

Pigeon Holds Camp

While the weekend's cold and snow drove saner people indoors, it did not deter the group of students attending the SCM Fall Camp held at the United Church Youth Camp at Pigeon Lake, last month.

Professors C. Hobart of the Department of Sociology and R. Baird of the Department of Political Science lead the discussion on Canada and Cuba.

Professor Hobart felt that the Americans had bungled in Cuba despite their claimed victory in forcing the USSR to remove their missiles from Cuban soil. He felt that the Americans had alienated the Cubans from the first when Batista was thrown out. If some positive gesture of friendship had been extended to the revolutionary government such as a withdrawal of the Guantanamo naval base, he continued, the Cubans would not have been lost to the Soviet camp. As it was, Castro's actions were inevitable and the Americans would be used as a scapegoat for Cuba's ills.

RECURRING CRISES

In a wider context, he advocated a disengagement of the protagonists in the Cold War in order to free the world from a recurring series of crises leading the world to the brink of nuclear war. An example of such a disengagement would involve the purchase of East German land bordering on West Germany and the removal of West Berlin to the site in its entirety.

Although great expense would be involved, such a move would not only demonstrate to the world the commitment of the West to world peace, but would also eliminate the ability of Mr. Khrushchev to put pressure on the West by threatening to in-

vade that city.

Professor Baird countered that the mechanics of the Cold War involve a game in which the rules are known by both sides. Thus a nuclear showdown on such as the Cuban crisis was not inevitable. According to the rules of the game, one side always backs down. He held that such gamesmanship was highly dangerous since the chances of nuclear war being accidentally triggered are always present.

CRITICAL CANADIANS

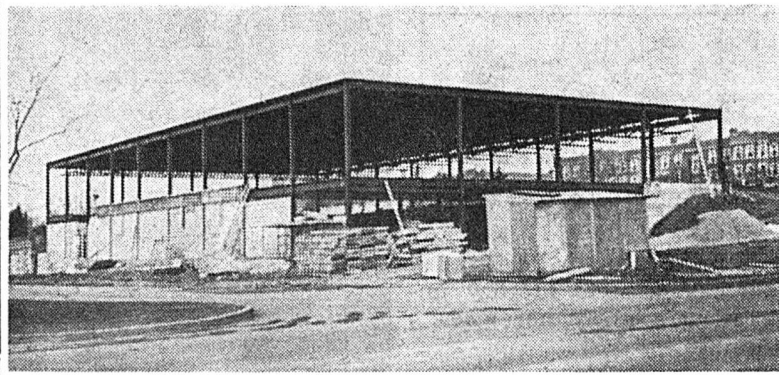
Professor Baird led a discussion on Canada's role in the world community of nations. Canadians are too critical of themselves, too concerned about the lack of a "national identity" and an alleged lack of a "true Canadian culture," he said.

She has conducted herself very well in the world and in the United Nations however, for example such contributions as Canadian policing of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The diversity in Canadian culture was an asset, a check on national stagnation. He felt that Canada could play a vital role in world affairs, interpreting the policies of the United States to Europe as India has interpreted the policies of Eastern nations to the West.

While Canadian criticism of American actions may hurt the pride of Americans, such criticisms of her friend causes Americans to evaluate their actions more closely.

Following Professor Baird's talk, an analysis of Christian ethics in international politics was aired.



ARMED FORCES BUILDING

photo by Ed Deval

NFCUS Rag Folds?

OTTAWA (CUP) Canada's new student magazine may fold before it even gets to press.

Editor-in-chief Fred Fletcher, at the University of BC reports almost no copy for the first edition of the new magazine. The book is published by the National Federation of Canadian University Students. UBC was mandated to handle technical production after they volunteered to underwrite the cost of the publication.

Fletcher says the first copy deadline is December 15 and he has contributions from only UBC.

Commenting on the poor response to date Fletcher said: "I am convinced a quarterly student magazine means unlimited opportunity for Canadian students to make themselves heard, but they must support

it before anyone else will."

In Ottawa Stewart Goodings, president of NFCUS said: "I am surprised that the enthusiasm shown at the Congress is backed up by such a poor performance. If the students of Canada really want this publication—and they've been crying for years that they do—they'll have to do something concrete about it."

Goodings said all local NFCUS committees should be pushing the project.

SUB Packed R.R. Success

The first experimental Radio Rendezvous was deemed an unquestionable success by a packed SUB cafeteria last Friday night.

Because of the enthusiastic response the second of these dances will take place tonight from 9:00 p.m.-12:00 midnight in the Sub cafeteria.

The highlight of last Friday's "record hop," the Tri-lites, will make another Radio Rendezvous appearance shortly after the Christmas holidays.

Commenting on last week's free dance, Ron Tanguay, President of U of A radio said, "Radio Society is pleased, to say the least, with the result of Radio Rendezvous and as a result more will be scheduled throughout the new year."

Jim Watt, organizer and M.C. commenting on the dance habits of U of A students observed that a cheek-to-cheek two-step is preferred to the twist.

The second TGIF committee and Radio Society organized Radio Rendezvous will be tonight from 9:00 p.m.-12:00 midnight in the SUB cafeteria. Free admission.

Life Loses To Science

If there is to be any hope for literature in the twentieth century it must come from the science fiction writers. They are the only authors who have been able to disassociate themselves from writing about the slice of baloney that we call life.

Strange and fighting thoughts these but Mrs. E. J. Rose clarified this concept during a Prof Talk she gave at the SCM house last Friday.

"All the great writers at one time or another have written something which could be considered science fiction. And surprisingly at the end of their career in most cases."

Mrs. Rose cited The Tempest and Dr. Faustus as the Elizabethan models of works which are concerned with the science and invention of the day. Gulliver's Travels, she felt, is the granddaddy of all science fiction. All science fiction written since then are as "footnotes to Swift's work."

Science fiction seems concerned with the future. But this is not necessarily true, Mrs. Rose said, because the writers use the future to exploit the trends of today. The stories have their relevance in the world of today. Conversely Swift's works had their importance to their world but also to ours. 1984 will have meaning after 1984 if 1984 does not arrive before then.

The medieval ideas of the universe revolving around the earth is one basic tent of this branch of literature. Man and the Earth are always the center. The space stories are either concerned with a going way or a coming back to Earth. With man firmly entrenched in the middle it is of course obvious that it will have a human appeal.

The artist is not an objet de SF. "No one has sat down and written a poem of 25,000 AD. No one would dare." The other arts are imaginary. There is no sense of architecture. YOU must make your own art of the future, the writer does not delineate it. Most television and movie representations fail in this regard because the viewer does not exercise his imagination. The reader must.

Religion in Science Fiction is never a new morality. There is always a sense of tradition. The new religion is always a corruption of the old. Minipax. Our Ford.

Classicism in Twentieth Century fiction? Indeed we find that "science fiction goes back to the classical idea of the Miracle of Man."

The hero with his tough self imposed standard of individual excellence, determination to succeed, dedication to something larger than himself, struggle with old problems and new ideas, and his hope for man is a strange concept in contemporary literature, but he exists in Science Fiction. And therein lies the hope. For Man and literature.

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