

Finds Bigotry Toward Marxism

Professor F. F. Clairmont of the Economics Department has deplored the lack of sympathy and the bigotry shown in Western circles towards Marxism.

Speaking October 27 at an S.C.M. lecture in the Arts and Science Building, Prof. Clairmont said he found it necessary to disassociate himself from the "doctrinal teachings" of Marx, saying he found them to be incompatible with Christianity.

However, he said not all Marxists saw the incompatibility between the two doctrines.

Giving one in a series of S.C.M. talks weekly at noon in the Memorial Room on "The Nature of Man" Dr. Clairmont said he disagreed with what he said was "patronizing aloofness" shown by some western intellectuals to the Marxist system.

However, Prof. Clairmont saw a distinction between the Marxists and the Christian conception of ethics. To the Marxist, ethical standards were the result of man's own environment, a "maker of his own history". This accounted for the fluidity of moral standards. And, he said, ethical ideals inevitably became bound up in the class struggle, since they sprung from opposing class groups.

He said it was understandable that Marxist ethical concepts had met with more violence in western circles than Marxist economical or historical concepts, since Christian ethics of right and wrong were often what moved men to fight.

Prof. Clairmont said the Marxist system foresaw the day when ethical systems would rise to a "human morality", above class moralities.

But as long as class struggles continued, morals would remain part of the struggles.

Historical Process

He said since Marxian ethics were rooted in historical process, it could be understood why the Marxian ethic was essential materialistic.

Marxian ethics, he said arose out of social conditions, and did not exist in abstractions. Thus, social forces would rationalize war and killing. The absolute Good did not exist, but ethics, arising out of social forces, were nonetheless good.

The Marxist state necessarily placed stress on the conception of the individual, and dismissed the concept of the Brotherhood of Man as found in Western Society. The Marxist found the conception of Brotherhood in many hypocritical.

Prof. Clairmont said Marxists also found the West's Religion highly hypocritical. He quoted Lenin as saying the two things necessary to Western Society were the priest to console, and the hangmen to rid the state of those who refused to be consoled.

Next speaker in the S.C.M. series will be Dr. John McCormack of the History Department of Saint Mary's University.



CLAIRMONT SPEAKS—Prof. F. F. Clairmont speaks to the SCM series on "The Nature of Man" on Marxian conceptions of ethics.

Photo by MacDonald.

McCleave Speaks

WOMEN SINNERS OUTDO MEN

by SUE HERMAN

"When women sin, they sin with a purpose", stated the Halifax Member of Parliament Bob McCleave at the Progressive Conservative meeting last week.

He revealed that only 10 per cent of the divorce cases does the husband sue the wife. In almost all these cases, the wife has found herself a "new breadwinner". In the other 90 per cent, the husband is the member of the pair being sued, for marital infidelity—whether justified or not.

Quebec and Newfoundland, the two provinces without divorce courts, present the chief problems. A divorce court could be forced on Quebec, Mr. McCleave said, but the government that did so would find itself on the outside looking in after the following election. In Newfoundland, there was no real difficulty. There were only four or five cases each year and all of these were "honest cases." There are not detectives involved, and perhaps the people "haven't heard of the motel yet", said the Halifax M.P.

The alternative of forcing a court on Quebec is to broaden the causes for divorce, which would only increase the number of cases from Quebec.

Rooted in Middle Ages

The divorce laws have their roots imbedded in the Middle Ages, when marital infidelity was considered an ecclesiastical crime. Today, this attitude is unrealistic. Marital infidelity is often the first thing a wife will

forgive. Failure to properly support the family, or cruelty to herself or the children are the real reasons behind the breaking up of many marriages.

Since there was only one ground for divorce, adultery, the detectives and fabricated evidence were necessary. This was again unrealistic—as people simply did not commit moral crimes in public. But they were forced to at least appear to have the intention of doing so in order for divorce evidence to be obtained.

The evidence heard by the Senate—the body most likely to take sole charge of divorce cases in the future—is forwarded to the House in printed form. The final settlement of the four years' long debate—caused by the mounds of paper to be poured over—was merely allowing the members to save face and go home before another session rolled past.

Mr. McCleave said that "450 cases went through on a Tuesday afternoon in about 20 seconds, and Parliament was out of there by Wednesday."

Humanitarian Decisions

As a final statement, the chairman of the Common's Divorce Committee informed the meeting that the attitude of the politician toward divorce was that of a person considering a case of need, a case of someone needing help, and the question becomes one of giving help.

He agreed that decisions on divorce cases are definitely more humanitarian than judicial.

professional schools be held at the same time in the rink. At present undergraduates and graduates of the professional school receive their diplomas in separate ceremonies held in the gym.

Seniors Meet

Mike Kirby was elected president of the Senior class at a meeting on Thursday, October 20. Other officers elected were Anne Mason, vice-president and Dave Morrison, secretary-treasurer. The present officers will act until after Munro Day, when life officers for the graduating class will be elected.

About a quarter of the class attended this meeting. Plans for this year include having a dance the first Saturday after Christmas, after the first hockey game.

It was suggested that convocation for both the undergraduates and

SUB COMMITTEE RAISES FUNDS

"All universities of any size need a Students' Union Building", said Dave Matheson, chairman of the SUB committee of the Students' Council at Dalhousie recently.

He went on to say that the SUB has proved to be the centre of extra-curricular life and a large factor in fellowship at other universities. The final objective of Dalhousie's SUB committee is the construction of a building that would provide a "common ground where students could meet under a solid roof, surrounded by modern facilities."

Referendum

The referendum held on the campus last year to determine the prevailing attitude toward the construction of a SUB proved that the great majority of Dalhousie students were not only in favour of the building but were also willing to permit an increase of \$10.00 in their student council fees to assist in raising money for the project. 83.2% of eligible voters turned out for the vote, and a record breaking 90.2% of those casting ballots were in favour of the construction of a SUB.

The financial report of the committee shows that they hope to have collected one-third of their proposed five-year objective by the end of this college year. With the completed fund of 150,000, the Council will be able to obtain a mortgage sufficient to begin construction immediately.

Further help is indicated by the fact that the university has promised to buy the land for the building as soon as the Council is ready to

consider construction. The Council itself has contributed \$25,000 from its reserve fund to the project.

Plans for the future raising of money include sponsoring a football dance in the gym this Saturday night. The committee is also considering the possibility of running a tuxedo rental service, which, if found to be financially sound, will be begun as soon as is feasible. Also on the tentative plans are a post Christmas raffle and a penny parade sometime in the near future.

Final Plans

Dave pointed out that the plans which are displayed around the campus at present are not the finalised conceptions of the building, but are rather simply one architect's opinion of what students might want in such a structure.

In the final design, many alterations will probably be made, and any suggestions from the student body will be taken into consideration. The university will have to approve any final plans laid before construction can proceed.

The proposed building can be divided into three basic centres of activity: the coffee shop, the auditorium and the office centres. The plans also include the construction of a swimming pool at such time as it may prove feasible.

The committee is at present preparing a special alumnae report to



FROS DEBATED: Last week's student council meeting heard the explanation of the problems facing FROS, now abolished, from Sharon Connelly, shown above at the council session. Bill Dickson listens pensively to the heated discussion that developed on the issue.

—Photo by Bissett.

be ready by the middle of November. The brief will be sent out to 10,000 alumnae and will inform them of the present progress of the SUB committee.

The committee meets every Monday evening at 5:30 in the Men's Common Room of the Arts and Administration Building. The meetings are open to all students, a further inducement to their attendance being the serving of light lunches by Delta Gamma.

DAL GETS CONTEST

The Dalhousie NFCUS has received the franchise from McMaster University for the University photography contest sponsored by John Labatts Company Ltd.

Labatts sponsors this contest every year with the help of NFCUS and offers prizes amounting to \$800 for the winners. In the near future, posters will be appearing at Universities across Canada stating rules, subjects and regulations.



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