

Church attacked

Group wants funds used better

By JEFF FINKELSTEIN

The first of a series of proposed confrontations between the Atkinson College-based activist group Responsible Action Now and the various church establishments in Toronto will happen Sunday.

R.A.N., under the provisional leadership of W.E. Mann, a professor of sociology at Atkinson,

is seeking to present the congregations of several major churches in the downtown area with the results of their research into the churches' wealth distribution and management.

R.A.N. claims that the churches are irresponsible in the use of their financial and real estate resources. For example, the Anglican Church in Toronto has \$10-million invested in trust funds and its money managers are content to finance church operations primarily through the accrued interest.

Mann claims that this income is, for the most part, sufficient to cover only basic operating costs such as building maintenance and clerical salaries. He believes that if the church is to assume its social and welfare responsibilities then its huge capital should be directly used for community programs.

R.A.N.'s research has also found that large amounts of the churches' wealth is further tied up in the valuable land and extravagant buildings which they own. The Metropolitan United Church, for instance, at the corner of Queen and Church Streets, is evaluated at \$4-million.

It is even more irksome to the members of R.A.N. that these church buildings are not even being used to the full potential — to house important community projects. Mann noted that on one day he found three churches whose doors were locked. It was just past noon on a Sunday.

Similar criticisms of church policy have been acknowledged by

the Canadian Council of Churches and the Canadian Catholic Conference. In mid-July, they issued a report urging such measures as more efficient use of church lands and buildings and donation of "seed money" for anti-poverty projects and improved housing.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Montreal has already joined this trend by providing \$100,000 of church funds for the fielding of community workers to aid the poor of the diocese.

In Toronto, however, the R.A.N. is encountering significant resistance in even presenting this evidence of the financial and social irresponsibility to various important congregations in this area.

In their first, and to date only, attempt at gaining permission to speak at the large Sunday service of a major church (Metropolitan United) they were refused.

The group was not even allowed to speak for 10 minutes at the coffee period following the services. R.A.N. was however, permitted to send a representative to address the annual congregational meeting in February.

The group has decided to confront Metropolitan United's leaders and congregation this Sunday in the form of a demonstration which will be held outside the church during the morning service.

Members of R.A.N. may try to enter the church and speak to the congregation.

R.A.N. started as a social action group last spring, based on the desire of a number of recent sociology graduates of Atkinson College to apply their knowledge and themselves to the problems of the real world.

Under the leadership of Mann, a long-time activist and ordained Anglican minister, they began to consider possible solutions to the fact of poverty.

They decided more responsible use of fiscal and real estate resources by institutions such as churches, wealthy corporations, and foundations would directly work to alleviate the problem.

Mann says the group aims "to force major institutions of wealthy resources to give more reality, by their public behavior, to our liberal democratic ideals of justice, equality and fraternity for all."

The group decided churches, with their traditional interest in social welfare, should be the starting point in their campaign for the reevaluation of institutional priorities.

Women's group being organized on York Campus

About 20 York women met in the daycare centre in Winters College on Tuesday to organize a campus-wide women's liberation movement.

Most of the discussion did not centre around what structures the new group would adopt but rather around the lack of birth control information and materials and also the inadequacies of existing abortion laws.

After sharing personal experiences and hearing of the widespread ignorance that both women and men have about the female body and sexuality, the women agreed on the need for more educational and practical work in this area.

The women also agreed to help set up and operate a birth control information centre on campus.

Tuesday's meeting was the first of this term. Future meetings will be advertised in EXCALIBUR. Phone 964-8271 after 6 p.m. for more information.

Daniel Cohn-Bendit arrives in Toronto

Daniel Cohn-Bendit, student non-leader in the French revolt of May-June, 1968, arrived in Toronto Tuesday after spending four days in Montreal.

Cohn-Bendit, dubbed "Danny-the-Red" because of his red hair by the international press during the May rebellion, spent yesterday afternoon taping a program for the Canadian Television Network's "Face-to-Face" series.

Although the 25-year-old student activist is still persona non grata in France — during a one-hour stopover in Paris on his Frankfurt-to-Montreal flight he was not allowed to step off the plane — Cohn-Bendit whisked through Canadian customs and immigration in 15 minutes.

He was met at Dorval airport in Montreal by former McGill political science lecturer Stanley Gray and immediately retired into seclusion.

In the House of Commons Tuesday Conservative MP Steve Paproski described Cohn-Bendit as "a trouble-maker" and suggested he be deported.

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World Briefs

Tuitions up in California?

SAN FRANCISCO (CUPI) — California governor Ronald Reagan will probably double tuition costs at the nine-campus University of California over the next two years, making good one of his campaign promises. Fees would rise to \$480 from \$300 for California residents and to \$660 a year later. Non-resident fees would rise from \$1,200 to \$1,680 and to \$1,860 a year later. The tuition fees increase which would come into effect by next fall would shift millions of dollars in education costs away from corporations and upper-class Californians, one of the university's regents said, onto "rank-and-file" parents. Associates of university president C.J. Hitch have indicated the fee increase will be approved in order to forestall more drastic action by the Reagan administration, which has already made huge cuts in the university budget.

U.S. college heads happier

HOUSTON, Tex. (CUPI) — A feeling that "the worst is over" for campus administrators prevailed at the annual convention of the Association of American Colleges, which ended here last week. "My own view is that we have reached the crest in student disputes," said Edward Bloustein, administration president of Bennington College. "At this meeting last year, you saw the most frightened group of men you've ever seen. They were asking everyone for advice, including the bootblack outside the hotel. But we do not see that today — we are beginning to meet the problems," he said. Among factors cited as contributing to the new-found confidence were:

- a feeling of "expertise in handling student disorders;"
- an apparent shift in student activism toward what administrators considered "more constructive" protests, especially over environmental problems;
- greater administration preoccupation with money in the face of a squeeze in government and private funds for education.

At least one conference delegate was disappointed by the apparent decrease in anti-administration activity on campus: George Wald, Nobel prize-winning biologist from Harvard. Wald has argued that students are justified in their attacks on a "corrupted" older generation. "When it gets warm again, I kind of feel the students will go into the streets again," he said.

Obscene lecture causes flurry

LONG BEACH, Calif. (CUPI) — Two sociology professors at Long Beach State College who showed nude models and a stag film to their class will probably face charges of unprofessional conduct, college officials say. Donald Robertson and Marion Steele were suspended from the faculty after a coeducational class in "social myths in American society". In the class, the models — two men and two women — assumed poses of nine life-size nude statues banned from campus last spring. The statues, master's thesis work of a graduate student in art, depict such scenes as a nude woman leaning out of a television set and a male and female slouching in chairs. The stag movie was one of three movies simultaneously shown during the class. The other two were an animated film on human reproduction and a training film of the nearby Downey Police Department on the handling of civil disorders. Robertson said the purpose of the lecture was to illustrate that violence and killing are more obscene than frank sex. "Our society ignores glaring obscenities . . . and prudishly focuses on sex," he told the class. "This produces hangups which keep millions from enjoying genuine sexual pleasure and makes our entire world obscene."

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