

Michigan Daily

DRIZZLY

High—45
Low—28

Occasional rain,
fog and mist

Ann Arbor, Michigan—Wednesday, March 4, 1970

Ten Cents

Ten Pages

750 attend Dow, Radical College forum

By W. E. SCHROCK

More than 750 people filled the Union ballroom yesterday to hear a public forum of representatives from the Dow Chemical Corp. and members of Radical College.

The forum on "The role of the chemical company in social and political problems of the day," was arranged by Radical College, a group of professors, staff members, and students.

It was organized by Radical College member Robert van der Meulen with the cooperation of Acting Vice President for Student Affairs Barbara Newell under a procedure set up by the Regents in April, 1968.

Literary College Dean William Hayes, moderator of the forum, opened the proceedings by saying "We hope that this will lead to some open, candid discussion."

The forum was divided into three parts: showing of a film, "Accusation", short presentations by each of the panel members, and a question and answer period.

The first speaker was zoology Prof. Robert Beyer, of Radical College. He explained that Radical College had organized "to present a view quite different from that which is usually represented by faculty."

Beyer's presentation was a description of Dow products that have been used as weapons in Vietnam — specifically napalm and herbicides used for defoliant purposes.

On herbicides, Beyer said that crop destruction affects people and can result in growth deforming, malnutritive effects on children, "not the enemy. This is a completely misconceived perception."

Turning to napalm, Beyer said that "no use has ever been found for napalm in peacetime." He said that although Dow has stopped making napalm, it did so only because it "was underbid by a west coast company. Nevertheless, they did bid."

Then, turning to references of prosecution of Krupp arms manufacturers of Nazi Germany and similar people from World War II Japan who were found guilty of war crimes by producing weapons, he declared, "Gentlemen, I accuse you of crimes against humanity."

William B. Seward, manager of public relations for the Midland division of Dow, made his side's first presentation.

He opened by saying that Dow has participated in many forums like yesterday's and that "this has helped broaden Dow's perspective."

He reiterated Dow's attitude toward dissent and protest — they encourage it unless it becomes violent or infringes on the rights of others.

Trying to dispell images of Dow as an exploiter of third world underdeveloped nations, he related many facts and figures. Seward pointed out that Dow invests more in pollution control work and research than it makes in all of its operations in Latin America.

"I don't think that those people who talk about third world repression know what they are talking about," said Seward, after giving quotations from Latin American newspapers in support of Dow's investment in their countries.

On the subject of ecology, Seward said that Dow is "taking the lead on pollution." He pointed to several examples of how Dow is trying to make its operations pollution free and utilize its operations. See 750, Page 7



—Daily—Richard Lee

RADICAL COLLEGE MEMBER Seamus O'Cleirecain, an economics teaching fellow, speaks at the forum yesterday between Radical College and Dow Chemical Corp. on "The role of the chemical company in social and political problems of the day." Over 750 persons attended the forum.

WITHDRAW PETITION:

TF unit faces setback in attempt to unionize

By TAMMY JACOBS

Teaching fellows trying to form a union received a set-back yesterday, when it was discovered that they did not have the required amount of signatures on a petition filed with the state Employment Relations Commission.

According to the law, a petition with the signatures of 30 per cent of the constituency a proposed union wants to represent must be filed before the commission will hold a hearing to consider recognizing the union.

When the teaching fellows' group started collecting signatures, they were told by the administration that there were 1,417 teaching fellows at the University. They collected signatures accordingly, and filed the petition with 450 signatures or almost 33 per cent of the teaching fellows' names,

according to Steering Committee Chairman Alison Hayford, a geography teaching fellow.

However, at a preliminary conference in Detroit yesterday, the commission tallied the petition signatures against a computer tape of the teaching fellows on the January payroll, and found that the number of names on the petition was insufficient. The January payroll listed 1,554 teaching fellows in the University.

The group withdrew their petition and will refile it when enough signatures have been collected.

Jack Hamilton, the director of University relations, later said that "the reason for the disparity in the numbers is that new teaching fellow appointments hadn't been cleared as soon as we would have liked them to."

He said that the 1,417 figure

was accurate when the teaching fellows first requested it. However, the law requires that the 30 per cent figure be based on the number of constituents there are on the day the petition is filed.

According to Miss Hayford, the teaching fellows' group is planning to refile the petition as soon as possible. The formal hearing with the commission — the next step after the petition is filed — has been set for April 22.

"We're planning to get the additional names by the end of next week," she said, adding that several have already been collected.

However, she added, "he said there were other problems besides the signatures."

Hamilton noted the "temporary nature of the teaching fellows," and said that there was a question of "what constitutes a proper unit of student employees."

If the commission rules that teaching fellows are "an appropriate unit," then "we must determine what constitutes this unit," Hamilton said.

If, at the formal hearing next month, the commission decides that the teaching fellows constitute an appropriate bargaining unit, an election will be held among teaching fellows to determine whether they will accept the group as their union. Fifty per cent of those voting is sufficient to recognize the group as a union.

According to Miss Hayford, the group has "well over 70" dues-paying members by now, and is gaining support rapidly.

Students to hear SDS case of violations during lock-in

PORT

They also claimed this action violated "the constitutional rights of free speech and assembly" for students who were prevented from interviews with the DuPont recruiter.

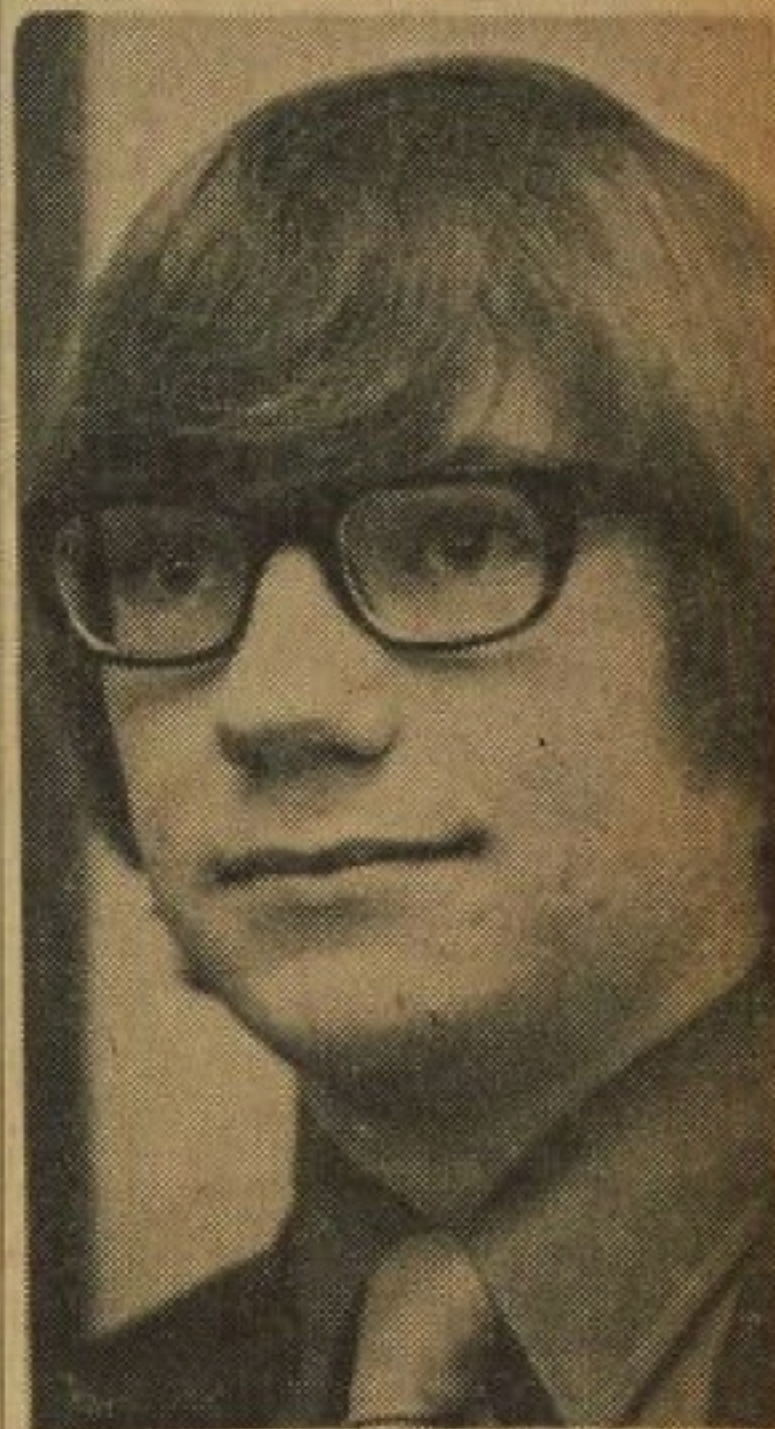
The committees called for the maximum penalty—\$250 fine and four months of recognition curtailment for the organization—to be given to SDS. If curtailed, the

incident involving the obstruction of a Naval recruiter. At that time, SDS was fined \$25 and one of the four defendants was found guilty and received a \$2 fine.

A tentative date for the new trial was set for March 23. However, due to equity problems brought up by the SDS legal counselor, the trial may not take place until next term.

They also claimed this action violated "the constitutional rights of free speech and assembly" for students who were prevented from interviews with the DuPont recruiter.

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Ian Wright

Daily picks new business senior staff

The outgoing members of The Daily business staff last night announced the appointment of the Executive Board for the year 1970-71.

Ian G. Wright, a senior in English from Irvington, N.Y. was appointed business manager. Wright directs the entire financial operation of The Daily as a student operated business.

Mark Walfish, a junior from Brooklyn, N.Y. majoring in political science, was appointed personnel director. Walfish is in charge of recruitment and training of all business staff members.

Vida Goldstein was appointed to the new position of staff coordinator. Miss Goldstein, a junior anthropology major from Miami, Fla. is in charge of intra-staff problems and Daily social functions.

The duties of finance manager will be assumed by Amy Cohen. Miss Cohen is a junior in psychology from Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

See DAILY, Page 6

On today's
Page Three

● President Richard Nixon asks Congress to block a nation-wide rail strike.

750 hear forum on Dow Chemical Corp.

(Continued from Page 1)

ations for general pollution control.

Radical College member Seamus O'Cleireacain, an economics teaching fellow spoke next. He was chosen to represent the graduate students on the Radical College half of the panel.

First, he talked of napalm, which he pointed out may not be made by Dow any longer, but "the statute of limitations has not run out."

Nearing the end of his list of 20 statements, he said that Dow was charged by the Interstate Commission with freight rate fixing.

Fourth in the speakers and second for Dow was James Campbell, director of salaried placement for Dow.

"Although we have come to be seen as a symbol of the system, we have been considered an employe-oriented company" for many years, he said.

"Continued training and education" of employes and "pay for performance," Campbell said, "makes us not as was mentioned recently in The Michigan Daily, a disinterested company, but an interested one."

Touching briefly on recruiting at the University, he said, "If no student wants to talk to us about jobs, then we simply don't go."

The last radical speaker was Fred Miller, an undergraduate and a member of Students for a Democratic Society.

After touching briefly on napalm which he claimed was going to be made in Germany soon—and which Dow officials later flatly denied—Miller raised the ecology question, and alleged unwritten labor practice of discrimination against women and blacks. He then turned to the relationship of the University to Dow.

"It seems like there are a few of us against Dow with the University in Dean Hayes as moderator." He mentioned that Radical College members found yesterday that the University always turns its proxies for 14,000 shares over to the management of Dow and

that it could sell its shares in Dow if it wanted with no legal problems.

The last speaker was Dow's manager of research and development of agricultural products, Dr. Eteyl Blair.

Blair opened his presentation with the question, "When you get up in the morning and have good eggs for breakfast, where did they come from?" The crowd responded that they knew about chickens.

Blair's speech concerned Dow's herbicides and how they have been "used to develop our farming as it is today."

He said that Tordon, which is used by the military in Vietnam, was "developed strictly for use in agriculture."

He explained that Dow herbicides are not toxic to humans. "Aspirin is twice as poisonous as 2,4,5-T," a Dow herbicide and "aspirin is 10 times as poisonous as picloram (generic term for trade name Tordon).

He said that there has never been any evidence that Dow herbicides lead to teratogenic effects (fetus deforming).

In the course of the questions and answers, the Dow representatives explained that Dow has a "company commitment" to increasing employment of blacks and women.

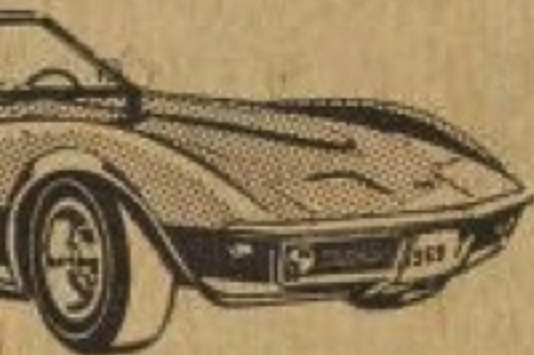
Beyer finally raised the question of whether Dow should or should not sell its products to the military because of the "immorality" or such an act. He said that this was the question that he was trying to raise through the whole lecture.

The representatives explained that this had been discussed at the "highest level" and they had made their decision, to continue to sell products to the "duly elected government" of the United States.

After 1 p.m. the forum was adjourned. Some radical speakers attempted to continue speaking to the crowd, but the microphone was soon turned off.

Although there were some police stationed in and around the Union in anticipation of trouble, the audience was relatively subdued. There was some heckling and counterheckling during the forum, but the speakers remained more or less undisturbed.

The audience seemed to have a large number of radical sympathizers. The audience was not all radical, however. A fair amount of applause followed each Dow speaker's presentation.



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