



Rabbi Doctor Elmer Berger at Arab Days forum.

Trade & Industry in Europe subject of summer session course

Vocational educators and industrial training personnel can further their knowledge of European industry through a summer session course offered by the University of Alberta.

The course -- "Trade Training and Industry in Britain and Continental Europe" -- consists of a tour of selected European countries, lecture trips and seminars. It will run from July 4 to August 15, 1975 and will be conducted by the university's department of industrial and vocational education.

Visits to Britain, The Netherlands, France, Switzerland and Germany are designed to supplement students' understanding of European industry and current industrial training programs and methods.

The practices and problems of private and government-operated industrial and educational agencies concerned with the

preparation of skilled workers for industry will be studied.

Prerequisites for the course, which carries six university credits, are "Industrial Education 245" and "Industrial Education 465" or consent of the department of industrial and vocational education.

Those registering will be required to make a \$50 deposit which will be applied against the fees. The deposit will be refunded only if the course is not offered. The course will be withdrawn unless a minimum of 25 students have enrolled by January 31.

Costs, including accommodations and transportation, are not expected to exceed \$1,500.

Interested persons are requested to contact Dr. Albert Meyers, department of industrial and vocational education (telephone 432-3668), as soon as possible as seat availability is limited.

Mid-East "caught in conflict"

by Mary MacDonald

"The 'statesmen' of the world either do not know the nature of our problems or do not want to speak of them." This seemed to be the general consensus of both Rabbi Dr. Elmer Berger and Dr. Tariz Ismael in their addresses at the Friday forum sponsored by the Arab Students Association in conjunction with "Arab Days."

Dr. Berger, President of American Jewish Alternatives to Zionism, and Dr. Ismael, professor of Political Science at the U. of C. discussed the topic "Zionism, Imperialism, and Peace in the Middle East." Berger concentrated his talk on the peoples of the Middle East caught in the conflict and the influences of the major powers, while the role Canada has played and should take in future was the area covered by Ismael.

THE PROBLEM:

"All Jewish people collectively claim a right to a Jewish state or national home", said Berger, "but no one can be a participant in this state unless their religions and racist links are Jewish." Clearly this rules out the Palestinians who are deprived of rights in the Zionist state. Because of this discrimination, resistance has sprung up under Yassar Arafat and the P.L.O.

Berger felt that until the Palestinians themselves are permitted to send delegates to a conference with the Israelis, there can be no peace but only "A pacifying of the problem, not a solving."

"Our Statesmen do not look

ahead but instead try to cover their tracks with innocence and ignorance. We are now trying to solve problems by not solving them," said Berger.

He also cited the energy problem as "a big rip-off to save politicians." In his opinion the energy crises and the Middle East conflict were just examples of political footballs. This was another factor contributing to the problem.

"Arab disunity is Israel's greatest weapon," he believes. As long as a country is divided by inner conflict, its defence against foreign attack is weakened. Berger views the conferences of the more conservative Arab leaders with the more radical, as a step toward a better Arab unity and "this defection of one of the U.S. 'good guys', in terms of American interests" a blow to the U. S.

Berger also made some predictions. "I believe there will be a Geneva Conference by the end of the year but I do not know what will happen there." At this conference, he hoped to see Palestinian representation and until these people are given a voice in their own destiny Berger sees only a de-escalation and not a solution to the Middle East dilemma.

"I cannot foresee a Zionist state enduring permanently in the Middle East."

He also revealed that Israel too has internal dissention. Berger estimated that 52% of the Israeli population may possess the Jewish religion but are of Arabic origin. These so called "black Jews" are greatly discriminated against and have been oppressed. The country will survive under external crises

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