

# George supports Commission

by Richard Desjardins

Dr. Susan George, author of *How the Other Half Dies: the real reasons for world hunger*, addressed University of Alberta students Friday in an attempt to draw attention to the People's Food Commission. The Commission is a year long, cross-Canada inquiry into the food system, which concludes this month in Edmonton.

Speaking to a crowd of about 150 in a Tory Lecture Theatre on the topic of "Who Feeds Whom", Dr. George stated "money is the magnet that draws food, and the first world has the cash to draw out crops

## Production, consumption not related

"The Green Revolution on the basis of production has succeeded, but production has little to do with consumption" stated Dr. George.

During her second day in Edmonton as part of the wrap-up for the year long, Canada-wide "People's Food Commission" (PFC), Dr. Susan George faced criticism for her strong stand against the "Green Revolution" from Dr. C.F. Bentley of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Alberta.

Speaking at a workshop attended by 250 people, Saturday at St. John's Anglican Church, Dr. George told the gathering that whereas peasants once had livestock and mixed farming as insurance against crop failure and natural disasters, the advent of the Green Revolution has forced peasants to plant hybrid seeds which require expensive fertilization and irrigation which they can not afford, thereby forcing them off their land to flee to already overcrowded cities.

"What is happening is that land owners are reclaiming land, kicking off farmers, thereby increasing the number of landless peasants. These third world farmers are being eliminated before alternatives are created". She went on to say that "the Green Revolution is killing off self-sufficient farming which has been traditional, as the whole system becomes commercialized."

Dr. George's statements drew fire from Dr. Bentley who cited examples of countries increasing their grain output from 11.6 mmt (metric million tons) to 26.2 mmt due to the Green Revolution.

"Is this a bad thing? Is the Green Revolution a failure?" he asked. Dr. Bentley went on to state that "when I hear people speak out against fertilizers, I feel they are swayed by their political or economic views and that they are so caught up in their

from the third world". She went on to say there is not enough land for food production because too much land being set aside for cash crops.

During her talk, Dr. George emphasized that "power relationships" are the key to food shortages in the third world. "Peasants are small agricultural producers with simple machinery. Families produce for themselves and to fulfil obligations to the holders of power," she told her audience.

She pointed out that this extraction of surplus by non-producers presents a problem, "nonproducers usually take more than peasants can afford to give".

Perhaps Dr. George's strongest attack was reserved for the so-called "Green Revolution" which basically consists of new varieties of grains capable of doubling crop yields. These seeds

appeared to be the answer during the 1960s to conquer world hunger. Because these grains require very specific amounts of irrigation and fertilizer, Dr. George charges that the Green Revolution "works only for those wealthy farmers who can afford to irrigate the land, driving poor farmers off their land and then buying up the deserted farmland".

In her concluding comments, Dr. George emphasized that she did not mean to "lay a guilt trip". She sees a solution to the world shortage problem in the combination of Western positive science and peasant experience.

"If university graduates could listen to the peasants, many exciting things agriculturally could happen. Otherwise we will continue to be well fed at others' expenses".

Special Events split

# New positions put more emphasis on forums

by Portia Priegert

Two new positions, Entertainment Director and Forums Director, have been created by Students' Council.

SU vp internal Sharon Bell reports that the replacement of the Special Events Director by these two positions is part of a plan to increase the profile of SU events.

The Forum Director will be responsible for arranging regular SU forums on a variety of subjects. As well, the director, will be the chairman of the Forum Committee which will perform most of the "leg-work" involved in planning forums. In exchange for "lots of ideas," the

director will receive honorarium.

The Entertainment Director will be responsible for coordinating cabarets and the foyer and RATT entertainment. As well, Bell says arranging poetry readings in the SU Gallery and entertainment in proposed coffee lounge may be part of the Director's job. This position will be salaried, though the amount has not yet been decided.

The deadline for applications is 4:30 pm Thursday, April 12. Further information can be obtained from Sharon Bell or Tema Frank at the Students' Union offices.

# Roberts cancels NUS meeting

OTTAWA (CUP) — Days before he was to meet the National Union of Students (NUS) to discuss their calling for planned education, Secretary of State John Roberts cancelled out.

Despite firm promises as long as four months ago NUS would be able to meet Roberts, the minister pulled at the last minute Mar. 29.

Saying he would be too busy campaigning in his own riding, Roberts' office cancelled the meeting, which had already been rescheduled once to April 3.

NUS was angry at the cancellation. "Regardless of election, he is still the Secretary of State; he still has duties to perform as the Secretary of State and he had agreed to meeting," said NUS executive secretary Pat Gibson.

Robert's cancellation was the last in a series of problems NUS had in trying to get positions to the cabinet. A national student organization was first told in December that it could meet with cabinet ministers during their February briefings, Gibson said.

But the briefings were postponed, and so was the meeting—to March.

In March, the Privy Council Office guaranteed a meeting with Roberts, and as many other ministers as would be available for March 27 or 28, she said. Then, on March 26, the date was moved to April 3.

And then it was cancelled. However, Gibson did not think the brief's impact would be lessened by the cancellation. "I think the Liberal government has got our message loud and clear and has had for a number of months, in several briefings, have been put forward on creation, student aid, and employment insurance."

"Almost every minister let us know they have the brief and have read it, so there's no doubt the Liberal government knows exactly what the views of the National Union of Students on education are."

"We believe that the Liberal government has simply chosen to ignore the difficulties facing higher education and is anxious to meet with those who are affected by it."



These Aggies were more than ready for Bar None, which was a sell-out smash success as usual. Our only question is—what exactly are these people sittin' in?

# Regina professor caught cheating

REGINA (CUP) — A professor at the University of Regina has been dismissed for falsifying data on a research project.

Social Work associate professor Cenovia Addy was dismissed by the university's board of governors Jan. 27 for falsifying data on a project. A tenured faculty member with the university for three years, Addy was chief researcher on the \$62,225 National Health and Welfare project "Adolescent Lifestyles Study".

According to Dean of Social Work Dr. Harvey Stalwick, "abnormalities began to appear in her data, and, on investigation, we found questionnaires that were falsely completed."

"We found this just a few days before the data was to be sent to the computers. It was a straightforward falsification of one-fifth or one-sixth of a major study in an area not well serviced by the academic community up to this time."

"The extent of the falsification is considerable but the actual full extent would need a longer investigation and no funds were available." Stalwick was not able to say what par-

ticular date was skewed but the project is "completely finished."

The project was a pilot and its successful completion may have served as a model for a national study or other regional studies. Funds for the project have not been jeopardized.

The dismissal left most of Addy's colleagues in a state of shock.

"It is totally unthinkable for someone of her position, her department," Stalwick said.

Another professor said, "As a faculty, we saw this as a terribly unfortunate thing for her. One would suspect any number of people before her. She had such a strong reputation as a professional in her field."

"We were all very impressed with her," was the general reaction from the faculty.

People involved in the case were mystified at Addy's reasons for the falsification. No faculty member contacted could offer a reason. "One goes crazy trying to figure it out," said assistant dean John Cossam.

In his seven years at the university, Stalwick said he had run across one other similar situation, but nothing this serious.

Addy had left Regina and was unavailable for comment.



Susan George

Photo by Richard Desjardins