



Photo Mark Belling

Rally slams apartheid

by Tom Baker

About 100 supporters of the Edmonton Free South Africa Committee rallied Wednesday evening at City Hall to voice their disapproval of the recent actions of the South African government.

A key aspect of the demonstration was a protest against this weekend's Edmonton visit by the "Robins Eleven" cricket team, which has travelled frequently in South Africa.

Several countries of Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, following United Nations' recommendations, refuse to allow teams such as the "Robins 11" through their borders.

Cecil Abrahams, vice-president of the Canadian branch of South African Non-Racial Olympics Committee (SANROC), was the feature speaker at the rally. He asked Canadians to help defeat all forms of racism such as the apartheid system.

"Only through the ending of all imperialist aid to the minority white government," he said, "will this inhuman system be destroyed."

The SANROC representative indicated more than 50 Canadian companies, together with other multinationals, "reap superprofits at the expense of the very lives of the majority black population." He accused international press agencies of falsify-

ing and covering up information about the numbers of black youth shot by the police.

Abrahams gave an extensive description of the black independence struggle in his home country. "We want no Kissingers, and no deals," he said. "Only through placard power such as we have here today, will my country win its freedom."

Abrahams closed his remarks with a threat. He told the organizers of the 1978 Commonwealth Games, which will be held in Edmonton, that there will be no games if New Zealand is allowed to participate. New Zealand carries out close sports relationships with South Africa.

Other speakers at the rally included people from the African Association of Alberta, the Victoria Park Cricket Club, and the New Democratic Party.

Greg Teal, a graduate student at the U of A and a representative from The Free South African Committee, concluded the rally by calling on all participants to gather at Victoria Park Sat. and Sunday at 1 p.m. to picket the game with the "Robins 11" team.

University President Ronald Baker says he has "Every sympathy" for students but "four-fifths of their reduction is funded through subsidies, and that's not including grants and loans."

Hike thwarted

CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP) - The Students' Union at the University of Prince Edward Island has foiled the University administration's plans to raise residence rents as high as 26 per cent.

In appealing the rent hike to the provincial Supreme Court, the union succeeded in bringing student residences under the PEI Landlord and Tenant Act and the Rent Review Act.

Under the Landlord and Tenant Act, students in residence are no longer subject to immediate room search and eviction. The Rent Review Act limits rent increases to 8 per cent annually, unless the landlord can justify a greater increase.

Provincial rental spokesman John Comeau has allowed the administration a 12 per cent rent hike.

The University may still charge one month's advance rent as a "Caution" fee, but may no longer use it to pay for damages to common areas of the residence.

The UPEI administration now says they may cut some student services.



CBC begins taping Alberta variety series

Empty seats patiently watch the CBC rehearse a recording session in SUB theatre on Wednesday. ON STAGE, a new variety

program featuring Alberta talent, begins on CBXT Saturday, October 9 at 9:30 pm. Evening taping sessions are open to the public at no charge. Wednesday, September 22 is the next scheduled date in SUB.

Foreign students refused

by John Kenney

The tight housing situation is even tighter for foreign students, according to acting dean of Student Affairs, Mrs. Ruth Groberman.

There are about 900 foreign students (4.6 per cent of the student body) on campus this year. Aside from adjusting to an unfamiliar campus, many now are encountering landlords who want to make it impossible for them to adjust.

"They all find homes eventually but it's just the trouble they have to go through," explained Mrs. Groberman. "There's very little we can do to help them."

The provincial Human Rights Act can't help them either. Only those seeking self-contained units are assured of protection from discrimination under the act. Single rooms in houses are exempt from this safeguard.

The Human Rights Commission, when contacted for comment, revealed that they have dealt with several student com-

plaints of discrimination.

At McMaster University in Hamilton, foreign students have organized a housing registry to combat discrimination. The Student Affairs office at the U. of A. opposed such a move for this campus saying housing is a problem common to all students.

Some foreign students reduce frustration and disappointment in their own way. When phoning a prospective landlord, some immediately say they are not white. The landlords' decision is thus made simpler and students don't waste time tracking the address down.

"In the U.S. if a colored person was refused housing something would happen right away. In Canada people try to shove it under the rug and say, 'Oh, I hope it doesn't happen again - but it does.'" says Rorri McBlane, student advisor.

Harald Kuckertz, director for the SU Housing Registry, is personally aware of 20 or more cases brought to his attention where foreign students have charged discrimination.

Library workers strike at U of Toronto

TORONTO (CUP) - Library worker demands for a 20 per cent wage hike and increased benefits have been rejected by the University of Toronto administration in the latest round of conciliation talks since their contract expired June 30.

The 390 workers, who staged the first major strike in the University's history last year, now enter a 15 day waiting period before they can legally strike.

Members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), local 1230, set up information pickets outside two University libraries on Sept 13 and 14, the days of the talks.

The University rejected the 20 per cent wage request, offering instead 9 per cent and 7.5 per cent increases for first and second year employees respectively. The offer falls within anti-inflation board (AIB) guidelines. The current starting salary is just over \$7,000.

CUPE 1230 President Judy Darcy said, "The management has the AIB as an excuse this year and they're using that excuse to the hilt."

A key issue in negotiation is protection against technological change, said Darcy, adding that CUPE 1230 fears the library system is quickly moving towards automation.

Other demands include: a dental plan, better maternity leave and increased vacations on the same basis as professional librarians.

The University has also refused to give the workers a requested two hour lunch period per month in order to hold union meetings. Eighty per cent of the local's members are women and pressing family obligations make it difficult for them to attend after hours meetings, Darcy said.