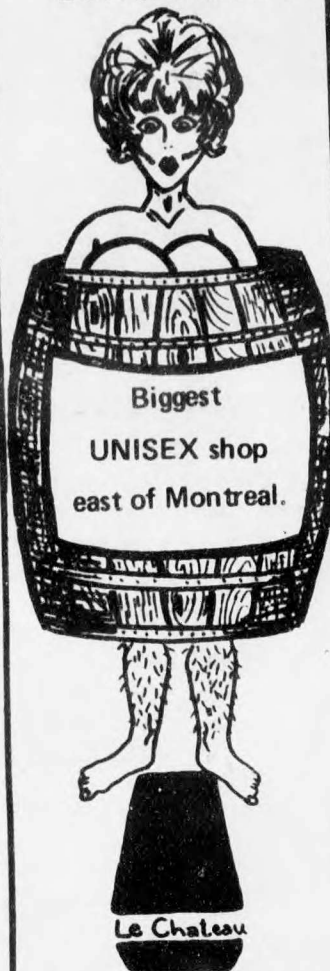


'Crossroads' youths return to Canada...

UNB - Gord Cousins is one of three young people from

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UNB who worked overseas this summer as part of the Crossroads International program that has been instituted across the country. Here, he tells of his work in Ghana. In future weeks, we will follow up with interviews with the other two UNBers and a summary on "Crossroads International" with information and instructions for those of you who would be interested in contributing to the cause.

Cousins learned about "Crossroads" through students applying for the organization in the fall of last year. His uncle had served in "Crossroads" in 1965, working throughout five countries of east Africa and so Gord became interested in overseas work in general.

By DANIELLE THIBEAULT

He applied because he wanted to have a look at Africa before he would decide whether or not he would join Canadian University Students Overseas (CUSO) for two years. So he filed his application to Don Loree, the campus coordinator for Crossroads International at their October meeting, last year.

He was accepted on the basis of his knowledge of electronics and because of the

fact that he was also familiar with audio visual techniques and equipment. With this background, he was employed by the Minister of Education in Ghana.

For the first month he toured the country with a group from the centre for Civic Education, a Ghanaian educational unit financed by a West German benevolent fund. The unit which goes from one village to another, is a mobile puppet van and by means of film and conferences educates the villagers on popular economics: inflation, wage levels, prices and even crime and delinquency.

Cousins mainly supervised the repairing of electronic equipment such as tape recorders. He also attended a number of public seminars that were given in the villages. He then had two weeks to travel on his own, which he did, heading for Upper Volta and more extensively through Ghana with a CUSO-mate.

During that time he visited Dan Fenety another UNBer with Crossroads, who was building a maternity wing for a hospital elsewhere. While there he was asked to draw up the electrical circuits for the wing. He then returned to Ghana where he went to work for the Minister of Education.

"In this part of Ghana," said Gord, "the private schools

have a wide selection of choice electronic teaching aids whereas the government schools are provided with gifts from different

countries and organizations and so it is difficult to find spare parts in the stores or even qualified technicians to do the repairing of the electronic equipment." Cousins was hired as an audiovisual electronic technician. Provided with a bus, three Ghanaian Peace Corps volunteers and two more Crossroads workers and travelled through Ghana, spending a couple of weeks in each spot, setting up regional depots where the schools could bring their electronic equipment for repair.

During this tour of Ghana, they trained two Ghanians and one Peace Corps volunteer on the basic skills and knowledge of electronics and electricity, on how to trace faults on tape decks.

Work included dozens of different types of equipment and since this project was the first of its kind, they were asked to make a report on the project as a whole and offer recommendations for the establishment of a factory, which they did by setting it up and providing instructions for maintaining it in good working order.

A typical day began with an early rise (6:30 a.m.), break-

fast, then off to work by 8:00 a.m. until noon, when they broke off for lunch, and then until 6:00 p.m. They only worked half-days on Saturdays and Sundays. Evenings were spent at the local Pioto bars, where everybody gathers to drink fermented millet. Saturday and Sunday evenings were used for shopping at the local market.

During his brief visit to West Africa, Cousins was surprised by the distinct difference between the French-colonized Upper Volta and the English-colonized Ghana.

The inhabitants of Upper Volta he found to be quiet and reserved. He also found it fascinating that music has become so very much a part of their lives and reflected on their attitudes towards foreigners. "You will find radio speakers on the streets," said Cousins, "and almost everybody carries a radio with them. During the evening, the drums will start rolling and go on for the better part of the night."

The food is very European and there is an especially large provision of French food such as french bread. French ice-cream is flown in from Paris everyday. The traffic is very dense as there are many kinds of vehicles being used in that

continued on next page

* NOTICE *

The attention of students is drawn to P.iv of the University Calendar(1971-72) where September 30 is shown as the last date on which course changes can be made in full year courses or in first term half courses.

Students who are thinking of changing courses should discuss this with their instructors, Deans and/or advisors. The permission of your Dean or his designate is required before you can change courses.

Once the decision to change courses is taken the student should complete a course change form and bring it to the Registrar's office. Course change forms may be obtained from departmental offices or from the Registrar's office.

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The Registrar's office is on the second level, Old Arts Building.

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