leanings.

"Her statement is absurd," said

one professor. "It's ridiculous," said another and "I wouldn't worry about it," said a third.

Mrs. Wood earlier told the UBC student paper, The Ulyssey, that professors with Communist leanings should not be hired by universities.

"We don't prohibit communists from running for parliament or other public office," said professor S. M. Jamieson. "It would be discriminatory, unfair, and inefficient to single out the university as an institution prohibiting communist appointments."

"Certainly a professor should not use his classroom for propaganda purposes," Jamieson said.

"But there should be no restrictions on what a professor can do in examining and upholding his views, as long as he presents as well as he can, both sides of the case."

### SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Montreal's Loyola College will next week conduct a two-pronged national survey among universities and industries in an attempt to solve the mounting summer employment problem faced by students.

Summer employment this year is expected to be as scarce as ever with a 13 per cent increase in university enrollment this year.

Loyola was mandated to investigate the situation by the National

Federation of Canadian University Students at its 26th Congress at Sherbrooke in October, 1962.

The survey, headed by John Freund, a third year commerce student at Loyola, will take the form of a 12-page bilingual questionnaire mailed to approximately 4,000 students.

"The federation (NFCUS) feels that the problem of summer employment for students has existed for years and since the government has not taken the initiative in examining the problem, the federation must presume to solve its own problem," Freund said.

He said the survey is designed to show the employment picture "from both sides of the fence."

The questionnaire sent to industry will not be as extensive as that sent to the students. The main question will be if industry is planning to employ student labor this coming summer and to what extent.

"The only way to find a rational solution to the problem is to meet from two extreme points and start at a focal point, the first point being the unemployed students who need work and the second point being in the area where industries have excess money but do not hire needy students in sufficient quantities."

## International Students News

**CHILE:** 120 of the 28,000 Chilean students were selected to attend the "First Seminar of Schooling Instructors to Combat Illiteracy" to be held in Valparaiso from 15th till 28th February. The seminar is being arranged by the National Union of Chilean Students (UFUCH) in collaboration with the Co-ordinating Secretariat of National Union of Students (COSEC) of the International Student Conference, the International Union of Students (IUS), the UNESCO, and Chilean educational organizations. It is the first important event in this field and is intended to prepare university students for the commencement of their work in the national campaign against illiteracy. Through this campaign it is hoped to reduce considerably the number of illiterates who at present make up some 20 percent of the Chilean population.

(Special Report)

**FRANCE:** The French Government is now once more willing to grant subsidies to the National Union of French Students (UNEF). In June 1960 all government assistance had been cancelled as a result of the Union's Algerian policy. The end of the Algerian conflict, however, the priority now given by the Union to the treatment of Student Affairs and the administration of various student services, the results of the student elections which confirmed the representivity of the union even though a rival association has been formed in every university town—all these factors have had a favourable effect on the re-opening of normal relations with the authorities. The High Commissioner for Youth and Sport recently stated before the National Assembly that "the subsidies will be paid again within a few weeks — after the conclusion of fresh negotiations with representatives of the UNEF."

These negotiations are necessary because the government will not pay the subsidies unless the UNEF leaders agree to occupy their seat on the High Committee of Youth side by side with the representative of the other student movement, the Federation Nationale des Etudiants de France. It is not the government's intention to show preference to an admittedly wiser but still leftist UNEF to the detriment of the FNEF, the foundation of which it supported in 1961 and whose activities it will continue to subsidize.

(Le Monde, Paris)

**GREECE:** Since No. 1, the day the academic year began, 30,000 Greek students have been carrying on a struggle for the reform of education in Greece. On that day the students of Thessaloniki named the academic year 1962-63 "The Year of Struggle for Education". Many convocations and demonstrations have followed. All the students in Greece have been on strike since Nov. 20. Later the students of secondary schools also took part in the struggle which soon became the main topic of Greek public interest. Graduates of the University joined in the struggle and newspapers too lent support to the students' aims. Parliament discussed the subject; all political parties adopted the students' views except the government.

On Feb. 15 the Fourth National Congress of Greek Students will be held and it will discuss the subject "Reformation of Education in Greece". The Greek students ask all student organizations to support their efforts.

(Greek Student Press Bureau)  
**YUGOSLAVIA:** At its last meeting, the UUniversity Council of Za-

greb came to the conclusion that the third stage of studies (supplementary studies towards the acquiring of a degree after having taken the state examination) which Yugoslavia has had for several years, has still not properly established itself. At first the third stage was only for the faculties of economics, medicine, law, mathematics, natural sciences, and technology; of late, however, these have been joined by the philosophical, agricultural, and electrotechnical faculties. The number of those working in the third stage has risen from 247 in 1960 to 650 in 1962. Among these there are 133 university assistants while the remainder come mainly from industry and administration. The faculties look after half of the organization of the third stage of studies while the university itself sees to the other half. The faculties are responsible for the organization and finance, and the university is responsible for admission. The University Council criticized the fact that there exists a basic deviation among the individual professorial chairs as to interpretation of the meaning of the study. This, is, for example, evident in the instruction topics which do not meet these requirements. A further criticism was that the lecturers were not adequately qualified; 28 percent of them have come from practical positions and can show no evidence of a well-founded academic education. Yet another cause was the disproportionate ratio of the number of students to the teaching staff. Last year, in the forestry faculty, for example, only six students acquired an academic degree; for these six, there were forty-five responsible lecturers. The faculties were advised to make enquiries about the needs of industries and administration at the appropriate places and to arrange their plan of studies accordingly.

(Ed's note: This COSEC news release arrived in the Gazette office a few days ago. Readers will note that the Kassem regime fell following the revolt in Iraq, Feb. 8).

**LEYDEN, THE NETHERLANDS (Jan.30)** — University and secondary school students in Iraq are entering their third week of strikes as a protest against the repressive measures of the Kassem regime.

Despite all the efforts of Kassem's military police, at attempting to break the resistance of the students, the strike has gone on and has since been supported by the Teachers' and Women's Unions.

In a statement issued by the National Union of Iraqi Students (NUIS) and circulated by the Co-ordinating Secretariat of the National Union of Students (COSEC), the student strikes are described as a "major crisis facing the regime today".

The students of Iraq have been a constant source of opposition to the military dictatorship of General Kassem since it came to power in 1958. Despite Kassem's promises, the country is no nearer to democracy than it was before the 1958 revolution. The series of strikes have been called by NUIS as a result of an attack against several members of NUIS by the country's Military Police Guards. Since then, a large number of students and teachers have been arrested, but the strikes go on.

On Jan. 1, a few days after the attack, NUIS called upon the student sector to continue their strike until the administration released all imprisoned students and agreed to the holding of free student elections. The authorities reacted by attempting to close the schools and reopen registration in order to block the applications of students they wanted to keep out.

The same demands were put before the president of Baghdad University Jan. 7 by 200 students from various colleges. After presenting their demands, the students refused to leave the administration building of the University and went on a hunger strike until such time as the students' rights would be reasserted. That same evening, the military police assaulted the building and attacked the students, injuring a great number of them. More strikes were called in two secondary schools and women's organizations demonstrated against this new example of oppression.

## || MOVIES: Andy Osyany ||

**Barabbas** was in Halifax for the second time last week and undoubtedly it will come back again in the near future.

This movie, made in 1961, is the best biblical spectacle that I have seen for a very long time.

**Barabbas** is the story of the robber and murderer who was freed by the will of the people the day that Jesus of Nazareth died. Regaining his liberty Barabbas returns to his companions but once again proves unlucky because in the very first escapade he gets caught. By the law he cannot be sentenced to death and Pilate's words to this effect give birth to the belief that is to permeate his life from that moment, namely, that Christ died in his place, that he is to live for some reason, for some paradoxical, Barabbas does not believe in the divinity of Christ.

Barabbas is sentenced to the sulphur mines where he meets a Christian with whom he finally

escapes from the mines when the sulphur catches fire. Eventually the two friends end up in a gladiator school in Rome. His Christian companion is discovered to be such and is executed, but at the interrogation Barabbas confesses that he tried to believe and yet did not. The following day Barabbas is victorious in the arena and the emperor gives him his freedom. In the evening Barabbas takes up the body of his friend and digs it down to the catacombs to be buried by the other Christians.

On returning to the city Barabbas is confronted with the apocalyptic burning of the city of the emperors. He is told that the emperors set fire to Rome, whereupon he picks up a torch and spreads the fire, saying: "I will not fall down this time, Lord," firm in his belief that for the first time he is doing the will of the Man whose life was taken instead of his. This is the climax of the movie. Barabbas is duly apprehended and thrown into pri-

son, where St. Peter attempts to enlighten him.

The last scene shows a multitude of Christians crucified and dying, among them Barabbas, who is happy that finally he found his place.

Anthony Quinn plays the leading role and his interpretation of the part is not open to any serious criticism. Dion de Laurentiis is responsible for the production and he is to blame for the portrayals of the made out to be intellectually limited, weak and invariably sad. Surely such a representation is entirely false. We know that the martyrs to the wild beasts and if they had such fortitude and faith in times of supreme stress, they could not have gone around vinegar-faced in times of peace as we usually see them on the screen.

The movie is very good as a story, better than average as a screen production and excellent as symbolism.