

**Attendance disappointing**

# Jewry teach-in bland but informative

by Alison Manzer  
and  
Ken MacDougall

The Soviet Jewry Teach-in was a disappointment to the organizers due to its poor turnout. Only 150 people attended the two sessions held in the McInnes Room of the Dalhousie Student Union Building November 24.

The speakers, Dr. Lou Rosenbloom of the Cleveland Council on Soviet Anti-Semitism and David Sadowsky of the Toronto Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, were well received in spite of this.

The noon session started late and many students had to leave for classes after the movie presentation "Let My People Go".

The film, produced in Israel, focused on the Leningrad trials, the harsh sentencing of the defendants and the world-wide demonstrations after their sentencing.

However, the film lacked effect. One scene in which a woman was commenting on her formal education in the Soviet Union ("When I was younger, it was hard for me to believe I was a Jew. There were no Jewish theatres or educational institutions and the Soviets were always telling us it was bad to be a Jew.") was merely skimmed over, in order to document as many cases as possible.

In the evening session, Dr. Rosenbloom attempted to stick to the highlights of Soviet oppression as much as possible, but was hampered by the im-

mensity of the task.

His task might be equated with a student attempting to summarize the Bible in 1500 words or less.

Among the problems mentioned were the lack of Jewish cultural facilities, Jewish children not being allowed to play with other Soviet children, and general Soviet governmental game-playing.

An example: paying 900 rubles (the average wage in the USSR is 80-100 rubles per month) for a visa, showing up at the airport for the trip to Israel, and finding out there was no plane, or your visa had been cancelled.

David Sadowsky's task was much simpler. He had only to describe various confrontations between the RCMP, the Canadian government and Premier Kosygin during the Soviet premier's recent visit to Canada.

The confrontations were militant. Approximately 15,000 bumper stickers ("Kosygin, Free the Russian Jews") were placed in convenient spots around the capitol, including sidewalks, Ontario election posters, Parliament building walls, and the inner doors of the elevators of the Chateau-Laurier Hotel, where Premier Kosygin was staying in Ottawa. Wake-up exercises were also conducted for the premier, and songs and slogans were presented in fine Yiddish voice.

Demonstrations were also held in Toronto. One of the biggest disappointments here was the refusal of Koffa, owner

of the Inn-on-the-Park, and a Jew, to tell the Russian premier to stay elsewhere.

The Canadian government's part in the struggle for Soviet Jewry is a classic example of Trudeau's shoulder-shrugging ("What can we do?").

Barney Danson, parliamentary secretary to PET (and a Jew) escorted members of the KGB (Soviet secret police) around Toronto and the Scarborough Mirror carried a story headed "Barney shows pals the town".

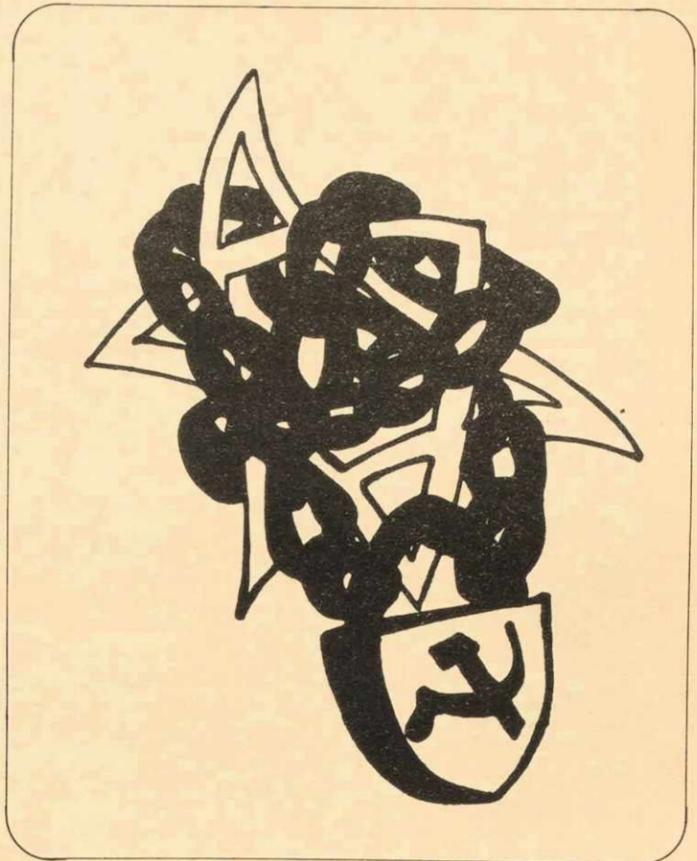
Anyone with a cursory knowledge of Toronto would promptly say, "That figures".

The things the average person can do for the Soviet Jews are many. Telegrams, phone calls, petitions to the U.N. and the Soviet Union, and donations were a few methods advocated by Sadowsky.

The floor was then given to the audience, and suggestions were heard from persons present.

One possible attack suggested was the picketing of Soviet ships entering Halifax, or the boycotting of Russian trade altogether.

This method was in turn attacked by another member of the audience, who termed this approach "irrational and irresponsible". He said, "The USA is presently participating in a genocidal war in Vietnam...", and if the Canadian government is to consider



cutting trade relations with Russia it must also consider the same action with the United States.

The major problem of the teach-in was the tendency of the people participating to cram far too much material into their presentations. The speeches were usually too long, and they probably detracted from audience participation in the later discussion.

The second problem of the session was the difficulty of the non-Jew to relate to the word "Jew". For the average WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant) this word has a strictly religious connotation.

Dr. Rosenbloom explained this problem after the teach-in:

"We have a certain mythology about peoples on the North American continent...the Jewish people don't look upon themselves as a religious entity (As opposed to a Christian, who views himself as a citizen and a Christian)...they view themselves as having a religious component, a national component, and a cultural component...these all add up to being a Jew. In Russia they view the Jew as an ethnic group, and that does violence too, to the concept of Jew."

If this question had been considered prior to the teach-in and understood as a problem of the non-Jewish participants, the teach-in could have had much more impact.

## Honig speaks out

by Ken MacDougall

W. K. Honig, a professor in the Department of Psychology at Dal, may be described as a behavioural psychologist. He is also one of the 19 faculty members mentioned in the November 17 issue of GAZETTE as having received Defence Research Board grants (see "Words to the Wise").

Honig's research project, approved by the DRB, was called "Recovery and enhancement of the after-effect of movement". This involved studying the illusionary effects created after termination of observation of continuous motion patterns.

The application to defence cited in Honig's request for funds was "the adjustment of rest periods, etc., of personnel on continual observation duty in combat conditions."

"Every researcher runs the risk of having his work used for

defence purposes after publication, so why not use the funds made available by the DRB?" Honig reasoned.

He said the DRB should be considered as just another source of funds for research, as the National Research Council's funds are presently overtaxed by a money-starved research community.

Honig says he does not believe that the Canadian war machine is a world threat, and feels the vagueness of the wording on DRB requests for grants fools no one, least of all the DRB.

These grants are competitively applied for, so there must be some minute trace of defence potential in the application, if the grant is to be forthcoming.

"If I were in the United States, however, I would have definite reservations about applying for a defence grant",

(cont'd on p. 7)

**BUELL  
TYPEWRITER  
AGENCY  
STUDENT RENTALS**  
103 PURCELL'S COVE RD.  
477-4618

Meet me  
at the  
**LORD  
NELSON**  
Beverage  
Room

Enjoy the informal  
atmosphere . . . the  
casual comfort . . .  
the relaxing  
surroundings . . . of  
The Lord Nelson  
Beverage Room  
TODAY!

BEER SERVED TO LADIES AND  
LADIES WITH MALE ESCORTS

The Lord Nelson  
Spring Garden Rd.  
Halifax

## HONOUR AWARDS

Each year the Student's Union makes Honour Awards to students in their graduating year, on the basis of outstanding contribution made to Student Activities during their career on campus. Applications are now available at the Council Office in the Student Union Building.

December 6/71 — Dalhousie University: An open meeting of the Women's Liberation Movement will discuss equal rights for women. This questionnaire is to determine what bias you as students have met, with the results to be reported at the meeting. The completed form can be left at the SUB-Inquiry desk.

Have you ever felt, suspected, or known bias against you as a woman:

1. On the part of your professors.
2. On the part of your classmates.
3. In the course content or texts.
4. In trying to get a summer job.
5. In salary offers.
6. In trying to get a permanent job.

Have you ever been channelled out of courses you wanted because it is a "male field", in high school or university?

Do you think you will have an equal opportunity at the job you want when you graduate?

Have you ever been refused an interview or job, and suspected or known it was because you are a woman?

Do you favour equal pay and equal opportunities for women?

Do you favour an addition to the Human Rights Code against discrimination on the basis of sex.

Faculty \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Name, address and phone if you wish us to contact you.

Women's Liberation Movement