

Ottawa

Survival of the fittest does not apply today

OTTAWA (CUP) - Could the slogan "All people have the right to give birth to a healthy child" become the centrepiece of a movement in the 1980's?

Geneticist, Dr. David Suzuki, says it's very likely, but he's worried about its reciprocal. "All unhealthy, abnormal children have no right to survive."

Speaking at the University of Ottawa's Festival of Life, January 27, Suzuki, warned about the potential abuses of scientific information and pointed out that further advances in science will put increasing pressures on society to face serious moral and ethical questions.

"In the 1970's we have an understanding of molecular biology that has brought about options of manipulation undreamed of 10 years ago."

Recently developed techniques like amniocentesis and fetoscopy, which allow direct observation and photographing of the fetus, can already detect certain abnormalities.

Is it "unreasonable and irresponsible", as one scientist has suggested, to allow the birth of mongoloid children? "I don't think so", Suzuki said.

He pointed out the problem has wider ramifications saying, "Triage is at the hub of many problems."

The term refers to a sorting method used in the first world war in which seriously injured soldiers were left to die and those with minor injuries were left to help themselves thereby concentrating

aid on those who had good chances of survival.

"Will we soon be talking about cutting off aid to the Third World," Suzuki asked.

"What about when our energy runs out - and it will - will we draw the lines of triage against the mentally ill; the elderly?"

He admitted these were far-reaching problems for a society that has as yet "to resolve the basic morality of abortion" and the question of what to do with nuclear power.

He questioned the right of the military and industry, "two major users of scientific research not known for their concern of the general public", to hide their work behind a top secret stamp. "Do we want major corporations to decide which scientific research to use?" asked Suzuki.

Suzuki said the crisis in science now is that "we no longer have time for reflection."

"We now accept change as the one unchangeable thing in our lives."

This, coupled with a history of racism in genetics and a government which supported the War Measures Act and the Oriental Exclusion Act poses "great danger" to further development in the field.

Suzuki himself spent four years in B.C. concentration camps "for having committed the crime of having genes from Japan three generations ago."

He also called for a halt to studies which purport blacks are hereditarily inferior or IQ is

inherited saying it is impossible to make comparisons when one is studying subjects from a common human gene pool.

If the men doing the studies "aren't terribly mischievous, they are very ignorant," Suzuki said.

Ottawa

State department staff cut

OTTAWA (CUP) - The education support branch of the Department of the Secretary of State is expected to lose half its high-paid staff next year as part of the federal austerity measures.

The branch's personnel allotment will be cut from 31 to 15 in the 1976-77 budget, sources in the department say, which will mean elimination of half the professional staff.

This cut comes at a time when educational bodies such as the AUCC and the CAUT are calling for increased federal presence in post-secondary education, and some observers see the cut as an indication that the federal government does not intend to increase its involvement in this area.

The education support branch is the only federal department which has been dealing with the issue of student aid in a policy sense. The finance department, which administers the Canada Student Loan Plan, stays clear of policy formulation, it claims, and deals

only with administrative aspects of the aid scheme.

Another possible reason for the cut in the education support branch budget is its bungling of last year's federal-provincial task force on student aid.

The task force, which included representatives from the provinces and the education support branch, came under criticism last year when documents were leaked which showed the task force was considering increasing the amount students would have to borrow to pay for their education.

The task force also came under fire for being closed and secretive, and found itself having to spend a lot of time explaining to students why they were excluded from the talks.

The final result was that the task force was unable to produce a set of long term students recommendations for the Council of Education Ministers when it met last September, and the CME responded by setting up another body to do the job which depended less on federal co-ordination and resources.

Just how the education support branch cuts will effect the current talks aimed at renegotiating the Fiscal Arrangements Act is unclear.

The Act, which outlines the federal-provincial cost-sharing plan for post-secondary education, expires in 1977. The education support branch has been highly involved in the renegotiation process.

The crux of the matter, he says, is to "de-mystify science". "My whole schtick is the translation of science into English."

He said scientists have no choice on popularizing their work and stressed the importance of includ-

ing laypeople on medical and all other types of planning boards.

"We (scientists) have to establish rapport with these groups" because "the issue at stake here goes to the heart of what only humans have and our society treasures."

Calgary

Students delay fee increase

CALGARY (CUP) - The University of Calgary Student's Union has delayed a Board of Governor's vote on a proposal to increase the universities tuition fees by 25 percent.

Council President Dave Wolf told the Board January 24 that he had received the formal proposal too late and the union had not had time to examine it carefully or develop any solid position.

He also said there had been no consultation with the student government when the formal proposal was drawn up.

Board Chairperson I.N. McKinnon opposed the Wolf motion saying, "we have very little choice in our position", however after the

delay was allowed he said the Board had the unfortunate choice of either voting now and stirring public resentment for "steamrolling", or vote later and upset the business and planning programs of the university.

Wolf said the 25 percent was too great an increase over one year, but added he was not opposed to the increase if it could be spread over two years.

Board members pointed out that the U of C had one of the lowest tuition costs in Canada and it has not increased since 1968.

"We are sympathetic to students but I see no alternatives", but to raise tuition fees, said Dr. William Cochrane, university president.

Nevada

Alcohol takes its toll

NEVADA (CUP) - A burly University of Nevada football player literally drank himself to death by downing large quantities of 190-proof drinks known as "flaming shots".

An autopsy on 23-year-old John Davies showed that he died from consuming too much alcohol. Police say that Davies and friends participated in an initiation ceremony in a Reno bar by

downing a potent drink known as "everclear", which is nearly pure alcohol.

Witnesses said that Davies would pour a shot of the stuff light it on fire and immediately down it. He occasionally burned himself on the hands by spilling the flaming drink, observers said.

After swallowing an undisclosed but large number of shots, Davies collapsed. He was pronounced dead a short time later.

St. Catherine's

Discrimination suit won

ST. CATHERINES (CUP) - Brock University has paid a Toronto woman \$16,000 as settlement in a two-year dispute concerning alleged discrimination in hiring methods.

Dr. Alan Earp, President of the university, confirmed that the settlement, equivalent to one year's salary, was paid to Dr.

Marcia Reece. In June, 1974, Dr. Reece charged that the university had not hired her for a job in the English department because her husband, George, was already a member of that department's staff.

Dr. Reece, one of about 200 applicants for the position, filed a written protest with the dean of Arts and Sciences.

Winter Carnival Parade



Hi everybody, my name is ALPHY. I've been asked to tell you about the PARADE I just love parades, they sure are a lot of fun, especially the ones we have at UNB I can't wait -- it's THIS SATURDAY, FEB. 7, and leaves campus at 12:30 p.m. There is everything in the parade; we have 18 floats, half a dozen cars for queens, clowns by the dozen and four Jack asses (two of which are four legged animals).

The PARADE starts on campus at the large T.C. parking lot, will go down through campus, on to University Ave., across to Charlotte, onto Regent, cross over to Queen and will break off at the Exhibition Grounds, come back to the T.C. Parking Lot, where the winners will be announced.

ALPHY

So before I leave, remember to get up Saturday the 7th to watch the parade, for you who wouldn't have been to sleep that night, stay up, you see it is not just the people in the PARADE that count, without people watching we wouldn't need a parade.

REMEMBER - SAT. FEB. 7 at 12:30 p.m.

Wolfville

Stud

WOLFVILLE (CUP) - editor of the Acadia U. Athenaeum has been fired by the University's Student Council because of what has been called "irresponsible behaviour".

Bringing the motion to a vote, the Council January 21, President Jim Enman and editor Michael Chiasson saw second hand news sources ignoring the advice of lawyers.

According to Enman, had written an article Jan. 19 charging a visiting professor with plagiarism during a mathematics seminar in which the mathematician failed to acknowledge pertinent to his talk. The was an applicant for head of mathematics department. The article drew protest from a majority of the Acadia mathematics professors, the U. President, and from the Council executive.

University President I. Beveridge, in a letter to President Enman said "think of no story published in student newspaper that has a greater extent, any department or indeed the University has this article".

Beveridge, along with

Ottawa

Anti-NUS

OTTAWA (CUP) - The Council of the Association des Etudiants de l'ANEQ officially voted 28 that "the National Students be totally dissolved according to reliable within ANEQ.

The decision of the Council, which will be debated at the ANEQ National Congress Jan. 28, "be defeated by the source of the Quebec" the source of the council is political and the anti-NUS movement result in an open battle of political ideologies within the Congress.

A large part of the executive, are members of the Communist Party pathizers of the Communist Party.

Lennoxville

Resi

LENNOXVILLE (CUP) - Bishops University students at Bishops University have called for the closure of their campus security rooms, claiming their search for privacy has been violated.

While students were on Christmas break, Comptroller, Jean-Luc Gauthier, authorized inspection of the security rooms by security guard Doug McConnell.

An inspection followed by Gregoire as "maintenance check" to check knowledge or permission of students whose rooms were checked.

A report has now been filed listing of damages considered to be "irregular" by the "abnormal" by the "Abnormal" items.