

Forum is a mild success

Israeli film studies racism and nationalism

By **SHELLEY RABINOVITCH**
 "In my mind, the plight of the Palestinian Arabs is the same as the situation in South Africa," said Kenneth Stone, speaking to an audience of about 50 people last Thursday in Curtis Lecture Hall G.

In his speech (which followed a film on racism in Israel), Stone emphasized the need for a revolution in Israel along the lines of the Soviet Revolution. "This is the same racism that is present in all capitals countries — including Russia and China" said Stone.

The film, *Live in Freedom*, was having its North American premiere. Billed as a film "made

in Israel by Israelis", *Freedom* dealt with the problems of the immigrant Jew and the Arab in Israel. "For most Palestinians, the founding of Israel was the beginning of a nightmare," stated the narrator.

The film polarizes the aims and goals of the Zionist movement in the mid-nineteenth century with those of the Palestinians. The narrator refers to pre-Israeli Palestine as "a land without people for a people without a land", and suggests that the Zionists were both unaware of and unsympathetic to the needs of the Palestinians.

Despite its failings, the film

does succeed in avoiding racist statements of its own. The issues in Israel are looked at from a socialist point of view, turning the governments of both Israel and the Arab countries into the "heavies". The producer (Naledi Films) points out that, according to the 1947 U.N. Resolution, Palestine was to be partitioned into two different lands, one going to the former Arab residents of the area. The producers then point out that the land allotted to the Palestinians was absorbed by Transjordan under King Abdullac.

The forum, sponsored jointly by the Committee Against Racism and the Canadian Labour Party,

dealt with the problem of racism as it relates to nationalism. The audience, in a heated question and answer period, interrogated Stone in detail. When at one point Stone referred to the Bolshevik revolution as precedent and referred to the "Jewish brothers" involved, a member of the audience sarcastically retorted, "And

where are they now?"

The forum was a mild success, although the audience appeared to have left unimpressed. The film itself was a fair attempt to deal with the problems in Israel, although it relied too heavily on "cutie shots" of young refugees and close-up shots of the slums common to any large city.

New awards ombudsman

Due to the continuing threat of cutbacks in student awards, the CYSF has appointed a student awards ombudsman.

I will attempt to inform the student body of problems in area and to solicit and record these problems in the form of case histories.

Returning students are realizing that the size of awards decreases every year. The philosophy behind this is that as one's education increases, his prospects for summer employment are enhanced — enabling him to contribute more toward the cost of his education.

Therefore, even though employment is down and the job market has little room for students during the summer, not only do they not get an annual increase in awards, they actually get less each year.

The government has made no attempt to ensure that student aid keeps pace with inflation and, as a result, student awards are insufficient to cover expenses.

Students have been defaulted by dead-line dates while waiting for awards to be processed. If the individual applies for student awards after July 1, the registrar's office will not allow him deferred student status.

Students are being penalized for owning cars.

Students are presented with a choice between OSAP or CSLP. Some students are not aware that CSLP is all loan and are enticed into accepting it, since the lump sum is usually larger than that offered by OSAP.

Before the end of the academic year, a questionnaire will be circulated in order to collect pertinent data so that a presentation can be made to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

If you have a problem and cannot come into my office in the CYSF block during posted hours, drop by anytime and fill out an information form.

Michael Kates,
 Student Awards Ombudsman

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CYSF is announcing a campus-wide election on Dec. 3 for 2 representatives on the Board of Governors

All students (including those at Bethune, Atkinson, Glendon & Osgoode) are eligible to run for office and to vote in this election.

Nominations open on Nov. 19.

Nominations close on Nov. 25.

The campaign period extends from Nov. 26 to Dec. 2.

There will also be two referenda on Dec. 3.

They will give you an opportunity to express your views on 2 issues.

One will deal with the food services at York.

The other will deal with the question of increased funding for the National Union of Students to \$1. per student from 30¢.

Nomination forms are available at the CYSF office.

Anyone interested in serving as a poll clerk or deputy returning officer please apply at the CYSF Office in Central Square.



THE TIME
 HAS COME