

Tutu pleased

by Stephen Larson

"The age of miracles is not over," declared Bishop Desmond Tutu at the Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches last month in Vancouver.

Bishop Tutu of South Africa, an outspoken critic of his government's apartheid policy had been denied permission to attend the conference. At the last moment the South African government reversed its decision.

As the assembly was holding a peace vigil on the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima Bishop Tutu made a dramatic entry; "The age of miracles is not over," and as proof Tutu said "I am here."

This was one of the many highlights of the World Council of Churches described by six Alberta participants in a forum held in the U of A Students' Union Building. The forum was sponsored by the U of A Chaplain's Association and was an attempt to discuss openly the issues that arose at the World Council of Churches Assembly.

The panel leveled both praise and criticism at the World Council of Churches Assembly

Panel participants Suzanne Rumsey, a U of A student, and Reverend Bruce Miller, U of A United Church Chaplain praised the Assembly for raising new awareness about the problems of faithful living in the Third World.

Lutheran Bishop Don Sjoberg called the Assembly a landmark in Ecumenical Relations, and panel members agreed the participation at the Assembly by the South African theologians was particularly inspiring.

Bishop Sjoberg and Glen Argan, Editor of the Western Catholic Reporter criticized the World Council of Churches for failing to critically address the behaviour of the Soviet Union.

Paul De Groot, religion reporter for the *Edmonton Journal* called the participation of Native People at the Assembly and the raising of a totem pole as a dangerous mingling of Native and Christian faiths resulting in a diminishment of both.

Glen Argan also expressed disappointment that the Assembly failed to talk about abortion and that the Roman Catholic Church was not a member of the World Council of Churches.



This allegedly roach-infested greenhouse is being torn down by the U of A.

Herbalife under siege

St. John's (CUP) The latest fad diet is under investigation by the federal food and drug authorities.

Complaints about the Herbalife Nutritional Program range from dizziness, nausea, and diarrhea to seizures.

The program includes a powerful meal replacement and five different formulas of various vitamins, minerals and herbs and its growing popularity has Newfoundland health officials worried.

Eleanor Swanson Provincial Nutrition Director said she would not recommend the Herbalife Nutritional Program as a suitable weight-loss program.

The meal replacement combined with the vitamin and mineral formulas can cause excessive doses of such nutrients as vitamin A, she said.

This can result in an electrolyte imbalance, which can cause shock. Electrolytes transmit neural messages through the body, and are important to vital organs.

The mineral and vitamin formulas contain several potent herbs, such as the laxatives linseed oil and aloe vera, and the diuretics juniper and hydrangea. The combined cathartic effect of these herbs can lead to dehydration and electrolyte imbalance.

Swanson criticized the plan because it does not alter poor eating habits or offer an exercise program, so that the lost weight

returns quickly when the program is finished.

She also said the products are often illegally sold together, while federal food and drug standards prohibit a meal replacement being sold in combination with other nutrient supplements. Distributors sometimes imply that the vitamin formulas are needed in addition to the meal replacement.

Herbalife is sold by multi-level private distributors, similar to the Amway selling structure. Incentives like money, health and new friends are used to attract new distributors, who in turn seek new recruits.

Swanson said the emphasis of Herbalife's advertising was on the "pure and natural" - but few people realize a 100 per cent natural herb can be toxic and deadly.

"What is natural about taking pills anyway?" she said. "Human beings were meant to chew food or else they would not have teeth."

"The less processed a food is, the more nutritious it is and what can be more processed than a powdered meal?"

Quebec legislation weapon

Montreal (CUP) - Recent threats, coercions, blackmail and administrative interference in student government affairs are the result of provincial legislation passed last June, says Quebec's largest student association.

Bill 32 protects student associations that meet certain stiff requirements from administrative interference, but those who do not qualify are at the mercy of their administrations. And they are suffering for it, says L'Association National Des Etudiants et Etudiantes du Quebec.

One CEGEP administration at Abitibi-Temiskaming will no longer collect student fees, leaving that student association without funding. And the Universite du Quebec, a Montreal administration which has never collected student fees, threatens to kick the student association out of its one-room office by October 16 unless it can get government accreditation.

"Bill 32 is being used as a tool, by both administration and the government, to destabilize Quebec Student Associations," says ANEQ secretary

general Patrice Legendre. Along with other student groups, the association plans a general strike November 15 to protest the law.

Under Bill 32, collection of student fees by administrations is guaranteed to an accredited student association. But the unincorporated student groups at UQAM and the CEGEP at Abitibi-Temiskaming, do not qualify for automatic accreditation, and must fulfill near impossible criteria to gain that status.

Meanwhile, they are left wide open to administration harassment.

To apply for accreditation, an association must run a referendum where 25 per cent of students vote yes to incorporation.

Sixteen incorporated student associations applied for automatic accreditation by the September 21 deadline, although six - all members of ANEQ - applied under protest.

Concordia University Students' Association did not apply and co-president Francois Longpre said it already has protec-

tion from its administration. CUSA is acknowledged as one of the biggest and strongest student associations in Quebec. Yet Longpre fears accreditation would open up CUSA to government prying.

Under the CUSA constitution, students at Concordia can initiate referendums through a 100 signature petition. Under accreditation, 25 students could challenge the right of the association to represent them.

"The problem with the law is that we don't know how the government will interpret it," Terry Fenwick, the other co-president said.

Nazi retires at UBC

Vancouver (CUP) - For twenty years a war criminal convicted of collaborating with the Nazis in Holland taught botany at the U of BC.

On September 1, professor Jacob Luitjens quietly retired eight months early.

Despite pressure from the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, and an extradition request by the Dutch government in 1981, the university claims Luitjens was not pressured into retirement.

Luitjens elected to do so himself and in the spring inquired about pension benefits, UBC President George Pedersen said September 15.

A Dutch court convicted Luitjens in 1948 for carrying firearms and assisting German occupation forces with house to house searches.

The conviction carries a twenty year sentence but an 1899 agreement between the Netherlands and Canada has prevented his extradition.

The Wiesenthal Centre, which specializes in tracking down war criminals, alleges Luitjens killed a German army deserter and a member of the Dutch resistance.

Centre associate dean Rabbi Abraham Cooper said in a September 15 phone interview

UBC evaded its moral and ethical responsibility by not encouraging Luitjens to face his "crimes against humanity".

The Centre sent a telegram to UBC in July urging Luitjens dismissal.

But Pedersen's reply stated a binding agreement with the faculty association was a "serious legal obstacle."

And BC's human rights code says conviction of a criminal charge is not a reasonable cause for dismissal unless the charge relates to the person's employment.

"The university did a good job of standing up for Luitjens' legal rights but it did a dismal job of taking into account the rights of his victims," said Cooper.

Library theft

by Lois C. Dayes

Due to the severe shortage of seating spaces in the U of A libraries, there is a need to clarify immediately the rules the GFC Library committee initiated last year.

In Cameron and Rutherford Libraries, carrels will be assigned by the Library on the basis of demonstrated need.

- The priorities are:
1. Graduate students working on theses,
 2. Students in the Honours Program working on a major research paper.
 3. Senior students working on a major research project.

The assigned terms will be September 1 to December 31,

January 1 to April 30, and May 1 to August 31. Renewals are possible.

Two persons will be assigned to share the use of each carrel. (This policy will be reviewed at the end of the year).

Applications for carrel assignments are to be signed by the Honours Graduate Advisor and countersigned by the departmental chairman. Application forms are available at Circulation, Rutherford Library.

A word to the wise: do not under any circumstances leave ANY valuables or personal belongings at a carrel. A "quick" coffee in HUB, etc., will likely mean loss of goods... due to theft.

