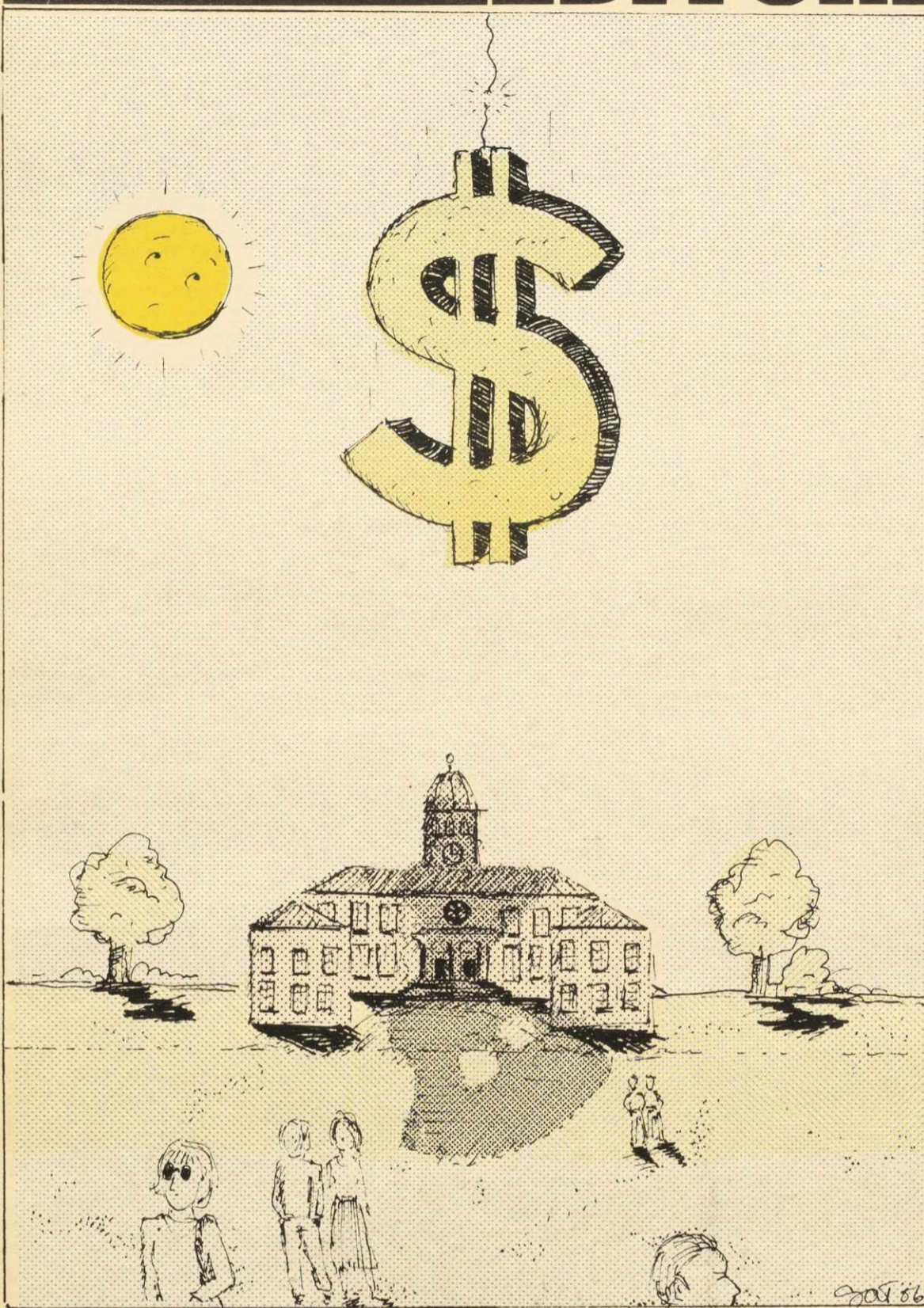


EDITORIAL



include: Proverbs 3:13 "Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding." The New Testament also refers to the acquisition of knowledge in 2 Peter 1:5, "... make every effort to add to your faith, goodness; and your goodness, knowledge."

Clearly, Dr. Leary used only partial truths, and not an entire picture of what the Bible says, in his lecture.

Sincerely,
Brad Wilson

Information outdated

To the editor:

Hopefully it was obvious to *Gazette* readers that while Mr. Neil Ferguson and Mr. Reza Rizvi were defending the Royal Bank for its policy of "constructive disengagement" on South Africa, in the front page of the same issue, January 23, "Dalhousie divests" by Lois Corbett and Naa Dei Nikoi cites the Royal Bank as one of the institutions that deal with South Africa. Pathetically the two student union bureaucrats chose to come up with evidence outdated as it was, to suit their purpose.

Mr. Ferguson argues that the Royal Bank was considered by Dalhousie Student Union Council to be "the bank the least involved in investments in not only South Africa, but in that country and others where human rights were being violated." Mr. Ferguson will be pleased to know that the Task Force on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility (1983) cited the Royal Bank in its report a "the holder of the largest known loans by a Canadian bank to South African state enterprises."

Mr. Reza Rizvi uses his correspondence with Mr. Dave Maclean to show that the Royal Bank is clean. It is not. To go further with Mr. Rizvi's quotation of his correspondence omitted in his article, the Royal Bank policy adopted in 1978 states that "the Royal Bank will not announce a complete embargo upon all loans to the South African government and its agencies, but this does not mean that it will necessarily make such loans, only that it will consider loan requests on individual basis." When pressed to clarify what it meant by the statement, the Bank declined to do so. Therefore, I see the citing of the information from the Royal Bank by Rizvi as completely ridiculous. Mr. Rizvi says that he approached me with the facts three days before my letter to the *Gazette* was published. I do not recall sending a copy of my letter to Mr. Rizvi. If the Editor of the *Gazette* was kind enough to let him know what was coming, he should be very grateful. I did not retract my letter to the *Gazette* as requested by Mr. Rizvi because I stood by what I wrote. I was not misinforming the students as Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Rizvi accuse me of. I suppose I was asked to withdraw my letter because the Student Union did not want the students to know the truth. Well — maybe this debate will continue and eventually the facts will come out.

Seven years ago the economic involvement of banks in South Africa may have allowed the

Royal Bank to appear as the least offensive of the Canadian majors. However, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Rizvi should realize that the situation can change in seven years. I suppose their obstinacy not to even think of this and their absolute belief of what they got from the bank clearly shows their business-as-usual mentality as far as the Royal is concerned. What did they expect? Of course the bank officials will tell Mr. Rizvi what he wants to hear.

Dalhousie has committed itself to finding investments which are clean. My letter in the *Gazette* questions the consistency of the Student Union on the issue of divestment. I do hope that the Student Union will be able to find clean investments just as Dalhousie has committed itself to. I believe that this could be done if we had officials determined to do so, and committed to the cause of humanitarianism.

While congratulating Dalhousie, the Student Union, Mr. Stevan Ellis in particular, and all the supporters of the motion for 'Dalhousie to divest in South Africa' who attended the Board of Governors meeting, I would like to caution Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Rizvi on their consistency in dealing with the issue. They need to do more homework because their arguments are outdated. They should go back and read the article my letter was responding to.

Come on Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Rizvi. Get on our side! You are defending a lost cause. When we get the bank issue debated, we will have to get South African goods boycotted by other universities out of the Student Union Building. Will Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Rizvi help to get Rothman's products out of the SUB?

James Kadyampakeni

Glazov seriously misled

To the editor,

In response to Jamie Glazov's "Commentary: SDI" of last week's *Gazette*, we agree that "the concept of a nuclear holocaust is really quite frightening." However, we do not agree that there is a defense against nuclear weapons. Will SDI truly make nuclear weapons obsolete? "Star Wars" does nothing to protect us from bomber aircraft, cruise missiles, submarine attack and smuggled bombs." (*San Francisco Chronicle* 3/6/85).

As Glazov reports, SDI experts say the system can stop approximately 95 percent of all incoming missiles. Even if five percent of the Soviets' arsenal gets through "Star Wars", destruction will be devastating to the American people. "Detonation of only five percent of the world's nuclear arsenal will create the possibility of a nuclear winter" (Carl Sagan). "The end results of attempting to put up a "Star Wars" system, whether or not it works, will be to greatly increase the likelihood of a nuclear war and to make that war even more destructive if it comes." (Robt. Bowman, Institute for Space and Security Studies, 4/21/85) If the system were installed, the Soviets would

Strength of agreement doubted

LESS THAN A YEAR AGO Dalhousie students voted "yes" to a \$15 increase in their student union fees.

The Dalhousie Student Union collected this fee increase, amounting to \$750,000 and then gave it to the university's capital fund drive for use in specific areas of the university.

In return for the money, the university guaranteed students no more than a four per cent increase in tuition fees for the next three years. Good deal, eh?

Sadly, there is a catch in the deal. There is a clause in the legal contract signed by DSU and the administration that says either party may opt out of the agreement if there is a change in funding to the university.

If the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Post-Secondary Education are implemented, there will certainly be a change in funding. This worries DSU councillors, because it is a

perfect chance for the administration to pull out of the agreement.

There has also been a freeze on level of government spending for education next year. Whether this freeze constitutes a change in funding concerns the student councillors. If this is a change the administration has the option of backing out of the tuition agreement. Reneging on its promise, shall we say.

Dalhousie students already pay the highest tuition on Canada and they cannot afford an increase. While the administration will be put in a bind if the government's threat to freeze funding for education at the 1985 level comes true, they must understand that turning back to students for higher tuition fees are not a solution to crisis in underfunding.

When the agreement was signed, it was heralded as the "turning point in the often touchy relationship between the student

union and the administration."

Let's hope this new relationship does not end before it is given a chance.

Leary incorrect

To the editor:

The recent lecture given by Dr. Timothy Leary at the Dal SUB was both informative and interesting. He was, however, incorrect in his reference to the Christian faith as one which discourages the acquisition of knowledge. He pointed out that Adam and Eve were told not to eat of the tree of knowledge. In fact it was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, or rather the knowledge of sin. Before this they knew how to think but had not yet sinned.

Dr. Leary ignored other biblical references that encourage people to gain knowledge. The Proverbs, written by Solomon, has several such references which