

# Anti-nuke speaker reveals tough statistics

analysis by Zane Harker

Murray Thompson of Project Ploughshares presented a different kind of anti-nuclear forum for 27 people in Tory Thursday night.

Thompson supplied a refreshing but appropriately disturbing talk on the nuclear threat that the world faces today.

Project Ploughshares is a program sponsored by Canadian churches and other concerned groups. It is also affiliated with the United Nations. The Project concerns itself with militarism and the problems of disarmament with special attention paid to underdeveloped countries.

The evening started with a film sponsored by the United Nations entitled *In the Minds of Men I* was disappointed with the film, it pandered to the audience and tugged at the old heartstrings a little too often.

One example was the sequence where old (but cute) people buying food at the market were juxtaposed with dropping bombs while a child's plaintive (but cute) voice asked, "Why do we have to have war?" I found this insulted my intelligence needlessly. I don't need to be told by poverty-stricken (but cute) children that war is terrible.

Other parts of the film worked much better, like the scenes of the Hiroshima aftermath with victims' voiceovers describing the carnage. The film also dealt graphically with bloody revolutions of Central America and Africa.

And while the film was not entirely successful, its message was the same as Murray Thompson's: "The reliance of the use of armed force to bring about change is obsolete."

Thompson stressed that the number of people who have become active in some way in the anti-nuclear fight is increasing. He cited one example, when three American and three Soviet doctors met to discuss the effects of a nuclear war: "For once they weren't talking about communist or capitalist bodies, but just bodies."

Thompson went on to emphasize that the nuclear threat is an international problem, "We must look at it

from a global point of view. There is only one atmosphere, one water source."

He continued that with 800 million people below the poverty line we ought to be planning for global security, and for most people, security starts from the stomach.

Thompson then revealed the most startling statistic, that \$600 billion dollars a year is spent on nuclear arms in the world. He furthered that "this \$600 billion cannot be eaten."

On top of this huge sum of money "billions more are being spent for research and development for new methods for obliterating people." These new methods include biological and chemical warfare.

Canada's role in arms spending was also discussed. While Canada is not the biggest in terms of dollars spent, it is on its way. This country's spending has gone up to eight billion from four billion a few years ago to place us in the top ten world arms producers.

The incredible stockpile resulting from this spending equals approximately 50,000 nuclear weapons with about three new bombs added daily.

Because of the very small and the informal ease of Thompson's presentation, the forum was much like a classroom discussion. Thompson addressed all pertinent questions while deftly avoiding the inevitable quacks.

The most interesting question from the audience came from a man who asked, "Supposing I work in a nuclear missile plant. I need a job and to feed my family, what should I do?"

While he didn't directly advise the man to quit his job, Thompson stated that "While production of weapons produces jobs, it doesn't produce them efficiently." He countered with an appropriate statistic: if the military can produce 70,000 jobs with \$1 billion, 187,000 jobs can be created for non-military use for the same amount.

Thompson suggested that the billions of dollars spent for the military be converted for civilian use. A drive has recently been started in

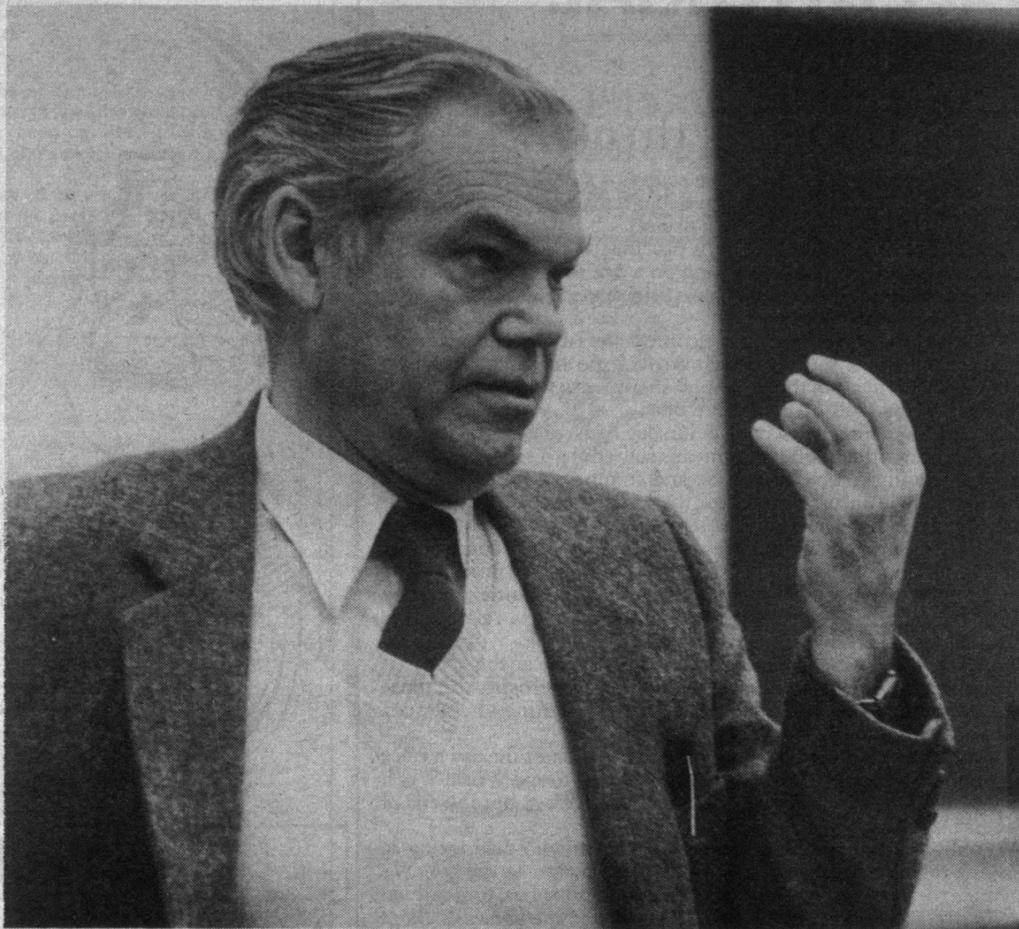


photo by Zane Harker

Spokesperson for Project Ploughshares, Murray Thompson, advocates military dollars be spent for civilian use. "If you don't act, you're generally left with a feeling of helplessness and this leads to cynicism."

Canada to do just that with the technology that has been developed for the guidance system of the cruise missile.

Thompson went on to urge the students to "challenge the laws that allow it (nuclear arms) to go on. I would plead with you to act. If you don't act, you're generally left with a

feeling of helplessness and this leads to cynicism."

Thompson added that "I am encouraged by what is happening in the world today." He was especially pleased with the anti-nuclear march that took place last June in New York City, Thompson was there along with

approximately 800,000 other people. "To see that many people applauding the peace movement was incredible."

Regarding the recent wave of anti-nuclear feeling, Thompson answered, "I am encouraged by what is happening in the world today. The question is, are we too late?"

# Ontario Education Minister for fewer students

TORONTO (CUP)—Universities should limit their enrolment to the more advanced students and adjust their programs to the needs of industry, according to Ontario's education minister.

Bette Stephenson told 400 delegates to a post-secondary education conference sponsored by the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada (CMEC) Oct. 22 that the advanced education system should not be seen as a pyramid with universities on top.

She said the 70 per cent of high school graduates who choose to enter the labour force directly make valid

decisions.

Stephenson implied that few of the remaining 30 per cent belong in university.

"We might ask ourselves whether a society should limit opportunities at the university level to those who have the intellectual capacity to participate and contribute," said Stephenson.

"Should we continue to look at totally open admission for people who may encounter great difficulties in achieving at university? Would they be better served elsewhere?"

Stephenson's views are part of a growing consensus in government

and some administration circles that favour reducing university enrolments as an alternative to increased funding, closing institutions or drastically increasing tuition fees.

The Ontario Council on University Affairs, which advises the government on university funding, recently called for enrolment ceilings for each university and a refusal to fund them beyond that ceiling.

The University of Toronto plans to reduce enrolment 10 per cent this decade. Enrolment was cut about three per cent this year despite an increase in applications.

Stephenson said universities can

no longer separate themselves from the larger society in their traditional role of preserving, transmitting and expanding knowledge.

Higher education is now a full-fledged player in the economy and must abide by most of the same rules as other sectors," said Stephenson.

She said universities must reallocate resources to the training component of post-secondary education.

Ontario was the first province to sign an agreement with Ottawa on the controversial National Skills Training Program, through which the federal government will pump hundreds of

millions of dollars into programs training people for high demand occupations.

Critics charge this money will come out of funding for existing programs.

Stephenson said universities must rely more on their graduates for funding. Most Canadian universities have greatly stepped up private sector fund-raising in response to the financial squeeze from government.

Universities have always been more autonomous than colleges, said Stephenson. University boards of governors must show "responsibility" to the public, but "government must establish general objectives," she said.

BAZ

by SKEET and Nielsen

# Asbestos program refueled

by Jens Andersen

The resumption of the University's asbestos removal program was announced at the Board of Governors meeting Friday.

In addition, the Board approved expenditures for a Materials Management Building on the K Zone parking lot near Corbett Hall, and renovations to various campus buildings. Also, reports were tabled concerning University investments, which Board Chairman John Schlosser said were

"performing very well."

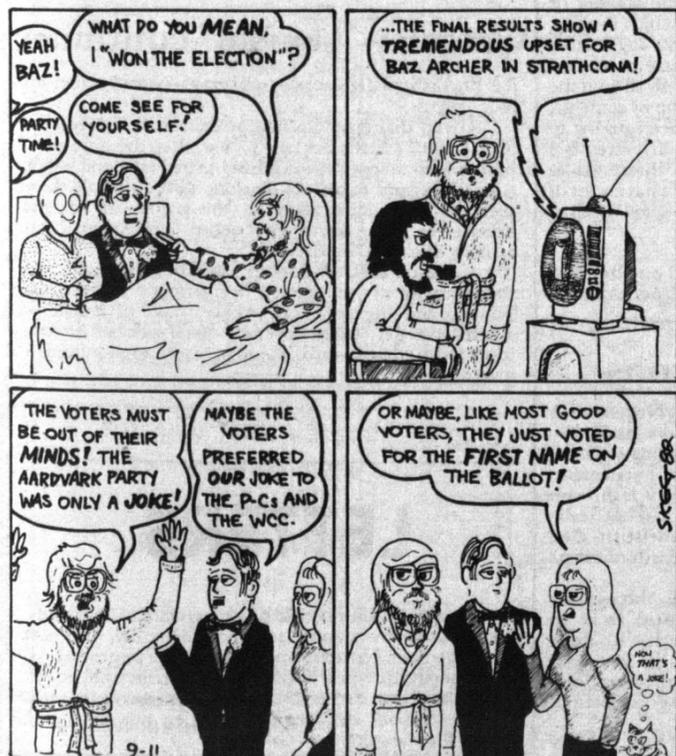
The asbestos removal program was put in limbo last September by the University, when the provincial government failed to come up with money to continue it. At that point the program was already running a deficit, which the \$4 million currently granted will also be used to cover.

Cameron Library and the Student Union Building will probably be the first two buildings to be inspected, and, if needed, repaired.

Other reports by Board func-

tionaries dealt with everything from the Canadian Encyclopedia project undertaken by the University (scheduled for completion in 1985) to luncheons with Rotary and speeches before the Chamber of Commerce.

An optimistic progress report on Universiade '83 was also heard. When someone asked why the Student Games were getting bad press, Dr. Macnab, the spokesman for Universiade, quipped, "Unfortunately we don't control the media."



# Attempted humor

By Abner Malle

A recent study done at eight major American universities has shown that students with G.P.A.'s of over 8 are easily brainwashed into cults. This conclusion was reached after years of studying cult recruits from university campuses.

Of the students approached, only 3% showed any interest in the cults presented. Of the 3%, an astounding 93.6% were students with G.P.A.'s of 8 or over.

Doctors who have analysed the results of the study theorize that years of absorbing class material makes it easier for the mind to relate to cult philosophy. It appears that the process which hastens the acceptance of lecture and text information also hastens the acceptance of religious propaganda.

University administrators are being asked to "keep

an eye" on any student with continuously high marks. This is to ensure that those exceptional students who have already been cultsized do not influence average or low students.

Deprogramming centers are already providing advice and assistance for victims of this scourge. Anyone who feels he or she may be one of the "likely cult prospects" is asked to skip a week of classes and drink heavily.

