

UNIVERSITY NEWSBEAT

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SLAVERY TO BE EXAMINED

Many Christian Americans prior to the Civil War believed in the legitimacy of slavery: after all, slaves had existed in the Bible, blacks were acknowledged to be inferior, and they actually benefited by their enslavement by being brought into the bosom of a family and into the fold of Christianity.

That is the myth. The reality was that men, women and children were stripped of rights and property, brutally beaten, tied and left in the sun, sold or sometimes killed for misbehaviour.

The discrepancy between the

myth and the reality of slavery will be discussed in the upcoming "Conference on the Ideology of Slavery in Africa," being held April 3 and 4 in the Senior Common Room of Founders College.

Paul Lovejoy, associate professor of history and the conference coordinator, says participants will be discussing how slavery was perceived, how it was tied into the religious and legal framework of society, and how it actually functioned.

He reports there is a good distribution of papers: "The topics

cover those parts of Africa most involved with the export trade of slaves to North America and the Muslim world. French, Portuguese, and English areas are well divided, as is Muslim versus non-Muslim territory." Prof. Lovejoy states that the individual case studies being presented are substantial in the size of the population represented and the number of slaves living in those societies.

Over the two days there will be four panels: "Ethiopia, the Eastern Sudan, and the East African Coast"; "Muslim Slavery in West Africa"; "Slavery in Central Africa"; and "West African Coastal Slavery". A total of 12 papers will be presented by historians and anthropologists visiting from Canadian, American, Belgian, Nigerian, Zairian, and Israeli universities.

York people speaking include Prof. Lovejoy on "Conceptions of Slavery in the Sokoto Caliphate in the Nineteenth Century," visiting history professor Mordechai Abir discussing "Slavery in Ethiopian Christian Society," and Gabriel Warburg, who two years ago was a visiting professor at York from the

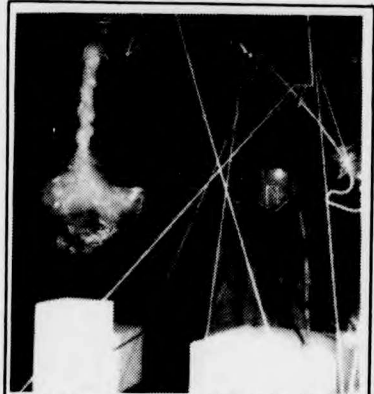
University of Haifa, whose topic is "Slavery under the Mahdiyya and Condominium Rule." Prof. Martin Klein of the University of Toronto will address the topic of "The Ideology of Slavery in Senegambia."

Prof. Lovejoy became involved with the topic in terms of commodity trading during his trip to West Africa in 1969-70 to study the history of merchants, and again from 1974-76 when he taught at Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria and studied the history of the salt trade. "I didn't go there to study slavery," he said, "but every time I turned around I bumped into it. It's a sensitive area, but people will talk about it very readily." He explained that while the emancipation of slaves began in Africa around 1890, slavery only ended in the 1930s once a new generation had been born under colonial rule.

It is a relatively new topic for historical consideration but one that has excited much discussion and controversy since African Studies became a serious university academic program in the 1960s.

For further information contact Prof. Lovejoy at 667-3192.

AGYU Shows "Paradise Lost/Found"



Characters from "Paradise": The Angels, Adam, and Satan

Until April 4 the Art Gallery of York University (AGYU) is offering "Paradise Lost/Found", an electronic art construction by Don Haluska that evokes Milton's *Paradise Lost* and recreates the temptation of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

In a recent review of the exhibiton *Globe and Mail* art critic John Bentley Mays states, "Haluska doesn't waste his training in holography, electronics, sculpture, and physics on structures that are merely cute or entertaining. Instead, he makes things that might be called operas for robots — or cybernetic musicals."

The 30 year old artist himself sees "Paradise Lost/Found" as "an examination of the process of Art through the movement and contrast of extremes or opposites. It is the changing experiences found in these contrasts that offer me a sense and feeling for the wonder of nature and an awe for man's ability to interfere so radically in the events of time and space."

The AGYU, located in N145 Ross, is open Mondays to Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LAW TEAM WINS THIRD AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION



Students from Osgoode Hall Law School receiving the award for third best team at the Canadian regional round of the Jessup International Law competition, hosted by the University of New Brunswick. Left to right: Patrick Monahan, Lauren Yu, James McIlroy and Jennifer Hatfield. Presenting the award is Edward Veitch, dean of UNB's law school. Awards were limited edition prints, specially created for the competition by UNB's artist-in-residence, Bruno Bobak.

Osgoode Asks If Our Tax System Plays Robin Hood

"Is the tax system the Robin Hood of our time, or should it be?" These are questions being asked in the upcoming public conference on "Tax and Income Redistribution" scheduled for March 28 and 29 at Osgoode Hall Law School.

Neil Brooks, associate professor of law, coordinator of the conference, and editor of *Canadian Taxation: a Journal of Tax Policy* states: "The government's role in redistributing income is one of the most important and controversial issues in public policy. The purpose of this conference is to explore the effect of the tax system on the

redistribution of income, and its usefulness as a policy instrument to achieve that objective."

The topics to be discussed, he says, will be cast broadly so that the relationship between the tax and the direct transfer system can be compared. The 26 panelists, who have been chosen to represent diverse backgrounds and interests, include professors of law and of economics at a number of Canadian and American universities, the director of Vancouver's Fraser Institute, a member of the Research and Legislation Department of the Canadian Labour Congress, the President of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada, the Chief of Tax Policy and Legislation and the Chief of the Quantitative Analysis Section with the Finance Department in Ottawa, Director General of the Audit Directorate with Revenue Canada, and leading Toronto tax counsels.

Three panels will be offered on "The Distribution of the Tax Burden," "Universality and Selectivity in Tax-Transfer Programs," and "Cost and Distributive Effects of Tax Expenditures." In addition workshops will cover "Pension Policy and Redistribution," "Effect of Tax Changes on Savings," "Taxation of Personal Wealth," and "Comparing Tax and Social Security Abuse."

The conference which is sponsored by *Canadian Taxation*, the National Council of Welfare, and Osgoode Hall Law School, is free and open to the public. However, registration is necessary and may have to be limited due to demands. Those considering attending should register as early as possible by contacting Prof. Brooks at 667-3010.

NORTH YORK SEEKS POET LAUREATE

Members of Council for the Corporation of the City of North York are seeking an innovative, well-versed individual to fill a one-year posting as Poet Laureate.

The incumbent will be responsible for composing poetry to mark significant civic events.

To be eligible, applicants must be a resident of North York, or attend a North York institution, or be employed by a North York firm.

This high profile position offers remuneration of one dollar per annum and the Mayor's Medallion.

To apply, forward your name, address and telephone number, along with two samples of your poetry to: Mrs. Anna Di Ruscio, Director of Information Services, City of North York, 5100 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5V7.

The deadline for entries is April 30, 1980.

Atkinson to discuss Africa

On Saturday, April 5, immediately following the "Ideology of Slavery in Africa" conference, Atkinson College is presenting a symposium on "Africa Today and Tomorrow," chaired by African Studies coordinator David Paul Lumsden.

Prof. Lumsden states the purpose of the symposium is "to examine the major sources of conflicts taking place on the African continent at this critical time, and to project what the next ten years may hold."

Speakers include Prof. Richard Sandbrook, chairman of the University of Toronto's African Studies Committee, speaking on "Mass Poverty Today and Tomorrow"; Dr. Kassahun Checole of the

Africana Studies department at Rutgers University and SUNY (Binghamton) discussing "The Horn of Africa: Perspectives for the 80s and Beyond"; Dr. M. Tamarin, an Israeli scholar visiting at Concordia University, addressing the topic of "Political Stability in Kenya, Past and Prospect"; as well as one or two speakers discussing Zimbabwe and southern Africa.

The symposium, which begins at 12:30 p.m. in Osgoode Hall Law School's Moot Court, is free and open to the public. For further information contact the Office of the Atkinson master at 667-6434 or Prof. Lumsden at 667-6259.

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Ontario's Student Venture Capital program will provide up to \$1,000 in interest-free loans during 1980 to encourage enterprising students to set up their own summer business.

Since 1974, Student Venture Capital has given full-time students (18 years and older) the opportunity to finance their education while acquiring business experience first hand. Projects may begin as early as April 1, 1980. Last year, 140 projects were approved and \$110,000 was lent to qualifying students in amounts ranging from \$200 to \$1,000.

While most student ventures are profitable, successful projects tends to be labour intensive with low capital outlay and require a great deal of hard work and familiarity with the field of endeavour.

In 1979, two Ryerson students made \$2,400 net profit by creating clay beaver caricatures for sale by national department stores.

A Carleton University student made \$3,000 profit through the production and sale of light-weight kayaks which he made out of a high density polystyrene.

Participating Chambers of Commerce share their business expertise and familiarity of the local business climate with the students. Local chamber members

screen applications, suggest improvements and recommend approval of those projects having the fundamental ingredients for success. Once the student's proposal is accepted, he or she must agree to follow standard business procedures, make regular financial reports and repay the loan by October 31, 1980.

The Royal Bank of Canada provides interest-free bridge loans to students who are eager to begin their enterprises before govern-

ment financing is available. A Royal Bank financial liaison officer provides banking and financial advice throughout the summer.

Application forms for Student Venture Capital are available now and may be obtained by contacting: The Program Manager, Student Venture Capital, Ministry of Education/Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Special Projects Branch, 14th Floor, Mowat Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1L2 (Phone 965-6911).

Study French Next Year

Students who would like to apply for a fellowship to study in French during the next academic year have until May 15, 1980 to do so.

A program being funded by the Secretary of State and administered provincially by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities will allow approximately 500 students to participate. The purpose of the fellowships is to encourage students to enter a full-time post-secondary program in any discipline offered in French at a French-language or bilingual institution in 1980-81.

To be eligible for the fellowships students must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants who have resided in Ontario for at least the 12 months preceding the date of

registration for the 1980-81 academic year. They must also be intending to register in September, 1980 as a full-time student taking at least four full academic year credit courses in which the language of instruction is French.

The value of the fellowships is \$1,000, plus a supplement of \$1,000 if you have to attend an institution more than 50 kilometres from your permanent residence and a second residence is established. Students are also eligible for other awards, bursaries and scholarships up to a value of \$2,000 per academic year.

More detailed information and application forms are available at the Student Awards Office in the Steacie Science Building, Room 110A.