Steps taken to ban the KKK in BC

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Student organizations are rallying with ethnic and labour groups to have criminal charges brought against the Ku Klux Klan here for "inciting hatred and threatening the peace."

The Klan has been actively recruiting in Vancouver, distributing literature to students entering Vancouver Technical High School and reportedly handing out orange cards on the University of B.C. campus with the message: "racial purity is Canada's security."

Delicia Crump, of the National Black Coalition, has written B.C. attorney general Allan Williams asking permission to lay charges against the Klan under section 281-2 of the criminal code for willful incitement and promotion of hatred.

Student organizations are now sending telegrams to Williams urging that he allow Crump to lay the charges, as is required under the code.

The B.C. Students Federation and the Simon Fraser University student society have already sent their telegrams, while the Capilano College student society is expected to do so November 6

"The Klan is a criminal, vile organization, and it should be banned," said SFU student society officer Doug Fleming, who plans to push for full student society support of the campaign.

Crump, who is also president of the B.C. Association for the Advancement of Colored People, says Williams is stalling on her request and is angry that he has yet to make a public statement about the "documented evidence" she sent him. The evidence is a transcript of a CBC television interview with Canadian Klandirector Alexander McQuirter.

Telegram campaign organizer Miguel Eigeuro says provincial secretary Evan Wolfe denied having seen the charges. They were mailed October 27. Wolfe has said the attorney general's department planned to monitor the

Klan, but expected no crack-down.

Crump said the provincial government "is talking out of both sides of its mouth." By Williams' silence, she said, "are we to understand that he is supporting the Klan? If he is not supporting the Klan, then why is is hesitating to stop them?"

Neither Williams or Wolfe could be reached for com-

"People don't realize they are serious," Crump said. "Do they have to kill someone first?"

"There is no doubt the (criminal) code was broken. What I'm hoping is that the court would just ban the Klan out of B.C. period."

Meanwhile, the B.C. Federation of Labour has asked education minister Brian Smith to take steps against the Klan's distribution of

literature to high school students. A Vancouver school board spokesperson has pledged that the board will take action against any recruitment done on school property.

Other groups supporting the campaign include the Canadian Council on Christians and Jews and the Chinese Benevolent Association.

Canadian Commentary produced by SMU

by Paul Creelman

A weekly commentary on national and international affairs is being produced by four St. Mary's professors. The show, called "Canadian Commentary" is being shown weekly on MPBN television in the U.S., and on Friday and Monday nights on Halifax Cablevision.

"The main thrust of the program is to provide a Canadian slant on events happening at the national level, in North America, and at the International level. We're all historians, so that we are providing a historical perspective, but the show is about contemporary events," stated Frederick Young, one of the four panelists on the show.

There were several reasons for producing the program at this time, says Young.

"From MPBN's standpoint, their programming is carried into the Maritime area by the cablevision companies, so that they wanted something for the Maritime viewers. From our standpoint, I think we all felt that there was a lack of really good news analysis in the Atlantic region. Our model for the show is in something like the Watershed Review, or Gransky and Company in the U.S. In Canada, I think that we all admired the Watson Report on CBC, and felt that there was room for this kind of news analysis here."

The show, which is being produced with the aid of the facilities in Halifax Cablevi-

sion, is not being done in conjunction with St. Mary's, according to Young.

"The program has nothing to do with St. Mary's University, other than the fact that we all happen to work here, says Young, referring to his three colleagues Roger Mills, Wallace Mills, Robert Bollini, and Burkhard Kiesekamp.

"As a matter of fact, we've set up our own company to produce the show, called Canadian Commentary Productions, just to ensure that we don't lose control of staffing or production."

The professors are not making much money out of their deal with MPBN.

"At the stage we're at right now, it's almost entirely gratuitous. Of course, if CBC came to us and expressed an interest in the series, we'd probably be agreeable."

Three topics are discussed every week on the series. Last week's discussion was taken up with commentary on the American elections, but upcoming topics this week include the situation with the labour unions in Poland.

Students at UBC disillusioned

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Students reacted with disillusionment and depression to the announcement November 4 of a tuition hike at the University

Fees will go up an average of 13 per cent but some faculties face increases of more than 17 per cent. Despite student appeals for reasonable fee increases and the presentation of a 1,500-signature petition totally opposing fee hikes, UBC's board of governors made no alterations to UBC president Doug Kenny's original plans for fee hikes.

"What a depressing night it was," said student board representative John Pellizon. "I was very upset. What happened last night really disgusted me.

"After that meeting I really got to wondering whether the board ever really consider student input in any decision they make."

Anthony Dickinson, the other student board representative, said he "had the impression the majority of the board had their minds made up before any discussion of the fees even took place."

But Maureen Boyd, a student who took it upon herself to battle tuition fees by starting the petition, had a different view of student council's efforts to stop the hikes.

"On one hand the (student society) complains about student apathy, but when students finally do start doing something on their own like circulating a petition, they turn around and stab the student body in the back."

She said she was upset that student president Bruce Armstrong downplayed the role of the petition at the Board Meeting and failed to use it as a weapon.

