

the gateway

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humane society socialist goal

"To articulate a future society which is both fair and humane":

these words spoken by Kai Nielsen, professor of Philosophy at the U of C summarize the basic objectives of the various papers presented this weekend at the second meeting of the Socialist Studies Conference. The papers covered a wide spectrum of social concerns from a variety of perspectives and judging by the participation from the audience, achieved some success. At least twice as many people attended the entire weekend of presentations as were at the first meeting held at the U of C campus in April earlier this year. In many instances, discussions following the papers took as much time as the papers themselves and had to be broken off abruptly.

The meetings were kicked off Friday evening with a paper presented by Harry Garfinkle, prof in the department of Educational Foundations, on the topic, "Socialism and Nationalism in the Canadian Context". Covering a gamut of Canadian economic problems rooted in the first instances of the "great Canadian give-aways" of Sir John A. MacDonald's administration, the presentation emphasized the necessity of promoting jointly a nationalism "which is (both) ecumenical and transcultural" and a socialism which is both democratic and humanitarian.

Saturday's program swung into action with a talk by Cengiz Ozol, professor of Economics at the U of C. Many were mystified by "Some Theorems on the Breakdown of Capitalism" which demanded some mathematical acumen to follow. But listeners were compensated by the dynamism of the speaker who bore a close resemblance to Che Guevara. Ozol elaborated a theorem which statistically abstracted the possible and indeterminate point in the future at which a series of variables would converge in the decline of capitalism by its own forces.



Still in the future, Stephen Arnold, prof. of Comparative Literature at the U of A, picked up the speculations from the human angle with his "Surrealist Literature and Future Consciousness". Concerned by the present state of education with its almost total neglect of the future and creativity, Arnold stated that the "study of literature is basically conservative as we have it now" and that professors and teachers are "maintenance men for past engineers". He then outlined techniques for changing classroom study and advocated the "resurrection of the study of Surrealism" as a vehicle for speculation on the "structure and content of future human consciousness".

Mathew and Regina Zachariah of the dept. of Education at the U of C presented the paper "Positive Discrimination Policies for Minorities in Nation-States", which described the fundamental "failure of opportunity programs designed to aid and improve the status of minority or socially subordinate groups." Such programs virtually become "positive discrimination policies" and evidence was supplied that such was the case of all minority aid programs whether in the U.S. or India.

Kai Nielsen presented the last paper of Saturday's program on "Libertarian Socialism" which was concerned with the position of freedom in normative political theory. Stating that "people do not want

what they need and do not need what they want" he emphasized that present social analysis must consider that "there are some things more immediately important for achievement than merely freedom of choice". He concluded with a call for another meta-social analysis "to pickup where Marx left off".

Sunday's concluding talks were begun with "Marx's Social Individual" presented by William Bean of the department of Philosophy at the U of C and ended with a presentation by Nellie Peterson, former NDP candidate and member of the Woodsworth-Irvine Fellowship. Nellie's talk on "Socialism and the

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administration ignores G.F.C.

A university administrator has once again acted against the wishes of the General Faculties Council. The new variation on the theme established this year by the budget cuts at student health and the application for special constable status for the campus security force has to do with parking.

According to a letter submitted to the GFC executive by H.I. Freedman (math), "the Vice-President of Finance and administration (Lorne Leitch) or his designate has an administrative policy been converting private stalls into zone parking," despite instructions from the GFC that no changes be made until a comprehensive report on parking is received.

Max Wyman told the executive that he has already requested them to stop this. The committee moved that Leitch's office be required to re-establish the private stalls which existed on May 15, the day that the parking report was requested. Wyman was instructed to find out why there has been such a long delay in preparing the report.

U as polluter

"There is a desire to sweep the whole issue" of pollution by the university "under the rug." E.E. Daniel, professor of pharmacology and chairman of the Interdisciplinary Committee for Environmental Quality (ICEQ), leveled this charge in a letter considered by the GFC executive at

their meeting yesterday afternoon.

In his submission, Daniel called for the circulation to GFC members of the S.T.O.P. report "Waste Disposal, U of A Campus" which was dismissed by the executive last May. He also requested a discussion in GFC of "the problems of environmental pollution and other matters of environmental concern at the University" and the establishment of a GFC committee to "make recommendations... about improving environmental practices..."

Branding as "uninformed"

immaturity disables council

"I had thought that such a group of selected leaders would be mature enough to put aside personal animosities and work together for the student body which they have the honour of representing." Thus, SU Research Assistant no. 1, Carolyn Allen, resigned from service in the Students' Union office.

Referring to the present executive in a letter explaining her reasons for resigning, Allen said, "It seems that no one wants anyone else to be 'in' on 'their' little project."

Allen's main reason for resigning was that she was not given sufficient work to occupy her time. "I have found it difficult to communicate with the President and I feel that others must also,

comments made last spring by executive member F.B. Cookson, Daniel offered to arrange for speakers to present evidence of pollution at the university and suggestions on ways to prevent it.

Student's union representative Patrick Delaney objected that Daniel's remarks "challenge this committee in a way which makes it seem that we are not doing our work. I see no reason to reopen this matter." He alluded to the appraisal by R.E. Phillips of the Department of the Physical Plant who concluded last May

that the S.T.O.P. report used "scare tactics". Phillips recommended that, if the university wanted a comprehensive and objective report, it ought to hire a firm of consultants.

University president Max Wyman argued that people who raise questions about the university's waste disposal practices are invariably satisfied when they learn what precautions are being taken. He estimated that consulting services would cost between \$60,000 and

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otherwise he would have been quite aware that I wanted more work and others would have asked me, through him, to do work for them."

She criticized the "memomania" in the SU office. "... after reading my report I was asked to answer several questions all of which had been answered in my memo. Only the first few lines had been read. On at least two occasions I have been sent a memo asking me to obtain information requiring one phone call, and on receiving my memo, the President had then rung the same person and asked the questions again. Why bother sending a memo and asking me to do it in the first place?"

Riskin sent a memorandum to the executive general manager and SU councillors expressing his feeling that there is not sufficient need for a research

assistant pointing to "recent history." This is what necessitated Allen's letter explaining her resignation.

"In discussing my resignation with the President I made many suggestions as to what the research assistant could be doing, he agreed with most of the suggestions and showed enthusiasm for some of my ideas. He stated categorically that a new research assistant would be hired. Five minutes later he was dictating a memo saying that the Research Assistant By-Law should be removed. I find it difficult to accept this two-faced attitude."

Allen feels that "the present problems associated with the position are a result of the inability of the present executive to work together" and that a research assistant is still necessary.

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