

Ustina, from page 5

charges as abhorrent and indefensible. That I choose to take up the cause of Moroz (the Ukrainian) and that of Muller (the Czech), V. Bukovsky (the Russian), or M. Dzheimilov (of the Caucasus) on the grounds that the political system which had destroyed these people is particularly offensive to me, is my perfect freedom. I deny no one the right to voice concern for the cause of their particular choosing.

That, Mr. Ustina, is the essence of Moroz's tragedy he stood up for the ideals of free expression and for those rights the Constitution of the Supreme Soviet supposedly guaranteed him, and he did so perfectly

within the framework of the law. Only the regime which "granted" these basic rights chose to arbitrarily suspend them, and the only discernible ground for their action was that Moroz, and others, committed the unspeakable crime of thinking out loud.

If Mr. Ustina is concerned about "overt interference" in the "legal process" of the Soviet states when such efforts take the form of governmental protests, how does he propose to deal with the injustices in South Vietnam, Chile, etc? Furthermore, Mr. Ustina must be reminded of several matters arising out of his thinly-veiled and cryptic remarks about the fear Soviet citizens suffer as a result of large population losses at the hands of the Nazis and "a

few nationalist dissidents." What sort of fear would the Soviets have had if the Stalin-Hitler pact had not been broken? And how many of the 20 million casualties died facing the front lines, with bullets in the backs? And does one conclude that the bloody purges in the Soviet system are legitimate methods of eradicating political dissent or non-conformity?

In reality I do not expect Mr. Ustina to delve too deeply into these questions. What he must first learn is that if he is to make sense in his political and historical arguments, he must be prepared to use at least some reputable source material. But that, judging from the bankruptcy of his historical arguments in the Jan. 28 letter, would be asking too much of a person who can hardly tear himself away from his sacred copies of the *Canadian Tribune*. Instead he would rather go on dreaming that the Soviet system can do no wrong, and in his dreams, hope against hope that few will

Loan ceiling raised

(Ottawa) CUP - Documents from a federal-provincial task force on student aid indicate that an inter-provincial agreement has been reached on raising the loan maximum under the Canada Student Loan Plan (CSLP).

Under the present federal regulations the maximum student loan for an academic year is \$1400. The proposed change in loan ceilings, would provide for a maximum \$1900 loan per year, allowing the provinces to reduce the grant component of student aid programs.

recognize that system for what it really is a prison of nations, an abomination of human decency, the footprint eternally imprinted on the human face and the human heart.

E. Harasymiw, B.A. (hon.)
Law 3

Provinces now set their own loan ceilings ranging from \$800 to the maximum \$1,400. If the agreement becomes law provinces will be able to raise loan ceilings up to \$1900.

The change in the loans ceiling was submitted to the provinces last October at a plenary meeting of the Canada Student Loan Committee, and has now been referred to Finance Minister, John Turner, for consideration.

There is no student representation on the committee, its meetings are held in closed session, and no record of discussions or decisions is released to the public.

But a report of what occurred at this year's meeting on October 11-12, 1974, was contained in the November minutes of the federal-provincial task force on student aid.

According to those minutes: "Amongst the changes submitted to the provinces for confirmation were a 16.9 per cent increase to all allowances with accompanying changes in parental contribution tables, as well as minor amendments to and clarification of, existing criteria" which were unspecified in the report.

It continues, "Several items, such as modified Group A Status (i.e. provision that students be treated as independent upon completion of four years post-secondary education) increases in loan ceilings to \$1800/\$900 (loan grant) from \$1400/\$700 and aid to part-time students had been referred to the minister of finance for consideration."

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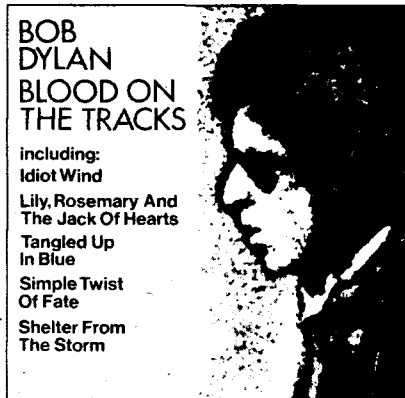
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