

# Dalhousie Gazette

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## Rosie Douglas speaks Monday

# Racism, imperialism roots at SGWU

Canadian exploitation of the Caribbean and racism at home were the causes of the Sir George Williams University occupation and computer burning... and these same factors prevent those accused in connection with the incident from obtaining a fair hearing.

These are the objective facts of the situation, according to

Rosie Douglas, a principal in the case who spoke at a news conference Wednesday, the anniversary of last year's blowup.

Douglas, who himself faces trial next month, pointed out the facts of economic domination and racism prior to his speaking engagement at Dalhousie today Monday.

Canadian investment in the Caribbean amounts to 900 million dollars, with over 350-million dollars in profits being extracted from the Caribbean economy every year. Alcan Aluminum alone removes 90 million a year, 50 million of which goes to the Canadian government.

At this point, according to

Douglas, the Caribbean countries need Canadian investment, but not the profiteering sort of piracy presently underway... the kind that maintains 35% unemployment in Jamaica and governments of yes men.

The board of governors of Sir George is well represented on the lists of those reaping profits... Seagram's distilleries and Alcan aluminum executives are good examples.

Then there are the symptoms of racism... there has been no investigation into the Sir George incident... the federal government says it's a provincial matter... Quebec says it's an internal matter for the university... the university does nothing. It was 9 months before a committee was formed at Sir George to look in to charges of racial discrimination against black students. The average bail

for white students arrested was 1500 dollars; for blacks, 5000 dollars plus their passport, and this applied to Canadian blacks as well as those from the Caribbean.

The trials currently underway in Montreal are dealing with the events of Feb. 11, 1969, the day the computers were smashed. The court is not considering the charges of racism, or the university's refusal to deal with them before and during the 12 days of peaceful occupation which preceded Feb. 11.

Douglas points out that sentiment in the Caribbean is rising against the negligence of Canadian officials. The students want a full investigation into the whole matter... not just the last day.

Been to Jamaica or Trinidad lately??? The red carpet treatment Canadian visitors get seems only to be extended in Canada to Caribbean dollars.

## No consensus, nat'l union no go

MONTREAL (CUP) — Delegates from 18 university student councils ended four days of meeting here Sunday (February 8) agreeing on little more than the necessity for holding regular meetings.

The conference of student councils, called by McGill student society vice-president Martin Shapiro to discuss the possibility of forming a new national union to fill the gap left by the demise of the Canadian Union of Students, was boycotted by student councils from British Columbia, Alberta Saskatchewan and Québec.

Canadian Press wire service carried a story saying that Dalhousie University was co-sponsoring the conference, as Shapiro had suggested to Dalhousie Student Union President Bruce Gillis. However, the Union ex-

ecutive had not agreed to the proposed co-sponsorship.

By a 7 to 5 vote, those councils which did attend voted to accept in principle the formation of a national union, but could not agree on the political direction of the proposed body.

A minority of delegates, led by the University of Western Ontario, insisted that such a union should be politically activist, but most of the delegates said they desired a "less active" organization than the former Canadian Union of Students.

Western was also the only university which disagreed with a compromise proposal calling for regular meetings of the councils to discuss specific problems such as education, or pollution.

Other delegates said it was "too soon" after the dissolution of CUS to establish a new national union.

Both CUS and Québec's Union Générale des Etudiants du Québec dissolved last fall, as political differences provoked member universities into dropping out or withholding membership fees.

Some delegates to the conference — and some who did not attend — charged the meeting was not national in its scope, and hinted at duplicity on the part of the organizers.

In an open letter published prior to the meeting, University of Calgary student council president Pat Pattison said that U of C had reversed a decision to attend, and obliquely charged that McGill council vice-president Shapiro had misled Calgary concerning the conference.

Just what we need...elections p. 4



## CANDIDATES

President - V.P.

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Don MacLennan  
Beverly Yeadon  
David Yip

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Chris Curtis  
Jeremy Gaye  
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### Law

Barrett Halderman  
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V.P. - Mary Lee  
MacDonald  
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\*(ac) - acclamation