

Disarm today, live tomorrow

by Wes Oginski

"The current dollar value of Canada's arms trade is about \$600 million a year — NOT including Defense Department purchases. Canadian military commodities have been involved in the Iran-Iraq conflict, in Nicaragua, Nicaragua (sic), in Zimbabwe, in El Salvador and in Guatemala." - Ernie Regehr

Regehr, and many others, will visit the campus and address the issue of nuclear disarmament.

Saturday, October 24, marked the beginning of United Nations Week. One of its major concerns is nuclear disarmament. Regehr is from Project Ploughshares, who are sponsoring disarmament discussions across Canada during this week.

"If there's a theme appropriate for a week, it is disarmament," says vice president external Lisa Walter of the U of A Students' Union.

The Student's Union, as well as the Edmonton Learner Centre, Edmontonians for a Non-Nuclear Future, Development and Peace,

Edmonton Interchurch U of A Chaplains Office, Edmonton Peace Council, Edmonton Voice of Women, and the Social Justice Commission, has sponsored a week long discussion on nuclear disarmament.

October 24 - 30: A Week for Disarmament continues at the University of Alberta campus every evening till the 30th.

"The purpose of this week on campus is to make people aware of what is happening (with nuclear disarmament)," says Eric Stephanson of the U of A Chaplains Office.

"The point of this week is to focus attention on the dangers of nuclear war," he says. "There is a

real fear and realistic possibility of nuclear war," he says.

"I'm almost tempted to put the whole thing (disarmament issue) in apocalyptic terms...we worship death," he adds. "We spend more money on weapons than anything else."

Walter extends the focus of disarmament week.

"We're focusing on the Canadian role in disarmament," she says.

"We (Canada) could as a small power, but a significant one, have a mediating role," says Stephanson.

"We're (Canada) not a major power, but at the same time we could have a strong firm stance in the international community," he adds.

"We haven't exactly been leaders in practical ways...words are cheap," Stephanson says, "and in what way has the government followed through with that...to my knowledge they haven't."

Increased Canadian involve-



Only about 200 strong, but these people rally to the flag raising of UN Week at City Hall.

Photo Martin Beale

ment in the disarmament issue is necessary Walter says.

"I think it is time Canada, as a NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) member, to get involved because of the European movement," she explains.

"The movements for disarmament are generally increasing," she adds.

Massive demonstrations were staged across Europe on Saturday.

"In Rome they had 200,000 people. In Britain they had 150,000," Stephanson says. In Edmonton, about 200 people appeared at a flag raising ceremony to declare Disarmament Week.

"Last Tuesday for example, 8,000 students marched for disarmament in West Germany," Walter says.

Disarmament is not the only issue to be looked at, but also nuclear energy.

"It is important to understand that the peaceful use of nuclear power is not being condemned, Walter stresses.

However it is important to inform Edmontonians she says.

"There are routes through Edmonton where yellow keg (an unrefined form of uranium) is trucked," Walter explains.

Disposal of nuclear wastes is a problem with modern nuclear fuel.

"It is clear to me it is dangerous," says Stephanson. "There isn't a suitable disposal method."

Saskatchewan is a major source of raw uranium. It is important to trace the effects of nuclear wastes in these areas according to Walter.

"Canada does produce a lot of fuel," she says. "There is concern in Saskatchewan where they're living over a whole pile."

"Nuclear energy is not clean energy."

"I think it is kind of foolish to expend resources on nuclear energy when there are so many other safer sources of energy available," says Stephanson.

Disarmament seminars are every night at 7:30 at the multimedia area of Education North until October 30.

It's time for greater share

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Hinting that "the time has come" for students to pay a greater share of the costs of their education, a committee of university presidents has called for increases in tuition at Canadian colleges and universities.

The recommendation was contained in a discussion paper, presented by a seven-member subcommittee of the Association of Universities and Colleges Canada to the AUCC conference in Winnipeg October 19.

The report said both increased tuition fees for students, and grants from private enterprise for "short-term" projects would reduce the funding burdens on governments.

If the relationship between "the core undertaking of universities and utilitarian enterprises" could be understood, say the administrators, "the private sector might be prepared to strengthen its support of Canadian universities." They said the "core undertaking" of universities is "the creation and transmission of knowledge and skills across a

broad spectrum of disciplines and professions."

Funding from the private sector for research projects should not "damage or displace" the main activities of the institutions, according to the presidents, but they said the universities have a responsibility to respond to the needs of government, business and industry.

The committee, chaired by University of Toronto president James Ham, said there is public support for post-secondary education, and "in all likelihood this would find expression in a willingness to pay higher tuition fees."

Ham told the *Globe and Mail* October 17 that tuition should cover up to 25 per cent of the total costs of education, saying that students themselves benefit directly from their education.

Ham's proposal would see tuition fees in some areas of Canada double, according to Bruce Tate, researcher for the newly-formed Canadian Federation of Students.

"Universities are too dependent on government," said Ham later. "We have a real crisis of

universities surviving (government under-funding) as high quality institutions."

University executives at the Winnipeg meeting were critical of suggestions that arts and sciences programs, among the "core undertakings" of universities, are of little value to society.

"The playing off of the core centre of arts and sciences against the other faculties shows the shallow understanding of how breakthroughs are made," said University of Calgary president Norm Wagner.

Meanwhile, delegates at the

continued on page 12

dear floyd

an advice column to the lost



Dear Floyd,

Please answer this letter soon. Here it is mid-terms and I am not prepared. Every night for a week now, I have tried to cram for exams but I can never stay up long enough to accomplish any good. I would try wake-up pills, except I'm scared to get hooked on them. My doctor says there isn't anything physically wrong with me.

If I don't find some way to pass this year, it will mean repeating my third year of arts for the eighth time. Any advice would be appreciated.

signed: S. Omnabulist

Dear Sleepy,

Your problem is not unique, but nonetheless serious. My close acquaintance, Dr. Ben Kildairy, is a specialist in sleep studying. After a thorough study of your case and other similar problems, he suggested that there may be hope yet. He suggests 14 martinis when you study. This way you may not stay up longer, but you won't care.

Dear Floyd,

Howz it going man. I'm a flower child from the 60s. Back then we all had a cause and a reason to skip classes. Today, the revolution is dead. Nobody seems to care. Try to organize a march and you're lucky if your mother shows up to make sure you're properly dressed.

Not that I'm complainin' you see. I no longer have to make sure I separate the underprivileged from the bourgeoisie which isn't that easy today. It's also a lot easier now that the cops don't hassle me and my kind.

The trouble is I'm lonely. I have no one to relate to, you know. Like, where have all the flowers gone Floyd.

Peace man.

signed: Moon Beam

Dear Lunie,

Have no fear; Floyd is here. Yes, you too can be saved. Get down, get

down I say, and your wish will be answered.

No longer must you struggle alone in a world you no longer understand. The *Floyd Home for Wilted Flowers* is now open. It's been a long time passing, but through the hard work of a dedicated staff, you too can go where all the protestors have gone a long time ago. Just send \$30,000 to the home and we will be more than willing to take you in for a three month trial period (no money back guarantee).

Dear Floyd,

I am a first year Commerce student. My marks in high school were relatively high. I am finding, though, at the university level, course difficulty has increased with an increment of the mean value of the slope to the equation describing this trend, which unfortunately is no longer a simple function but a difficult hyperbole.

The tangent line presents the question that all philosophers seek an answer to. What is life? I ask not for you to answer this question Floyd, but rather, what the blue blazes am I doing in such a hard faculty? or b) how can this suffering be decreased?

signed: S. InDolent

Dear Slothful,

As an obscure Greek philosopher once said "If it's not easy, it's not worth it." I do not agree with the saying, but you obviously follow this school of thought. My best advice is get out of Commerce immediately and transfer to another faculty. You would fit right in with other Phys. Ed. students.

CONFIDENTIAL: to L.L.,

I received your letter and did not think you would like to see it in print. You need only a few tips.

(a) take leisurely strolls down 106 st. at odd hours.

(b) join a kickline.

If this doesn't help, you've got problems kid.

BAZ

by SKEET and Nielsen

