

## Cross and Rawlyk: They're a homey little group at UNB

History professors George Rawlyk, Queen's, and Mike Cross, University of Toronto, attended a history seminar here recently. They had threatened to boycott it because of the administration's treatment of physics prof Norman Strax and the arrest of the seven people in Liberation 130. They agreed to come when the seminar was moved from UNB to St. Thomas.

When they arrived they gave a press conference and condemned the administration and the New Brunswick establishment.

Alex Binkley, Queen's Journal, interviewed Rawlyk and Sue Reisler, U of T Varsity, talked to Cross after they re-

turned from the seminar. The interviews were done before recent SRC and AUNBT action.

(CUP) - Both history professors George Rawlyk and Mike Cross were disillusioned at the student disinterest in city police coming on campus to arrest people.

"There is no place in a university for an outside police force," said Rawlyk.

The student apathy here is disconcerting to him and he feels this may be a product of the establishment's power in New Brunswick.

He said students want to graduate and get a job in New Brunswick. They don't want to be blackballed and they have to toe the line or get out.

Rawlyk said the establish-

ment control in the province and especially the monopoly K.C. Irving has over the communications media is harmful to the province's development.

Cross also commented on the local media.

He pointed out that local newspapermen didn't attend the press conference the two profs gave at the airport.

"The local press are tight-lid," he said.

"They didn't want to recognize our presence. The CBC gave us good coverage but the radio..."

Cross was referring to Radio Atlantic, CFNB. "A typical question was 'Do outsiders have the right to mix themselves up in our affairs?'"

Rawlyk said the way Strax

and the seven arrested people were treated is a good indication of the establishment's power in New Brunswick.

"Strax was threatening the establishment and it's understandable how quickly they reacted. I think it was like swinging a sledge hammer to hit a fly."

Cross spent some time with the arrested students and he felt the administration had won.

"They have pretty thoroughly cowed the students. There is a sense of despair among those who had been involved. They are frightened. The police might be used again or they might be expelled."

He also commented on the attitude toward Strax here. He said the UNB people dismiss

Strax as an outsider, an American in whom they have no interest.

"They're a homey group at UNB, they only support their neighbours with whom they grew up. Strax's colleagues have given him little support. The community cares even less."

Rawlyk felt that the UNB administration has learned from the Strax affair and is drawing back. He said his own contribution was marginal.

Cross called the history symposium a thoroughly unpleasant experience.

"Several administrators indicated their displeasure with us publicly, through veiled comments, and privately, by openly saying we shouldn't have got mixed up in the affair."

## Jamaican students want fair play for their own persecuted prof

by chris rose

Jamaican students are demanding radical social and political change, but not through revolution. This fact was proved some four weeks ago when an issue arose to motivate the student body on the Jamaica campus of University of the West Indies into condemning a government action on immigration.

A Guanese professor, Dr. Walter Rodney, was refused re-entry to Jamaica after attending the Black Writer's conference in Montreal.

The students, largely motivated by a sense of justice rather than Dr. Rodney's black power leanings, planned a peaceful march on the ministry of home affairs to gain a hearing and inform the minister of their discontent with

government policy concerning Rodney. They wanted a fair trial for the professor and a guarantee that any further dealings with immigration questions, especially those affecting the university, be made public and liable to a court hearing.

On their way downtown from the campus hills of Mona, which surround Kingston, the students were confronted by 500 striking or unemployed workers demanding justice for their plight. No record is available on how the violence started but the march quickly disintegrated into full scale burning and looting.

When the students realized that the aims of their peaceful protest had been thwarted, they dispersed and

took no part in the resulting mob actions.

Betty Milligan, presently university secretary for the Atlantic region of the student Christian movement, recently returned from a two-year stay in Jamaica. She was there during the student protest and she discussed it and the Jamaican student movement with a UNB student from Jamaica Chris Rose.

Rose: "Was there any build up to the recent student action?"

Milligan: "I think there has been quite a buildup to the specific issue of freedom, on autonomy, or the university vis a vis the government of Jamaica. During the two years I was in the country, there have been at least four incidents where the govern-

ment has stepped in either refusing to allow a Jamaican lecturer to leave by withholding passport or, as in the case of Dr. Rodney, refusing the privilege of re-entry.

"In the government's mind there was justification for each case. The persons affected were considered undesirable or acting in a way the government felt was a threat or danger to the country and its internal security.

"Certainly in the case of Dr. Rodney. Within one month of his appointment to UWI, he had organized a black power movement on campus.

"This black power movement was formed in order to involve the Jamaican people with the larger issue in the U.S. in terms of taking some definite action which might

have brought about change for existing conditions in Jamaica. Dr. Rodney actually advocated a revolution within the structure of Jamaican society. He accused many members of the government, even though they are black, of thinking "white" and of having sold out to the white imperialists."

Rose: "Did Rodney have valid reasons for thinking as he does?"

Milligan: "Well, I would say there certainly is a need for some definite change in a society with a 40 percent illiteracy rate and a 60 percent unemployment rate - as there is in Jamaica. However, the Jamaican government is definitely endeavoring to do something about this situation, but how effective they are can only be seen in a long term context. Many say that Jamaica is better off now than it was 10 or 15 years ago. Progress takes time.

"Most of the students participating in the march protesting Dr. Rodney's unfair treatment were there because they disagreed with the major issue at hand; that the government had the right to prevent his re-entry. Those who marched did not necessarily agree with Dr. Rodney."

This was the first major student action off the UWI campus and one which looked at the deeper issue of the university being UWI in Jamaica and the conflict as to how a West Indian institution functions within one particular governmental system.

The resulting action of the students was, in fact, a reaction to the Jamaican government's treatment of the university in a larger context. (The UWI has campuses on four other islands in the Caribbean chain.)

Many Jamaicans are deeply concerned with furthering their country's development, and it is a matter of time before their hopes are realized. The promise of Jamaica can only be fulfilled by creative leaders who are not afraid of their people.

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