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## Classroom Clamp-down

### Quebec purges

On Friday, January 8, the Quebec Teachers Corporation has criticized the provincial education department for its handling of an investigation into alleged political indoctrination in classrooms.

In a statement on Friday, January 8, the 70,000-member teachers' union called the issue a "leaking political football," and said: "An administration which is not even capable of dealing with a few complaints in an organization of 100,000 teachers without resorting to publicity tricks is obviously in an alarming situation."

The day before, Education minister Guy St. Pierre was quoted as saying 50 teachers would be brought before a special committee investigating the political activity of teachers in classrooms. The setting up of this committee came about in December, when Education Minister Guy St. Pierre announced four measures designed to tighten the screws on radical teachers, in public schools and at the universities.

The four measures are:

1. nomination of a commissioner of inquiry whose job will be to receive complaints from parents and school administrators about teachers "abusing" their positions for the purposes of spreading "political propaganda" or "indoctrinating their students."

2. warnings to the rectors of universities, directors of CEGEPS (junior colleges) and school commissioners to stop these "abuses", and a threat that if they don't the minister will personally interfere.

3. institution of mechanisms to control the work of teachers to be sure they do not use their links with students to propagandize.

4. creation of a joint committee of representatives of the teachers, the school commissions and the minister to draw

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### Math dept. moves to remove three

by Lloyd Buchinski

An internationally known researcher and professor in the field of mathematics, Dr. F. W. Lawvere, is being dismissed from Dalhousie "in a move which rings of McCarthyism" as The 4th Estate sees it. A graduate student and possibly a second math instructor will also go.

Academic ability is not being questioned and is not given as a reason for dismissal in any of the three cases.

No definite reasons were given for not renewing Lawvere's contract. Reasons discussed and discarded included the content of his Math 304 course. The general consensus of the department seemed to be that "the mathematical content of the course is sound." The disruption of a meeting on campus was also discussed, but Dr. A. J.

Tingley denied that this was the reason for the decision of the Appointments Committee.

Since no real reasons, academic or otherwise, have been given for Lawvere's dismissal, it seems to be based largely on personal prejudices. The fact that Lawvere has been labeled a Maoist may have influenced the decision.

In the minutes of the departmental meeting held on Dec. 14, Lawvere was told in a statement prepared by Tingley that "as far as I know, persons not offered further contracts in these circumstances need be given no reasons and have no basis for appeal."

Although there is no appeal, the math department was allowed to vote on the matter, and OKed the decision 18 to 13, with 2 abstentions.

Tingley was willing to give his reasons, which seem a little

vague. "The presence of Dr. Lawvere in the department causes stresses and strains to the detriment of its proper functioning." and "he has to some extent used a class for a political forum." The class referred to here is Math 304.

Although Tingley listed the class as one of his reasons for supporting Lawvere's dismissal, he makes other comments about the class during the discussion. The minutes record that "A. J. Tingley suggested that the discussion of Math 304 is irrelevant to the question concerned, as it had no real influence on the decision of the Appointments Committee." And later, "A. J. Tingley reiterated that discussion of Math 304 serves no useful purpose."

The fact that graduate and honors students of the Department of Mathematics passed a motion supporting Lawvere did not seem to influence the department or Dr. Tingley.

Last year, Dr. Lawvere accepted a \$60,000 grant from the National Research Council (the highest they can award) for three years of research at Dalhousie. The remaining \$40,000 will be transferred to any university at which Lawvere decides to teach if he stays in Canada, and will be entirely withheld if he leaves.

"Peanuts", according to Dean MacLean, in comparison to Dal's total budget, but a convenient if small monetary measure of what the university is willing to sacrifice in order to support its political stand.

Dr. Lawvere has won international recognition as a mathematician while still in his early thirties.

Many eminent mathematicians from around the world have come to Dalhousie to study with him and these too may be sacrificed with his firing.

Greg Neumann, who is a Maoist, has also run into trouble with the math department. A

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### National protest Jan. 22

## Poor people organize

by Brian Jamieson

"We, the delegates of the Poor Peoples Conference, call upon individuals and groups across the nation to join with us on January 25 in a day of national protest. We call upon welfare and working poor from coast to coast to join together to initiate a day of national solidarity to show their anger and disapproval of Trudeau's Unjust Society. Ministerial conferences and white papers are totally inadequate! ACT NOW."

This statement came out of the final session of the Poor Peoples Conference (PPC), held at the Lord Simcoe Hotel in Toronto on Jan. 7, 8, 9, and 10. The purpose of the conference was to organize the various minority groups in Canada into a national unit, with common aims and action. It was felt that a large number of groups acting

together could perform more effectively than a number of smaller groups acting separately.

The theme of unity, although strained at times, was held throughout the conference. The Maritimes' delegation, for example, had a set of delegates representing all the minority groups in the region.

The PPC grew from discussions of the National Council of Welfare, a 21-person advisory board to the Minister of Health and Welfare. As a result of three meetings, it was decided to call for a four-day conference of "Representatives of low income and disadvantaged groups concerned with the problems of welfare, to discuss ways in which such groups can most effectively advance these concerns."

The budget went from \$50,000 to \$68,500 to allow for more

participation. Two hundred delegates were expected and 350 expressed a desire to attend.

The entire organization and planning was done by poor (continued page 8)



# Poor organize for stronger action . . .

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people, and only poor people were allowed to be in attendance at the conference.

After the usual initial jockeying for position, the conference eventually broke into workshops to discuss the business at hand.

Exploitation of the poor by the rich, the disadvantages of the poor before the law, and how they can be dealt with, police injustice when dealing with the poor, problems of unemployment, problems of Canada's native people, the physically handicapped, and prison conditions were some of the topics discussed.

Workshops on law studied the effects of the law on the poor. Probably the most important result of these workshops was the realization that the poor must change the laws themselves as no one else has the need or the resources.

The resolution passed stated: "The legal profession has failed the poor . . . we wish to penetrate the monopoly of the legal profession which jealously guards the law as its exclusive territory."

"We therefore reject the traditional indifferent legal aid system and recommend the institution of aggressive poverty law . . . In struggling against unjust laws the poor (shall) collectively pressure and challenge the courts and rely on the power of the collective strength and force necessary changes in the restructuring of our society."

The workshops also condemned the police for their treatment of the poor. They agreed that what might look like equality on the law books is not really so. There is a greater financial strain on the poor, who cannot afford the calibre of legal aid available to the more affluent.

Housing, one of the major problems for low-income families, was studied at length in the workshops. It was decided to form a national tenants union to attempt to alleviate the problem and re-adjust the laws dealing with landlord-tenant relationships, now strongly biased in favour of the landlord.

They also dealt with discrimination in housing and the profiteering attitude of provincial and federal housing commissions, which they felt to be rampant across Canada.

Another major problem discussed was unemployment in Canada. At present, em-

ployment is the lowest in thirteen years. In the Maritimes, one out of twelve people are out of work, not counting the chronic unemployed.

The delegates charged that the federal government under Trudeau and Finance Minister Benson has deliberately created unemployment and poverty in a "cold and heartless manner".

The unemployment resolution stated: The sorry record of Trudeau's government makes it quite clear that it represents the interests of big business and foreign corporations rather than the people of this country.

"The conference voted to establish a committee to develop a program to alleviate unemployment. They also recommended that the Canada

Manpower service be expanded and modified to provide more job training and better services."

The native people of Canada are one of the poorest socio-economic groups in this country. The workshops found there had been discrimination on the part of welfare people against the native peoples, which they felt should be im-

mediately rectified.

They recommended better housing and representation on a national level for the native populace. It was also felt that there should be greater rights for the Metis population of Canada.

A general statement accusing the government of representing the monied interests rather than the interests of the people was issued at the end of the conference.

To follow up on the national conference, there will be a Poor Peoples Conference for the Halifax area to inform the people about the national conference and begin the work decided upon in Ottawa. The conference will be held on January 22, at Saint Patricks Church Hall.

"First they arrested the Communists — but I was not a Communist, so I did nothing. Then they came for the Social Democrats — but I was not a Social Democrat, so I did nothing. Then they arrested the trade unionists — and I did nothing because I was not one. And then they came for the Jews and then the Catholics, but I was neither a Jew nor a Catholic and I did nothing. At last they came and arrested me — and there was no one left to do anything about it."

## Dal math moves . . .

(continued from pg. 1)

graduate student at Dal, he introduced a speaker in a class he taught at the transition year level.

When he was told by Dr. Tingley that he did not have the authority to bring in a speaker (Neumann had not been told of this before) he said that he "would like to look into it". Dr. Tingley replied that he required an answer immediately, and when Neumann again requested time to think about it, he was told to consider himself relieved of his teaching duties.

Dr. Menon, a quiet person who is described as "a very humble man" by one of his colleagues, was refused tenure after he asked Dr. Tingley "whether he was acting as chairman of the department or as a representative of the RCMP when he voted against reappointment" (of Lawvere).

Rumor is that there may be a

connection between this remark and the department's refusal to grant him tenure.

Dr. Tingley and Dean MacLean refused to comment on Menon's case and Dr. Menon quite understandably does not wish to discuss it as "my case is under reconsideration".

Other sources would not be first hand, but one thing is clear. Something important is happening here that is being kept from the students of Dal. The only way to find out is to bug the people who know. (Hopefully, 6000 phone calls will produce some positive results.)

## Appendix C

Motion at a regular meeting of the graduate and honors students of the Department of Mathematics, Dec. 7, 1970.

We, the graduate and honors students of the Mathematics Department of Dalhousie University, consider that Dr. F. W. Lawvere's mathematical teaching and research is very valuable for the Dalhousie mathematical community as well as for Dalhousie University's international reputation. On this ground we propose the renewal of his appointment.

We feel that Dr. Lawvere's political activities should in no way affect the considerations of his reappointment.

Copies of this proposal should be sent to the chairman of the Department, Dr. Tingley, the Dean of Arts and Science, the Dean of Graduate Studies, and the President of the University. Passed by majority.

## Cup Saga

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Many of the seminars concerned journalism of course, but there were others on Quebec, on jAmerican control of Canada, and on the Indian minority, with some truly fascinating speakers. Arnold Sternadka of the Alberta Metis Association rapped about Red Power, Bill Levant of the University of Saskatchewan, Jim Harding and Leo Johnson from the University of Waterloo took swipes at the US with the full support of nearly all coppers, and Roch Denis, from the weekly Quebec-Presse, took a hard second look at the future of Quebec.

With wine served almost every night at dinner, everyone was in high spirits, and seemed eager to tackle the problems at hand. But also, it had to end some time.

On January 2nd, the sun set slowly into Lake Okanagan (as it does every night). To preserve the spirit of the 33rd, a last piece of cake was ripped off, a last "right on" was shouted, and a last "correct line" was correctly stated.

With the strength of thousands (because our ideology was pure), we again stormed the Penticton International Airport with more courage and more determination than ever before. Worry beads, the salvation of men and women, had been discovered. With these, we liberated Naramata, we liberated PWA. . . tomorrow Ecum Secum!

Hold your worry beads high fellow coppers! Hold your worry beads high! And REMEMBER THE 33rd!!