

Lecturer warns of 'creeping socialism'

BY BERNIE CARTMELL

"Canada and the US have a great mission to perform in the preservation of freedom," said E. T. Benson, former US secretary of agriculture and speaker for the Henry Marshall Tory memorial lectures.

Mr. Benson spoke on two topics, "The Threat to Our Freedom" and "Role of Agriculture in National Economy." The lectures were given on successive evenings last week in the Jubilee Auditorium.

According to Mr. Benson, freedom is threatened by "creeping socialism"; a trend toward centralization of government. In this way "nations may sow the seeds of their own destruction" he claimed. Centralization of government is brought about by lesser government organs passing their power on to larger ones. "Government, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearful master."

THREATS TO FREEDOM

Other threats to freedom include the "well-meaning but uninformed, the self-seeking, and the subversives." These three groups by way of government institutions, can bring about a socialistic way of life that results in the loss of freedom, according to Mr. Benson.

Mr. Benson defined freedom as an "inherited, inalienable divine right." The main issue in

Preparing for Tory seminar

The largest student political seminar in Western Canada and the only one at the U of A is being held Sat., Nov. 11 and Sun., Nov. 12 at Hinton.

All travel and accommodation arrangements have been completed and advance registration is now in progress. Interested parties may contact the following students: Gerry Offet 439-3561, Lawrence Chapman 433-2814, or Dixie Schreyer 433-5337.

The seminar is open to students of all political parties and is particularly designed for those who have no political affiliations.

Informal discussions led by cabinet ministers, members of Parliament, provincial leaders and students will be the feature of the seminar. Guest speaker will be the Hon. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Topics for discussion will include the European Common Market, nuclear disarmament, reform of the senate, the influence of Barry Goldwater in Canadian politics and a criticism of our finance structure. Free periods will allow students to question the legislators on any topic they desire.

There will be no additional charges for the banquet and social functions planned. The registration fee is \$3.

The ambitious project is sponsored solely by the Progressive Conservative Student Federation at the University. It is not designed to be a partisan function but planned to stimulate general political awareness and understanding, says the PCSF.

Since the seminar presents an opportunity for students to take a break after exams, officials expect a sizeable turnout.

The first annual seminar was held last year and featured the Hon. Walter Dinsdale. Its success convinced the Tories there was a definite need for a function of this type on campus.

The Gateway Lauded

"A most challenging and interesting interview" said Ezra Taft Benson, 1961 Tory lecturer. "They are really sharp."

This statement was made in reference to an interview with Mr. Benson held Oct. 26 by Gateway's staff. The feature story in this issue is the result of this interview.

its preservation will be "liberty versus creeping socialism." He claimed that America must be "kept strong and free if our way of life is to endure."

In his lecture on agriculture the previous evening, Mr. Benson claimed that "scientific and mechanical changes in farming have brought about an abundance of agricultural output." Instead of placing agriculture in a "strait-jacket of con-

trols," he said the government should work with the farmer as an "effective partner. Farmers want the government at their sides, not at their backs."

EFFECTIVE TOOL

Government price supports are "an effective tool" if they stabilize the agricultural economy. He said governments should move away from fixed formulas which require price support levels to be raised as soon as surpluses are moved.

"I believe in price supports properly used as a means of providing stability for agriculture, but I do not believe in price supports set at levels which are destructive to the farmer's welfare," he said.

Agriculture should be characterized by opportunity, Mr. Benson said, "rather than be dictated and stifled and regimented by the heavy hand of government."

SCM NATIONAL SECRETARY

Goring at sub monday

Rev. Vincent Goring will speak on Institutionalized Sin and Revolution, Monday evening.

Mr. Goring is the Student Christian Movement's national study secretary. His talk, at 8 p.m. in the Wauneita Lounge, Students' Union Building, will be sponsored by the local SCM.

Mr. Goring studied science at McGill University where he was active in the SCM. He was president of the McGill SCM and was also student vice-chairman of the national movement. He entered the Diocesan

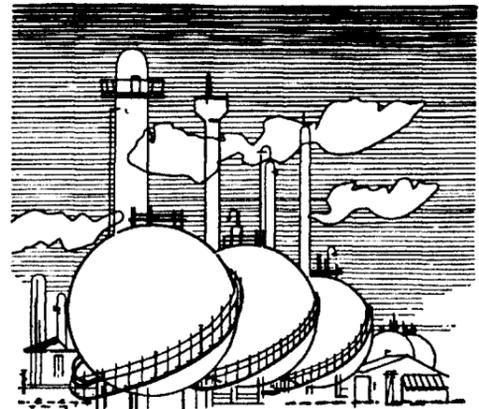
Theological College to train for the Anglican priesthood and was ordained in 1951. From 1954 to 1957 he was general secretary of the SCM at the University of Saskatchewan; and in 1957 he became student secretary of the SCM of Canada.

Prior to Mr. Goring's talk there will be a short general meeting of all SCM membership to ratify the budget and the appointment of Rev. Gordon Weese, new SCM general secretary. SCM membership is not limited to those who have previously participated in SCM activities, and therefore every student who attends will be able to vote.

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