

Many Topics Discussed

Many Social Activities

WCSTC Delegates Depart After Four Day Confab

**By Larry Krywaniuk
Education Reporter**

The Education Building is back to normal.

Delegates have gone back from whence they came.

The Western Canadian Student Teachers Conference is over for another year. After a hectic four days of activity, de-

legates handed in their name tags, said their farewells, turned for one last look at the campus and slowly prepared for the long journey home.

REVELS BEGIN

The conference had opened Wednesday night with registration, a smorgasbord dinner and an address from Professor W. Pilkington.

Thursday brought with it the presentation of the topic on federal

aid to education and speaker W. N. Toombs, of the department of ed. adm. Professor Toombs outlined the essentials of federal aid and described it as being "desirable, necessary and inevitable."

COMPARISON OF FINDINGS

Delegates, themselves, had done an extensive study on all the topics of the conference and had also prepared briefs on the delegation's findings. They then broke into discussion groups and compared the findings of all concerned.

The conference, in general, en-

dorsed federal aid but raised questions as to how the money would be collected, how much would be granted, how it would be distributed and how much control the federal government should have over education.

MONEY PROBLEMS

As finance is one of the greatest problems in education, the delegates felt that immediate action should be taken.

Friday's topic was the utilization of staff; more specifically, "Team-Teaching." Dr. W. D. Neal, now doing post-doctoral research at Edmonton, gave the opening address. He described the various forms of team-teaching and gave the results of some studies being done in Canada and the U.S.

Following this, the delegates again formed small discussion groups for comparison of their findings. Delegates endorsed team-teaching in principle, but had some reservations as to the extent and type of team-teaching to be used.

Delegates also wondered whether the extra cost (if any) would be better spent on equalization of educational opportunity throughout the country or whether it should be implemented whatever the cost if it shows significant improvement.

IMPRESSED WITH VEWVC

On Saturday the conference hosted a panel discussion on "The Role of Vocational Education in Our Schools." Delegates also had the opportunity to be taken on a guided tour of the new Vocational Education Wing of Victoria Composite High School. They seemed greatly impressed with the facilities which the building had to offer.

Saturday evening, between discussions, debates and resolutions, the conference unanimously accepted Brandon College's invitation to host the conference next year.

The delegates marvelled at the current run of fine Alberta weather

and took advantage of it to make tours of the city and visit Muk-Luk Mardi Gras. They also attended the parties and the dance held in their honor.

SOCIAL WHIRL

Perhaps the social activities which the delegates enjoyed the most were the luncheons and banquets where they "paid for the food by listening to guest speakers," as one speaker put it jokingly.

These dinners were donated to the conference by organizations in the field of education. Billets for the delegates were supplied voluntarily by students and other interested parties.

Dean Of Union Theological Seminary Speaker For School Of Religion

By Janis Kostash

Where does Christianity fit into the Cold War?

Dr. John C. Bennett, president of the Union Theological Seminary in New York described the fit at the seventh annual School of Religion, held at St. Stephen's College last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Dr. Bennett noted the detachment the Canadian can use in viewing the cold war—the U.S. sometimes gets taken in by its own propaganda. Although the government is less obsessed than the people by the cold war, the obsession is still there.

Dr. Bennett commented on the extraordinary power held by the Communists—one-third of the world is made vulnerable by poverty and resentment against existing conditions—and on the helplessness of the U.S. in many cases, because every move is attacked by one camp or another.

But the conflict between Christianity and Communism can't be allowed to develop into a Holy War. There must be a definite distinction made between Communism and human communities with Communist governments—Communism must not represent an anti-Christ.

Within each Communist nation there is already a conflict between

the Marxist and the Christian interpretation of life, and forcing together the Soviet regime and an anti-Christian doctrine would drive Christians to a stronger defence of their land. Holy wars lead to fanaticism.

A danger of exaggerating the military aspect was mentioned by Dr. Bennett; "we can't stop Communism by military power alone."

Three changes occurring in the Soviet Union indicate the shifting priorities in the Russian purpose:

- a general movement away from government by terror; the oligarchy is now open to the pressure of public opinion.

- a pride in what has been accomplished; attention is being focussed on the past and present, not just the future,

- the Soviet Union really wanting to avoid war; it would destroy what has been built up.

What do these changes mean? Not that the west can relax to the spread of Communism, Dr. Bennett replied. Not that the effects of the changes will be favorable to religion or foreign policy.

But they can mean that authori-

tarian powers over the people has definite limits, that Communism in some countries may lead to something better than what the critics assume. But these changes in priorities can take place without renunciation of the ultimate goals, Dr. Bennett emphasized.

"A Christian Response to Some Problems in Social Ethics" and the position of the church in a religiously pluralist society were also discussed by Dr. Bennett. The author of several books and editor of *Nuclear Weapons and the Conflict of Conscience*, he gave the Chancellor Dunning lectures at Queens University.

Professor Robert Anderson, of the faculty of education at UAC, spoke on the place of religion in education.

This seventh school of religion, sponsored by the United Church, was intended to focus attention on certain aspects of the Church's doctrine or work. A contrast in the speakers' approaches should stimulate thinking, but the school is not a debate. Several university professors have been featured in past years; the school wants theologians to be confronted with the university attitude.

Philip Phlops; Council Loses \$235 On Actor

Philip Hanson played to an audience of 140 at Con Hall on Feb. 6. The crowd was somewhat less than anticipated.

Because of the poor turnout the Students' Union is about \$235 poorer, Doug McTavish reported to Council Monday night.

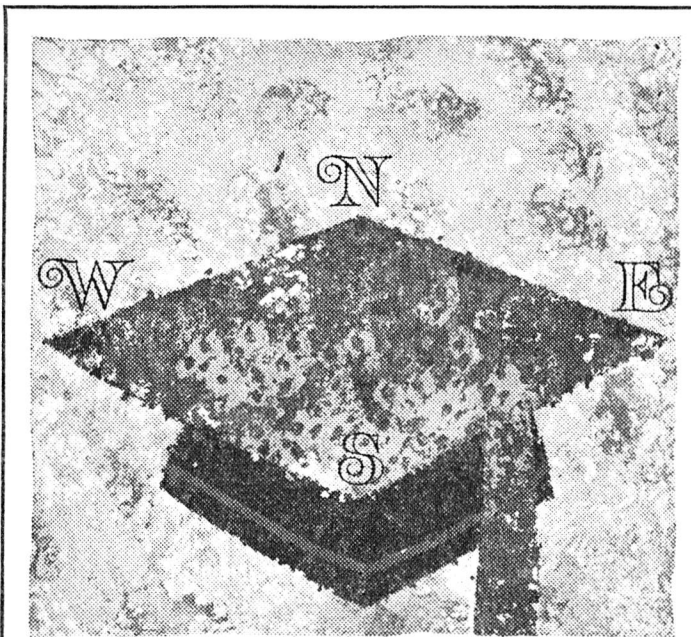
At U of M the performance was free and well attended.

Last September the Students' Union sponsored a show by the Travellers and made a \$300 profit.

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