

An Alternative to Unemployment Summer School?

By SANDY LYTH

The summer employment situation this year is abominable and many students will be unable to find jobs of any sort. There doesn't seem to be much the university can do to provide actual jobs, but it can prevent the complete waste of four months. Summer school is not a solution to the work problem but it definitely is an alternative to spending one third of the year doing nothing.

The facilities for summer school and the regulations around it however, are at best an encumbrance to the student and at worst a deadend street in the way of education. A student may take two courses at summer school only if he is graduating that fall and needs the credits to graduate, otherwise he is limited to one. The maximum number of credits allowed from summer school is five. The original reason for these restrictions was that summer school was designed as a make-up school, a privilege for students who had failed a course and were planning to write a sup. Because of changing conditions during the past few

years, namely more students, fewer jobs, and higher tuition fees, this system is outmoded and there is definitely a need for a reevaluation of the problem and extensive improvements.

At present, Dal summer school runs from July 2 to August 13, and St. Mary's from May 13 to June 27. No wonder students are discouraged from taking courses at summer school, given the reason that the presentation is not as good as during the regular term.

The first step in organizing a more effective summer school is to establish the demand. If an insufficient number of students would take advantage of such a programme, which at the moment seems very unlikely, then there is no point continuing with the idea. But if unemployed students would be interested in using their enforced idle time to some advantage, then the need is clear, and joint action by both faculty and students should be taken. There are several alternatives. There is always the possibility

of a special exclusively Dal school. There is also a joint venture idea, where all four local universities set up one summer school that any university student could attend. A co-operative would make more professors available and reduce the cost to the individual university.

The question of loans is vital. Each course is at least \$100, most often more, and if a student is going to summer school because he can't get a job, then he obviously needs money. At present, there is no provision for loans to students attending summer school.

An effective summer school, adapted to the contemporary needs of the student would be a valuable asset to the campus community, and although it is too late to do anything constructive for this summer, the problem does exist and deserves top priority for consideration and action next year.

The Right

WASHINGTON (CUP-CPS) — as an answer to disruptions on other campuses. Using some of the tactics of their arch enemies on the left, the campus right is trying to make a comeback.

The hope of the campus conservatives, principally the Young Americans for Freedom, is to build support for their usually small groups taking a strong stand against disruptions led by such left-wing groups as Students for a Democratic Society and many Black Student Unions.

Like their opponents on the left they have found that demonstrations are often a more effective way of getting their point across than just talking. Harvey Hukari, chairman of the YAF at Stanford University, says when his chapter tried "rational dialogue" they got nowhere but when they threatened disruptive activity they were listened to.

Hukari, a long-haired graduate student who is probably the most outspoken YAF leader in California, said conservatives must arouse the "chicken majority" if they hope to "free our schools."

Among the conservatives' more recent campus activities:

-- Conservatives at Queens College in New York City held a sit-in to demand a re-examination of a policy banning military recruiters. Later they wrecked the office of the campus newspaper, the Phoenix.

-- Students at Wichita State University in Kansas held a "milk-in" two weeks after a "beer-in" by students who wanted beer sold on campus. The conservatives, members of the Society for Prevention of Asinine Student Movements (SPASM), passed out small cartons of milk in what they described as a protest against protests.

-- A group of U.S. Marines studying at Purdue University have begun a blood drive to send 500 pints of blood to hospitals

-- In Washington D.C. a group which calls itself SQUARE and advocates Square Power, writes books about squares and publicizes itself with Dixieland band concerts in local parks, held a conference recently at Georgetown University.

The greatest amount of right-wing activity may be on California campuses, where there is also more left-wing activity than in most other states. Stanford University conservatives recently heckled an SDS demonstration, yelling "Pigs off campus" at the leftists. Later they presented their demands (negotiable) to the administration, calling for recruitment of more conservative professors, keeping academic credit for ROTC, and suspension of any students who disrupt campus judicial proceedings.

California YAF recently held a meeting in Berkeley to launch a statewide campaign against disruption. After the meeting they held a march down Telegraph Avenue, a centre of the Berkeley radical community, where they were greeted with shocked surprise and some heckling from the radicals.

They said they would hand out 100,000 plain blue buttons -- originally a symbol of support for San Francisco State College acting administration president S.I. Hayakawa -- to persons who oppose violence. Two early wearers: Governor Ronald Reagan and a black picket line monitor in the Berkeley student strike, who deadpanned, "I'm for freedom and against violence too."

For all their sudden activity the conservatives haven't had much impact on activist campuses so far.

This majority -- if it is a majority -- which YAF believes in its heart knows it's right appears to plan on staying silent.

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