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Chronicle

WINTER 1968

Democracy 68: Is Confrontation Inevitable?

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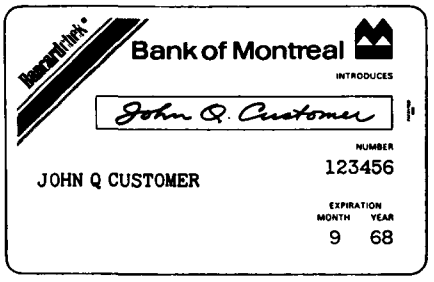

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The New Student Revolt

Or, Whatever Happened to the Sock Hop?

"Students have no rights, only responsibilities, and very little freedom."

by ROSEMARY NEERING, BA'67

FEBRUARY, 1968: 250 Port Alberni junior secondary students stage a sitdown strike and boycott classes in protest over school regulations and facilities.

August, 1968: Montreal students barricade themselves inside a high school to protest its conversion to English-language instruction.

September, 1968: 2,000 Newfoundland students set up picket lines around three schools in a three-day strike to protest shift systems.

October, 1968: high school students in Ste. Foy, Quebec, occupy three schools in a protest over inadequate audio-visual materials.

October, 1968: several thousand B.C. Lower Mainland students write letters, hold meetings, boycott classes, to protest inadequate school facilities and a provincial government freeze on certain types of school construction.

And a serious, long-haired boy and an intense young girl explain what's behind it all:

"We feel we're not getting an adequate education. People have been fitted into the structure; the structure should be fitted to the people. No one pays any attention to the individual in schools."

"The student has to have more of a say in what he learns and how and where he learns it. We don't want to tear down the structure—some sort of structure is necessary. But the schools now just aren't giving a good enough education."

Student unrest has hit the high schools. From Newfoundland to British Columbia, it's happening — now. Behind the chain-link fences and inside the factory-like schools, the long bottled-up discontent is spilling over. In range, it covers the whole spectrum from the highly articulate opinions of student radicals to an undefined feeling of discontent and frustration among ordinary students. Its targets: traditional teaching methods, authoritarian control of the student, the System. Its main outlet: protest.

But don't write it off as a pale carbon copy of university protest — there's more to it. Certainly, the university student revolt has had an influence, but the two phenomena are different. Leaders of the high school revolt are less power-hungry, more apolitical and more altruistic. A slightly blasé 15-year-old radical recently summed it up: "We had a student leader from UBC here talking to us, but what he was talking about just wasn't relevant to the high schools. I mean, we don't like them coming in trying to stir things up. It's a different fight in the high schools."

High school kids are less concerned with gaining a place in the power hierarchy, more concerned with improving the quality of high school education. They don't want to take over the high schools: they do want to be listened to.

But they are perhaps even more committed to their goals than are the university students. No carefree youth they, but serious, intense exponents of change. But they do not see this change in political terms; they are fiercely dedicated to the development of the individual. In this and in their disappointment with society, they have much in common with the serious hippie philosophy.

Interestingly, they get their ideas mainly from their teachers, especially the younger ones, and the educators who are struggling to change the approach to modern education, both within and outside the public school system. The free schools and experiments like those of Campbell River principal John Young, whose students are treated like adults under a minimum-rule policy, present exciting models to these high school students. Other innovations in city schools and elsewhere demonstrate that high school education can be more meaningful and interesting. It's a case of rising expectations. They see educational change as possible and expect more from the schools than they are receiving — and the protest begins.

It often shows itself first with a simple protest against rules of dress and conduct. The Port Alberni revolt, for example, centred on school regulation of hair, dress and students' time.

"Things like long hair and miniskirts shouldn't be any concern of the administration," says a student from the Okanagan.

"We resent being told to cut our hair, or not to smoke on the school grounds." Adds Vancouver radical Steve Brown, a student at Point Grey secondary school, "It's ridiculous that someone else should have the authority to tell me what I must wear." Some teachers are also opposed to this now. "How can you create democracy when the model is a highly structured autocracy?" asks one sympathetic high school teacher.

Mrs. Rosemary Hyman Neering is a freelance writer who has served as a reporter for the Vancouver Sun and written for Macleans. *Photo /Bill Loiselle*

Such protests are often only signs of deeper unrest among students. Jim Carter, Point Grey vice-principal and a member of a B.C. Teachers' Federation commission which recently investigated B.C. education, believes this to be the case. "The students are really asking why they can't participate in making decisions that affect them," says Carter.

"We're moving from the position where there are truths, and where the role of the school is to teach those truths, to an existential philosophy, where people work out truths for themselves. A lot of the student radicals come from homes where experiment is the basis of experience. Because of the influence of the electronic media, people feel competent to do more things without experience."

These radicals are the students who want a complete reform of the educational system. Larry Stoffman and Popo Chud are two members of Vancouver's newly-formed Inter-High Union, which is dedicated to such reform. "The idea behind school shouldn't be to prepare kids for university entrance, or to keep them off the streets until they're 16," says Stoffman, a long-haired articulate Churchill secondary school senior. "It should be to develop the individual. Schools now are for the benefit of society and not of the individual. We don't claim to have enough knowledge to set up the perfect educational system; if we did we wouldn't be wasting our time in high school. But we do want a channel to express our ideas — and we do want change."

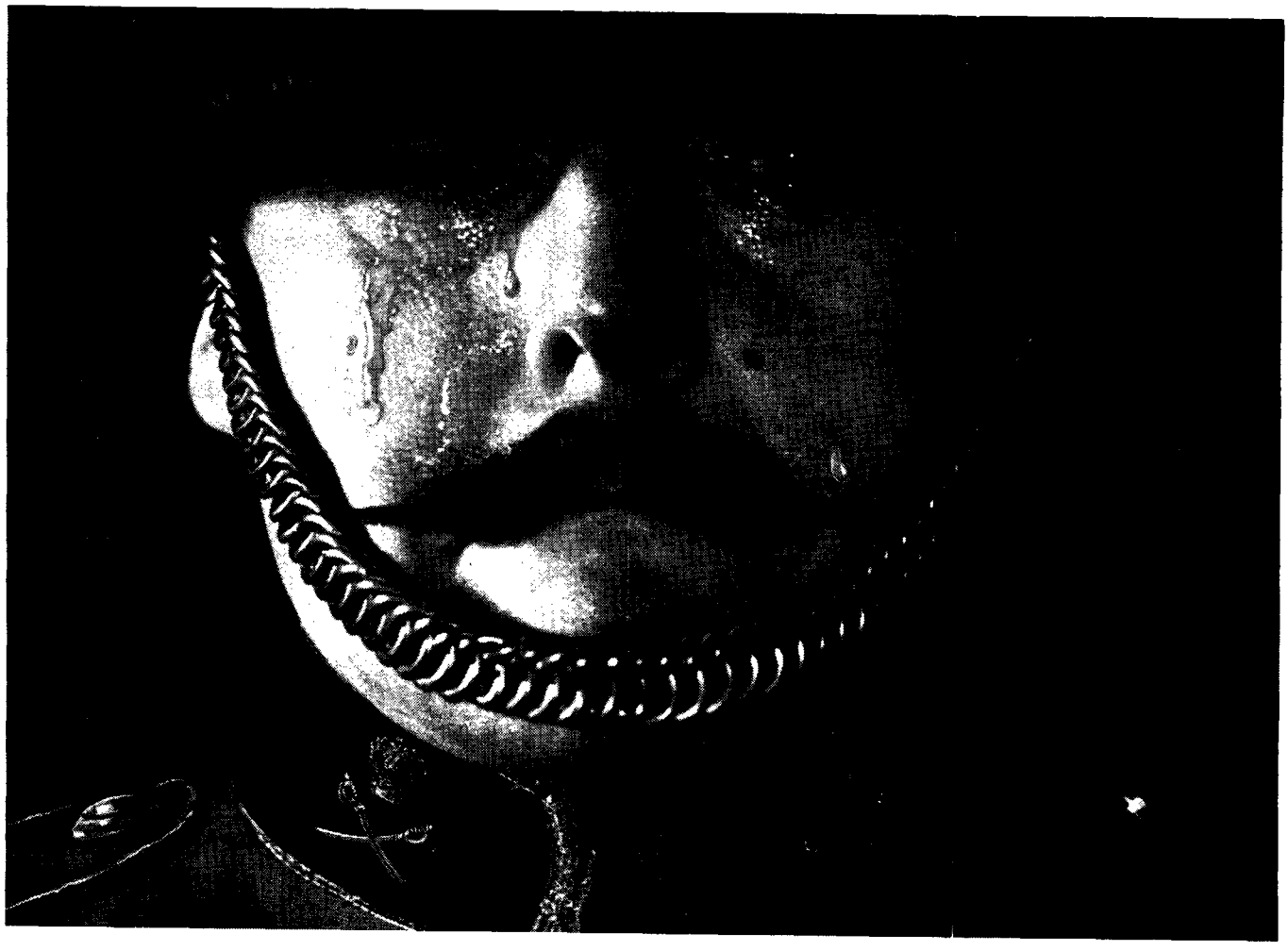
"To be able to learn well," adds Miss Chud, an attractive, intense Prince of Wales student, "you need a free atmosphere. But now, students have no rights — only responsibilities — and very little freedom. I'm not challenged in school. Schools process people; they give all children the same thing."

The Inter-High Union, with two dozen members from city schools, is presenting its ideas to other students in hopes of forming a student consensus which it can present to B.C.'s Council of Public Instruction. Among the suggestions it made in a report recently distributed to high school students were that:

- Students must have liberty to develop individually.
- Exams should be abolished and students should progress at their own rate.
- Behavior should be regulated by self-discipline, not outside discipline.
- Students should have more freedom to choose their own course material.
- Students should be given more freedom to express themselves, in writing and in discussion.
- Students in the sciences should be able to experiment and explore on their own.
- New courses, such as sociology, anthropology and psychology should be offered.
- Two five-month or three four-month semesters should replace the current school year, to enable students to switch courses more frequently.

Members of the union recognize that the kind of school they propose presents problems. In fact, there have been problems at Point Grey

Students in Tsawwassen stage brief walk- out in protest over provincial government freeze on gymnasium construction. Photo /Vancouver Sun



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High school radical Larry Stoffman debates a point with a fellow student at first meeting of Vancouver Inter-High Union. *Photos/Bill Loiselle*

secondary where something resembling the union's program is being tried. The problems have centred on student self-discipline.

At Point Grey, some Grade 10 and 11 students have been given three free hours a day for learning at their own speed. They can use the time for reading, discussing, visiting a library or other learning resources, in or out of school. Certain study topics are stated, but the students are on their own — though guidance from the teacher is available if desired.

"The program has obvious dangers," comments Lou Greenwood, head of the school's social studies department. "A child pursuing his own likes may leave huge gaps in his knowledge that he will never fill. The Grade 10's frequently get tired of a topic and flit to something else. They get a wide but shallow sampling of everything. Some have asked to be withdrawn from the program; others have been asked to leave if they're just goofing off." Some of the students in the program agree. "I haven't done a thing since September," said one boy. "I just don't have the self-discipline to work in this kind of a program. I'm not responsible enough."

As far as Stoffman is concerned this does not negate the need for a freer, more individualized approach to learning. "Most students haven't had the chance to develop the capacity to learn on their own," he points out. "They've always been spoon-fed and you can't expect them to take over when they arrive at high school. You've got to start early with the process of getting the child to take responsibility for learning."

Not all students, however, favour root-and-branch reform. One of these is Steve Hawkins, a student at Churchill. "You can sidestep the trivia in the system and work with its basic goodness," Hawkins says. "You can't have a system that works for every individual. You say you're not challenged; can't you find your own challenges? People who are oppressed by the school system deserve to be." Hawkins says that the question of school regulations is not a universal problem, but varies with the school and the principal. He also says some parts of the school system should be changed,

Three girls discuss the student union's list of demands for educational reform.

but believes more lasting reform can come by slowly modifying the existing system rather than trying to build a new one.

Interestingly, Hawkins suggests that the radicals give the average student too much credit for intelligence and independence. "Many students need a strict structure, or they won't learn," he says.

In fact, as one would expect, the radicals amount to only a small minority. Most high school students are much less passionately dedicated to educational reform. "We've discovered most kids want to be listened to, but they don't necessarily want to run the place," says Vancouver secondary school superintendent Dr. John Wormsbecker. "They realize the teacher knows more than the kids and should therefore be directing the curriculum." Still, the radicals occasionally wield considerable influence.

At Point Grey, for example, a student union was developed by radical students with the help of staff, in an effort to make school more relevant to the students. Last spring, the union called students out on a sympathy strike when engineers struck city schools. Some 200 obeyed the call. "When they began to disrupt the school like this, we suspended the union," said Carter. "We felt they had broken faith. And the other students felt that such a small minority should not have such influence and power. They felt the minority was power-hungry and opportunistic. They decided they needed an assembly where everyone could discuss school issues other than sock hops."

The assembly was formed, and now can discuss any topic, although there are limits to the decisions it can make. "Most of the kids who went out on strike were from Grade 8," said one Point Grey moderate. "They just wanted an excuse to get out of school. We didn't think that so few people should be able to make a fuss like that; we thought the whole school should decide on such issues."

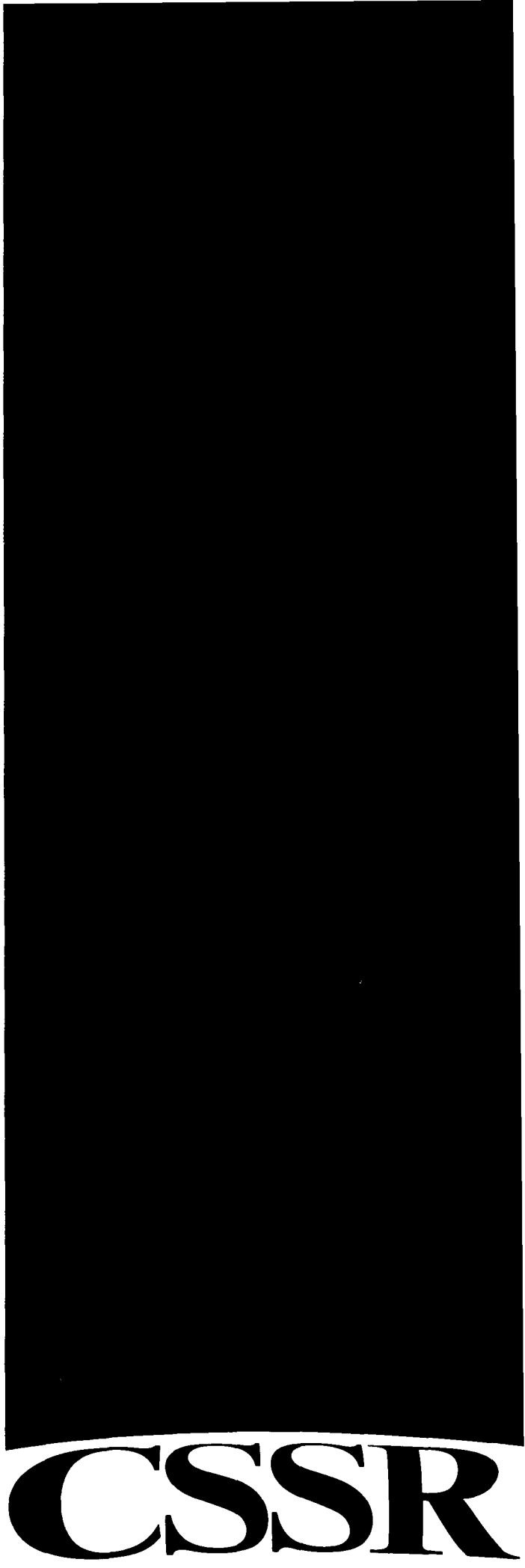
But the majority are not totally content with the school system as it exists. The underlying unrest shows itself in such things as the construction freeze protests which sprang up recently at several Lower Mainland schools.

"We are stressing that students should be individuals, and we're peddling this point of view in our schools," says Dr. Wormsbecker. "We give them the feeling they are pretty important people — and they are. Protests against positions they feel are arbitrary or unfair are a natural consequence of this."

Prince of Wales activist Popo Chud perhaps best expresses what is at the root of high school student unrest. "Kids now are more aware of what's going on in the world," says Miss Chud. "Not long ago, a high school student's entire life centred around his school, and its dances and football games. But that isn't true now. I can no longer say I'll get through and get out of here. I want my kids to have a better education than I have — that's what I'm fighting for." □

If there were balm in Gilead, I would go
To Gilead for your wounds, unhappy land,
Gather you balsam there, and with this hand,
Made deft by pity, cleanse and bind and sew
And drench with healing, that your strength might grow,
(Though love be outlawed, kindness contraband)
And you, O proud and felled, again might stand;
But where to look for balm, I do not know.
The oils and herbs of mercy are so few;
Honour's for sale; allegiance has its price;
The barking of a fox has bought us all;
We save our skins a craven hour or two. —
While Peter warms him in the servants' hall
The thorns are platted and the cock crows twice.

Edna St. Vincent Millay



The Crack in the Bloc

OPPRESSION is no stranger to the unhappy land of Czechoslovakia. It is a condition known throughout much of the country's 50-year history. It is a condition Czechoslovakia has come to experience once again in 1968 under Russian invading forces. Has the Czech liberalization drive been crushed? Will it spring back to life? *Chronicle* editor Clive Cocking explores these issues in a tape-recorded interview with Dr. Stanley Pech, a UBC professor of east European and Czechoslovakian history. Dr. Pech left his native Czechoslovakia in 1947 and has been at UBC since 1956.

CHRONICLE: How do you interpret the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia?

DR. PECH: It doesn't really, as a number of people now are saying, just show that Communism hasn't changed, that we have to regard it in the same way as we did in the 1950's. I think it shows the very opposite, that Communism has changed, that it has broken up into different national components, and that we are dealing not so much now with Communism but with the Soviet Union as a power, and powers, especially great powers, have always had their own national interests which they safeguard. They're interested in strengthening themselves, in securing their flank with friendly nations, satellite nations, and what is happening now in Eastern Europe is really that.

CHRONICLE: What are the national interests that Russia is trying to protect in this case?

DR. PECH: Russia is trying to make sure that the neighbours adjacent to the Soviet borders are countries that will be appropriately obedient, or at least that will not be hostile. I think this is the main interest. But there is also another interest which is, of course, vital. There is the fear that the progressive movement which is now being crushed in Czechoslovakia would by its ferment spread, that it would become a contagion that would penetrate not only other East European countries but the Soviet Union itself.

CHRONICLE: Sort of an East European domino theory?

DR. PECH: Yes, well, that's right, that's very well put. These two motives I think are the ones to be mentioned.

CHRONICLE: Some observers point out that the leadership of the Soviet Union is not monolithic but divided. You know, they have their hawks and their doves, like Washington, and in this particular case the hawks are exerting their power.

DR. PECH: Yes, this is true, and this again I would like to stress because the current interpretation is often the simplified view offered by a man like Mr. Nixon in the United States, or perhaps even some Canadians, that Communism hasn't changed, which is completely at variance with the facts. We know, with a reasonable degree of certainty, that there are doves and hawks, so that even within the Soviet Union, Communism has been changing. We are witnessing what was non-existent virtually until 1956. Within each national party, Czechoslovak, Polish, or Hungarian, we are witnessing now differences of opinion on basic issues. Especially this I think may be mentioned in connection with Hungary, because there has been every indication that the Hungarian Party was deeply divided as to what stand to take in respect to Czechoslovakia. It's certain that part of the Central Committee of the Hungarian party even favoured the Czechoslovakian reforms and another part opposed them, and perhaps there were some who were vascillating in between. So one may be reasonably sure that a good many Hungarian leaders are anything but happy, and are participating in the invasion with anything but enthusiasm, and only because of the overriding presence of the Soviet Union.

CHRONICLE: I notice where Arnold Toynbee in the London Observer recently pointed to the tendency for authority structures to reassert their authority when they feel it being undermined, and he cited the three cases of the Pope in Rome, the American political machines, and the Soviet Union. Is this a case of the Soviet Union seeing its authority, as a leader of the Communist bloc, being undermined and is consequently trying to reassert this authority?

DR. PECH: Yes, and it's most helpful to point out that what's happening in the U.S.S.R. has its counterparts in the United States, or elsewhere, at the same time. In this connection, one could observe that the Soviet Union — although it wants to further its world-wide interests — has by a kind of gentleman's agreement, practically written off Latin America. In the last year or so, the Soviet leaders were almost outspoken in trying to calm the passions of such men as Castro, and instructing the Communist leaders in Latin America not to indulge in any revolutionary adventurism, as they call it. This is done because I think the Soviet Union knows that the United States would not tolerate it. At the same time, however, the Soviet Union does want to make it clear that Eastern Europe is its preserve. The United States has preserves in Latin America, the Soviet Union has its preserves in Eastern Europe. The Soviet Union will not invade France or West Germany nor will it let itself lose the territory already conquered in Eastern Europe.

CHRONICLE: Since Russia invaded Hungary in 1956 world opinion has changed and when you notice that almost everyone, including the French Communist party and even Albania, has condemned the Soviet action, surely it's out of tune with the times?

DR. PECH: Yes, it's out of tune with the times and perhaps one could even observe that the way the invasion was staged was almost clumsy. I am sure that the Soviet Union is aware that it is in a most embarrassing position. One only hopes that, in the same sense as the United States has been getting deeper and deeper into Viet Nam almost against its will, that the Soviet Union will

Dr. Stanley Pech

now not get deeper and deeper into Czechoslovakia, and finally perhaps we'll be brought to the brink of calamity simply because somebody made a wrong decision but which can't be rescinded because of the prestige involved of the great powers. I, myself, am almost ready to found a new club for the suppression of great powers. One would think big powers like the United States and the Soviet Union have enough power to really protect themselves without dominating the countries adjacent to them, and yet they still seem to have that complusion to build a protective ring of countries around them. Nobody is asking who is going to protect these small countries against the giants.

CHRONICLE: This, once again, reveals the tragic weakness of the U.N.—about all it can do is condemn.

DR. PECH: Yes, and debate, that's right. Now I don't know whether you are willing to take a deeper look at what's happening. The great phenomenon of our time is the resurgence of nationalism, and again what's happening in Eastern Europe one must see in a world-wide context. The fact that the Czechoslovak state has come up so spectacularly since January 1968, is due to a reawakening of national pride. The unwillingness to continue to be dominated by a different power, by a big power, can be seen within these countries. Within Czechoslovakia, the Slovaks have been getting restless recently over being dominated by the Czechs; within Yugoslavia, there has been very serious restlessness between the Croats and the Serbs—the Serbs being the dominant group. And so one can see everywhere ethnic groups coming to the surface and asserting themselves, finding a new national pride, new pride in their past, and new hopes in their future, and fighting against those who, rightly or wrongly, had controlled them, sometimes for centuries. So, whether it's Belgium, where there's conflict between ethnic groups, whether it's Spain, where now the Basques and the Catalonians are beginning to stir, whether it's the Scottish movement, whether it's Czechoslovakia, or Rumania, rising against the Soviet might, this is all very much in the same league, and even the French Canadians have it. I think it's always healthy perhaps even for us as Canadians to realize that as we sometimes bemoan the French Canadian restlessness, we have, in fact, nothing unusual about us, whatever shape this will finally take.

CHRONICLE: Well, in view of this trend towards nationalism in the world and in the Communist bloc, I just somehow can't see this Russian invasion succeeding.

DR. PECH: Well, it will probably succeed only in the short run, because Russia has tremendous power. It can only succeed by the sheer force of arms, it can succeed as it did in 1956 in Hungary, simply because it's not a question of respecting public opinion. The fact that this was done against the opinion of the vast majority of the Czechoslovaks just doesn't play any part at all, the over-riding concern in the Soviet view is the protection of its interests, and the fear of the progressive movement spreading. But in the long run, I agree with you, it has no chance of succeeding. In the long run the various countries within the Soviet bloc, will continue in their trend toward more independence, just as Rumania has already manifested that tendency or Yugoslavia, and that trend cannot be stopped in the long run.

CHRONICLE: Well, surely, all this has implications for world-wide Communism. Does it mean that what is going to happen will be similar to what happened during the Spanish Civil War, another disillusionment with Communism, another erosion of Moscow power?

DR. PECH: Oh yes, this is going to be the trend in the years to come, already the trend is well-advanced. This is why even the word "communism" is no longer meaningful, it's just a label which scares people. I think for our own emotional health it might be better if we simply abolished the word and used instead a word such as "authoritarianism," or the like, then we would cover all the movements that fall under that label. It would cover Spain, it would cover Greece today, it would cover the Soviet Union and East Germany, it would cover the majority of the countries of the United Nations, those in Africa and Asia.

If I may add something which is particularly strong, in my mind, and this is one aspect of the problem that the world has not yet really begun to appreciate simply because there is so much beyond the pale of our own vision at the moment, and this is the emergence of ethnic groups within the Soviet Union itself. This nationalistic movement will only crystallize in the next 20, 30 or 40 years. All of us including myself, quite wrongly, and yet we do it because it's conventionally done, speak of Russia as Russia, we speak of Russians as Russians, where in fact the Soviet Union is only about 56 per cent Russian and other nationalities constitute the balance, of whom the largest are the Ukrainians, who number about 40 million people in the U.S.S.R. today. Then there are the small ethnic groups in the Baltic region, the Lithuanians and Latvians and the Estonians, but also the Belorussians, in northwest Russia, and there are, in Central Asia, a number of non-Russian groups such as Uzbeks, Kazaks, who culturally have very little in common with the Russians. Among all these non-Russian groups, except those perhaps which are very small, and some of them are on the way to extinction, we can begin to observe a movement toward greater national pride. Sometimes we have to read between the lines, but there are many indications that the intellectuals among the Ukrainians, the Kazaks and the Uzbeks, are beginning to display a greater appreciation of themselves, as Ukrainians, as Uzbeks, as Kazaks.

"In the long run the Russian invasion has no chance of succeeding."

CHRONICLE: And a little restlessness with the Russian domination?

DR. PECH: Yes, intellectual restlessness. However, it must not be called at all at the moment, rebellion, this is too carefully controlled. But it is nevertheless significant, that it is beginning to infect even the Communists, the Ukrainian Communists, and the Communist leaders of these non-Russian nationalities. Now you may ask me for some examples, I think there are a few that have recently come to pass. Until two years ago it was a standard theory in the Soviet Union that they were one great socialist family and in the end they would all evolve toward one language. The implicit truth in that was supposed to be that one language would be Russian. But now, in the last two years, some Ukrainians and some other intellectuals in the other ethnic groups are standing up and beginning to say, "well, all right, we want to continue this socialist family, but why should the Ukrainian speak Russian? Why shouldn't a Ukrainian continue to speak Ukrainian? Why shouldn't a Lithuanian continue to speak his own language?" In fact, just recently Ukrainian intellectuals smuggled out to the west a document which is the first major proof of this turmoil. The document complains of Russification, complains of Russian paternalism toward the Ukrainians and puts forward a series of political objectives. It demands more political independence for the Ukraine, a more meaningful form of federalism and more respect for the Ukrainian language and culture. So, at this stage this is only a cultural revival, but eventually it's absolutely inevitable, and I repeat that, it's a statement that I make very advisedly, and very deliberately, that it's inevitable that this will be transformed into quasi-political movement which will be pioneered actually by the Communists themselves, just as Dubcek is a Communist, just as Tito is a Communist, just as Ceausecu is a Communist, so it will be Ukrainian-Communists, and also Russian-Communists who will begin to exert more and more pressure against domination from Moscow, from Russia.

CHRONICLE: What is going to happen next in Czechoslovakia?

DR. PECH: I think that what has happened since the invasion shows that it hasn't succeeded, because even at this very late time, the Soviet Union still is veering between extremes, between denouncing the regime and tolerating it, and until

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"The fearful thing now is that at some point a victim will have to be produced."

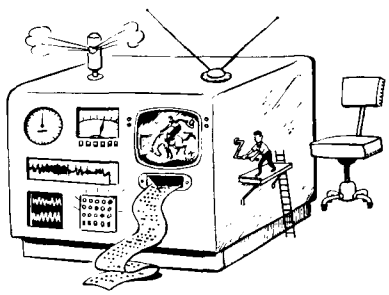
now, there still have been comparatively few wholesale arrests. So I think Dubcek has been able to defend the country fairly well, whether he can do that in the months to come is a different question. I think the fearful thing now is that at some point a victim will have to be produced. There was an invasion by the Soviet army, there were all these outcries of counter-revolution, so it's difficult to imagine that the Soviet Union would not demand some sacrificial lamb, somebody who will have to suffer, who will have to be put to trial so that there will be some evidence offered to the world that there was a counter-revolutionary plot.

CHRONICLE: The Soviet Union recently demanded a wholesale purge of the liberal elements. Does this mean a purge in the old style, do you think, even to the extent of a few people going to the wall?

DR. PECH: Well, no, I really don't think so. But it is quite probable, or possible, at least, that Mr. Dubcek will be forced out eventually. President Novotny is living in some quiet retirement, nobody has asked him to come back and he's the man who Dubcek replaced. And none of the old Stalinists have been called back, so that the Soviet Union seems to want to avoid the extreme of going back to the fifties, but I think we can say with a fair amount of certainty that there will be a gradual tightening of the screw. In the next two, three years I think many of the freedoms will be gradually reduced more and more. Already there is certainly no freedom of speech, there's no freedom of the press, there's no freedom of assembly, and I think there will be more and more concessions offered and Czechoslovakia will doubtless be isolated more and more from the rest of the world.

CHRONICLE: If as you say, the Russian action is doomed to failure, how can the Czechs regain their position—by guerilla action?

DR. PECH: Well, no, I think there will be continued resistance, and again hopefully as it happened with the Hungarian revolution, if one can hope for some lesson from that. When the Hungarians were completely crushed in 1956, it seemed completely hopeless and yet after two years, Hungary was beginning to again loosen the grip on the people. So if that example offers any hope, then after a period of the tightening of the screw, there will be some return again to conditions of freedom. In the meantime—and this we know now from letters that we get from contacts—there is definite hope by the people there that the Soviet Union will weaken domestically. There will be domestic struggles between intellectuals and the government, between the military and the political leaders, between the doves and the hawks, between the non-Russians and Russians, and this will hopefully, then, weaken the leadership to the point where, almost by default, they will have to give the Czechs some freedom again. □



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SEE IT IN THE SUN

Democracy 68: Is Confrontation Inevitable?

by ELBRIDGE RAND

As CITIZENS of a modern democracy, we inherit a political tradition shaped and refined by 2,500 years of theory and practice —not a straight or unbroken line, to be sure, yet one which reflects the best efforts of many generations, many wise and dedicated men. Why, then, do we so often find ourselves frustrated in our attempts to come to rational terms with those who disagree with us? Why do we find ourselves, as a society, so close to violence—so close, that is, to treating our fellow citizens as enemies or criminals?

Consider the representatives of our social, economic, and political institutions, on the one hand, and the dissident radicals, on the other: each group seems sure that the other is out deliberately to wreck our society (the radicals by inflicting ill-considered and destructive changes on a prosperous and basically sound system; their conservative opponents by resisting *all* change, even—perhaps especially—that which is morally most justified and necessary). Their differences obviously have to be discussed. Yet each seems convinced that the opposition has willfully destroyed any possibility of meaningful dialogue. Why, given our democratic tradition which stresses dialogue as the way to settle disputes without violence, is this so? Who or what is to blame? Most importantly, *must* it be so with us?

Let me suggest, to begin with, some historical, sociological, and psychological conditions which underlie the political problem. I will not argue in enough detail to make the separation of Canadian and American institutions and sensibilities of much importance, for the most part. There are differences, and fairly consequential ones—but the basic plight seems to me something we have all too much in common; its results are all too obvious in both countries.

First, let us note that the influence of the frontier on North American life, so plausibly stressed by Frederick Jackson Turner, is in fact much more complicated than it appears. We naturally see our society as one produced by men who were free, adventurous, and restless—men who moved westward, facing and overcoming tremendous obstacles, settling in and civilizing

Elbridge Rand is an assistant professor of philosophy at UBC. Mr. Rand did his undergraduate work at Harvard and is now completing requirements for his doctorate degree in the field of ethics from Berkeley.

the wilderness. Our modern culture, we feel, must certainly embody those qualities which played such a large part in creating it. And so we find it difficult to understand, let alone sympathize with, the charge that it is in many respects closed, that it may be repressing just those qualities of imaginative discontent and dissent. Was it not, after all, *built* on them? And doesn't our free enterprise system, today, rest on and encourage those same characteristics?

But there is another, very different side to this coin. The process of taming and civilizing the frontier did indeed require men and women who were dissatisfied, curious, original, courageous—they were ideally suited to that task. Perhaps too ideally. In any settled community, there was an easy answer to those who questioned accepted customs, values, procedures: "Go West! Go West and make your *own* community, reflecting *your* ideas and preferences!" Thus we find a society which thought of itself as encouraging dynamic and imaginative individuals to pursue their individual goals, but which had actually a very effective way of avoiding the hard work of discussing, debating and assimilating deviant views. An exciting and satisfying myth—but a stolid, conservative reality.

A Satisfying Myth

This breach between myth and reality, between the way we conceive of our society and the ways in which we actually conduct our political affairs, was bound to become crucial as the frontier receded. Even while it was real and important, most of the country was settled in rather staid and rigid communities; as it vanished, the real release afforded by its presence also vanished. A strong clash between the values we give such rhetorical support and our actual institutional inability to accommodate dissent could only be averted so long as there were over-riding problems—war and depression—which were so obvious that they took precedence over any other considerations. But now, in an affluent society, we see a young generation which is raising basic questions about our institutions. Can we say to them, "If you don't like it here, go somewhere else"; can we dismiss their complaints and their suggestions for change with specious and outworn slogans? Are we justified in charging them with weakness, with lacking the courage of their convictions, when they stay on—thus neatly absolving ourselves of the responsibility to *keep* them in the community by taking their criticisms and ideals seriously?

Second, let us look at the pluralist political system under which we live. For a natural objection, at this point, is that our stress on initiative and contrary opinion as virtues is not just a matter of myth —that in fact we have developed perfectly adequate ways of channelling them into the mainstream of our social and political life. And if this were true, the preceding observations would hardly apply to us today. But have we, in our system, such perfectly adequate ways?

Anyone may express his views in our society, we say—and if he can gain support for those views they will have to be fairly considered by those in power. If one has valid ideas or criticisms, we assume, he will receive that support from his fellow citizens; he has merely to convince them of that validity. Voluntary associations, unions, parties, *ad hoc* organizations, and so on—these are the vehicles for raising issues and seeking reforms, and through them every citizen is able to participate in political power. S. M. Lipset has thoroughly and sympathetically described this process, as it works in America, in his *Political Man*. From the point of view of such an analysis, the institutions which make dissent a political possibility are there, for those with the patience and determination to use them.

Is Dissent Possible

But what *sorts* of dissent are possible, really, through such institutions? To begin with the obvious: such groups are organized to bring *pressure* to bear on those who have power, and this pressure will be roughly proportional to the number of votes involved. What is not so obvious is that this already places severe limits on the sorts of issues which can be successfully raised. The ideal issue will be one which attracts a great number of people, one which matters so much to those people that they will be willing to vote for the man who promises satisfaction—that is, one which takes precedence over any other grounds on which they might cast their vote and one which can be articulated fairly simply and powerfully *and* fitted into the platforms which the competing candidates must formulate. For a politician to take the demands of a group seriously, he must be able to find out simply and directly what they want, and it must be of such a nature that he can accommodate them and many other such groups simultaneously.

The ideal pressure group, consequently, is one which, like a labor union, is organized to fight for personal material benefits. With this sort of issue, there is little necessity for deliberation and debate by the members. Every one understands and agrees about what is to be the nature and direction of their demands. This, in turn, allows a highly centralized, even autocratic structure, which in such a system is a great asset: political leaders can easily contact the organization and find out just what sorts of concessions it will require to deliver its votes; they can then work out a distribution scheme which maximizes their support from as many of such groups as possible; then return to the organization to do a little hard bargaining; and so on. This would be impossible if deliberation and disagreement within the organization were necessary features at every point. Furthermore, political leaders can be fairly confident that most members of the union will back up their leaders' commitments with their votes—that is, they are likely to take the group seriously. All this is possible because personal material benefits are fairly clear goals (disagreement will be on the degree rather than the kind of demand to be made), and they matter enough to dominate our voting behavior (what is dearer to us

than our income and comforts?).

But reconsideration of our basic values, the direction our society is taking, what a truly moral society would look like—such activity cannot possibly be fed into such a system in the same way. To begin with, our views on these matters, if they are to amount to any more than uninformed prejudices, are not *given*, not obvious to us in the way that our interest in more money or comfort is obvious. They can only arise from an extended intellectual refining process of some sort. The pluralist system under consideration cannot function as such a process, since the different groups, if they are to be effective in exerting pressure, must display an impressive cohesion and unanimity. Participants must have *made up their minds*.

Who Will Listen

Still, assume that someone has somehow acquired an intelligent and informed view on a basic public issue—say that of decentralization, de-urbanization. What are his chances of finding a great many others who share his point of view —enough people to constitute an impressive number of votes? And if he does find them, will it be clear, especially to the politicians, that all of them *will* back this point of view with their votes? Is it even likely, let alone certain, that they will not finally try to use their votes, through their involvement with other pressure groups, to secure for themselves greater economic benefits? Suppose, though, that all these conditions are somehow met satisfactorily. Now a politician might well listen to them. But how can he balance their demands with those of the other groups he is trying to woo? Given such an issue, what is at stake is not the division of a pie, but rather a fundamental choice of the direction our society should take. It we choose one direction—here, say, to decentralize—there is no way to tell the opposition that they will just have to settle for a slightly smaller share than they wanted. Their view is simply overruled.

True, all the above arguments could be applied to show that the opposition is also most unlikely to be organized effectively. But this is no help—quite the contrary, in fact. The politician cannot see the opposition in an organized way, and so is actually likely to *over*estimate it, on the principle of "better safe than sorry". It's hard to get support, easy to lose it. Politicians are well aware that many, perhaps most of the votes they receive are cast in spite and fear—that they haven't *won* those votes so much as the opposition has *lost* them. Can we then blame the politician, in doubt whether a public declaration of policy on his part will gain many votes, convinced that it will make him enemies, if he learns to meet all such demands on *basic* issues with a pleasant, non-committal assurance that all will be for the best if he is elected? Should we really be so surprised when our political parties, which are supposed to reflect fundamentally different political philosophies, in fact wage each campaign with an innocuous blend of platitudes and personality?

It would be damaging enough, in any defense of our pluralist system, to have to admit that the system does not provide the creative deliberation, the continual confrontation of opposing viewpoints that produces new insights and agreements. To have to admit that, in addition, the system cannot even balance already well-defined positions on basic issues, seems fatal to the defense. Still, we persist in that defense: we insist that anyone who is concerned about basic political issues use his vote, work for a party, and so on. We will not admit that our society just "grows and grows". Is it sufficient explanation to describe this as the maintenance of the myth I described above? Obviously not. Something deeper must underlie our refusal to admit the very narrow limits of our pluralist system.

Third, then, let us ask what value we place, in general, on public deliberation, discussion, and arguement. Hannah Arendt has pointed out, in *On Revolution*, that we tend to think of happiness as essentially a *private* thing. We all go out into the world of affairs—but only because we must, in most cases. And our reward, that which makes it all worth while, is to come back to

the world of home and family, and there spend our leisure in highly personal pursuits. Some like their jobs, most don't—but even those who do would admit, usually, that their happiness is a different matter, their "own business", so to speak. Now we do have to go out into the world to earn a living—but we are under no similar pressure to go out into the world of public meetings, local and national government, and so on. How much easier to watch the rare public meeting on the news than to go there in person. Of course one can't engage in much dialogue that way, but the view is certainly better, and one doesn't have to waste all that time going down, parking, trying to find the right room—and one doesn't have to then sit through those boring hours of ineffectual argument. In fact, what does one miss? On TV or radio we get the really important moments selected for us, and the results, if any. And if even these moments are too dreary, we can always switch to something really diverting.

The point is that we lack the conception of public deliberation and participation in it as *pleasurable* in themselves. In general, they represent something which is best left to the politicians, in our view, except on the rare occasion when someone convinces us we have a *duty* to undertake it. Even participation in a public discussion which quickly and efficiently leads to an agreement is not thought of as pleasurable, but as something like a mercifully short session at the dentist. And when one thinks of the repetition, the wrongheadedness, the stubborn refusal of people to be convinced by the most compelling arguments—who in his right mind could find the activity pleasurable? Of course our happiness lies elsewhere!

This again represents a vicious circle—and in more ways than one. Since we do not enjoy such activity, we do not engage in it much. We therefore are not very good at it. We do tend to stick to our own opinions as final resting places, rather than tentative attempts to explore the issues. In line with the demands of a pluralist system, we tend to think of our opinions as *interests*, to be defended against all competitors. He who is not with us must be against us. Naturally, then, our meetings turn into donnybrooks, our expressions of opinion into harangues. We lack the skill and patience to really listen to each other, with a view to changing our opinions into better ones, reaching general agreement at one level so that we can proceed to another level, and so on.

Debate Is Painful

Furthermore, at a deeper level, one can see how these activities come to be regarded not just as frustrating or boring, but as actually *painful*, as the result of the lack of public institutions wherein we might conduct them and thus learn to conduct them. In school we are talked *at*, informed by authorities paid to do that job. In business meetings, each participant tries to exhibit his own superior rhetorical skill and power. And in politics, where it should be otherwise, debates reflect the clash of opposing interests: the object is to *win!* In every case, we are deathly afraid of saying something which will mark us as inferior or incompetent. And when we do say something, we are, for the same reasons, stuck with defending it to the bitter end. What experience do we have of discussions which enlighten us—more, which we leave feeling fuller, richer, more competent than on entering them, not just because we've had our stupid mistakes corrected or our ignorance remedied by some authority, but rather because we've worked *together* to reach conclusions, insights, programs, which we couldn't have arrived at alone?

Some, of course, are not discouraged by the examples given, for they are the ones who *win* the arguments, who make fools of their *opponents*. But in the absence of public participation, most of our institutions are administered rather than governed — even our expressly political institutions, as outlined above — and the services and skills of such men are used to defend and apologize for the policies of the administrators.

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Thus the stage is set long before the radical makes his entrance. We feel that dissent is the problem of the dissenter, not ours — but we do not see ourselves as thus discouraging imagination and courage and originality. We mistake myth for reality. And we are helped here by our view that our political institutions serve as appropriate channels for dissent and creative deliberation. We may not be able to explain exactly how — but this does not strike us as very important. We are not personally moved to try out the process; we want as little to do with it as possible, in fact. So it is easy to assume that the procedures are there, that if someone complains about them he simply has failed to go about things the right way, or is unduly impatient about the results.

But all this still does not suffice to explain the total breakdown of communication which we currently observe between radicals and spokesmen for our institutions. For that explanation, we must look at the nature of the confrontation that develops out of the situation I have outlined.

Consider the predicament of the young, in this society. Brought up in a period of peace, they see no obvious excuses for the discrepancies between our announced goals of promoting justice and the general welfare, on the one hand, and the great inequalities of wealth, the virtual exclusion of some minorities from what economic, educational, and political advantages the rest of us possess, and a general lack of direction which is frightening (and which, in America, has led to a brutal war of dubious justification, (morally *and* strategically), on the other. Surely they cannot be blamed for wanting some explanation of those discrepancies and asking that some of the basic structures, processes, and even values of this society be critically examined.

But those who raise such questions, point to such discrepancies, generally receive from us only perfunctory, impatient responses. We tell them what a productive system ours is, how much better than anything in human history, that any system is bound to have some defects, and that things are never perfect in this world and to expect them to be is a mark of inexperience and youthful impatience. This satisfies us, given the pattern of assumptions and attitudes I've described above; we consider that we've done our duty, and that if they are foolish enough or compulsive enough to persist in their questions, they should make use of the appropriate procedures and channels, and stop bothering us.

Dialogue Breaks Down

They do not find these answers satisfactory, needless to say. They conclude that we are amazingly contented with and ignorant of our social system. They set out to find and use the channels we've indicated are there. They find only spokesmen for the institutions — spokesmen who claim that they themselves have little or no power, and who repeat our remarks on the discrepancies that are at issue. If they succeed in making contact with someone who has some power, a political leader, say, he will perhaps listen politely, remark how fine it is for youth to question things, and so on. But nothing *happens*. The system does not respond.

Those with the temerity to persist are apt to grow impatient and skeptical at this point. They begin to regard the easy justifications, the patronizing tolerance which results in no real change whatsoever, as blatant rationalization — and us, the main part of society, as echoing that rationalization. They cannot understand our complacency. They conclude that we are being used by vested interests of some sort: the upper classes, the power elite, the military-industrial complex. They attempt to communicate their conclusions within the political framework, or over the mass media. Still nothing happens. They conclude that we cannot be reached by rational means.

We and our spokesmen grow a little edgy now, in defense. We begin to regard these young skeptics as too lazy to take their proper place in the system — perhaps as deliberate troublemakers, engaging in rebellion for its own sake, or for the sake of "generational conflict". We ask them when they plan

to stop their foolishness and take up their adult responsibilities. They reply that that is exactly what they are doing. We fear that they are being used by Communists or other subversive groups. We ask them about this; they hardly deign to answer. They seem to think our responses almost funny.

At this point, dialogue has obviously broken down badly. Each side views the other as tools or puppets of devious powers which operate from hidden places. Not much use talking to someone who is just mouthing slogans, who doesn't respond to rational discussion. The final and, to my mind, truly destructive phase of the process now begins: *each side begins to act in a way that empirically confirms the views of the opposition.*

Radicals Launch Attack

The dissatisfied young call for a frontal attack on what they have discovered to be the rigid structures of our society. They find comfort in history: as Lipset himself points out, utopian moralism in America is not exactly new; it has traditionally taken the form of extremist movements — as opposed to parties. (In Canada, on the other hand, much of this political energy has been absorbed, heretofore, by the creation of splinter parties but whether this will satisfy future Canadian radicals seems to be most doubtful, even if the NDP, say, were to experience unexpected success at the polls). These movements have sometimes been quite successful. It's amazing how fond we are of our peace and security, and what we will concede to preserve it, when severely threatened. *But only then.* For until then we simply don't see the need for new institutions, new directions, new values; and afterwards we tend to regard the change either as unnecessary or, alternatively, as something which was well on the way in any case. Thus we have preserved our myths even at those uncommon points in history where their divergence from reality should have impressed us.

But by launching such an attack, the radicals — for that is what they have become — verify our worst suspicions. They show no respect for due process, normal channels, the systematic ways of advocating change. They won't listen to our explanations and exhortations. They are at least dupes, and probably destructive revolutionaries. We must stand firm against their outrageous tactics.

Now chances are that their first tactics — marches, sit-ins, civil disobedience of one form or another — are not as outrageous as all that. They are usually non-violent, for one thing. Thoreau, not Spartacus, is their model. But such tactics *are* outside our system, and it is easy to regard them as therefore criminal — as assaulting us. Seeing them in that light, we are naturally tempted to use force against the radicals. And when we do use force, we confirm *their* judgment that we are simply not going to yield to *any* sort of civilized pressure, either inside or outside the system, more, that we are so intent on repressing all dissent that we are no longer conscious or careful of a disproportion between the punishment and the offense. Justice of this sort, we have

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demonstrated, is another of the myths with which we beguile ourselves.

Each side can and does now claim to be completely rational and objective in adopting violent tactics: each is basing them on evidence afforded by the other side's irrational and violent response to all attempts at reasonable discussion.

System Generates Violence

What I've tried to show by sketching this viciously circular process is that the breakdown occurs despite initial good intentions on each side. Furthermore, the escalation is not unreasonable on either side: each has cogent justifications for its actions and tactics. In such a situation, it seems fair to conclude that our attitudes and institutions bear most of the responsibility. That is, what we take to be a highly refined and sophisticated political society, one organized expressly to allow and even to utilize dissent without violence, is now actually *generating* violence.

This judgment may seem too severe. Lipset, for example, feels that American society can absorb "movements", as it has in the past, despite the dangers which attend the use of means which are external to the system. But I am more persuaded by Marcuse, for example, who argues that our technology and wealth—the achievements we prize so highly—give our society a power of repression which is unprecedented and staggering—and always *increasing*.

Is there any hope, then? Are there weak places in the vicious progression where we might break it? I see only two, really. One is at the start: we might recognize our myths about our tolerance for dissent and the capacity of our institutions to absorb it for what they are — that is, wishful thinking — and try to face the hard realities. This would mean building new institutions, or at least drastically overhauling the old ones. But we have hardly a glimmering of how to do this, given a large and complex society. It would take time and patience, and much hard work — if it is at all possible. But this means that the undertaking would require our overcoming our traditional conception of happiness as private, our distaste for public activity.

The only other weak point I can see in the process of progressive escalation is that at which the prospect of violence becomes for the first time *obvious* and *immediate*. If, at that point, the radicals can refrain from violence, if they can find some other but still dramatic form of displaying what they take to be the hypocrisy and somnambulism of our society; if the representatives of our institutions can refrain from violence, despite what they take to be the criminal provocation of social revolutionaries; then the very closeness of catastrophe may serve to break through the systematically closed conceptions of both sides. The institutions involved may yield a little, seeing the severity of the dissent, combined with some evidence of good faith on the part of the dissenters; and the radicals, for their part, may realize that the rigidity of those institutions is not as absolute as they supposed, and the good faith of their spokesmen greater than it appeared.

Prospects Are Grim

But consider the risks! The effects depend on the closeness of violence, on both sides — otherwise nothing happens. The break, if it comes, is caused by the realization, on the part of each side, that violence was a perfectly natural response for the other side to make — *and yet they didn't make it*. This is brinkmanship indeed. And there are many on both sides who do not want to delay the violence at all — quite the opposite. Radicals who are committed to an ideological contempt for all existing institutions regard such close calls as setbacks: the system has once again demonstrated its ability to co-opt rebellion; now the hard job of working numbers of dissenters up to a confrontation will just have to be repeated, and it will be harder. Better to draw a violent response as soon as possible, and expose the system for the brutally repressive mechanism it really is; only thus can others be aroused and enlisted. And conservatives who regard the system as adequate and dissenters as criminals are quick to urge that they be taught a lesson immediately: give an inch and they'll take a mile. To postpone this violence is to encourage tactics which inevitably escalate into more drastic dislocations, and thus require *more* violence in the future.

Furthermore, for all the reasons I've discussed above, it is enormously difficult, following such a confrontation which stops just short of violence, to establish ways of taking up the task of significantly amending our institutions. (Consider the sit-in at the Faculty Club at UBC. We avoided violence, and had a highly successful teach-in as a result — but what next?) And this means that the confrontation is likely to be repeated — probably with more shocking tactics involved, since the last try proved abortive. And so both sides find themselves caught up again in that vicious process wherein they each act in such a way as to prove the other's points. The radicals who wanted violence from the start, and the conservatives who wanted violent retribution from the start, can now pronounce to their more moderate fellows that most satisfying of phrases, "I told you so!"

Finally, most discouragingly of all, let us note that one confrontation which goes *over* the brink cancels out the effects of any previous ones, no matter how many, in which both sides managed to restrain their extremist elements and thus demonstrate their good faith. Those extremists now have their day, and with their I-told-you-so's will easily succeed in painting the entire process as an extended instance of repressive co-optation, on the one hand, or short-sighted indulgence, on the other. Any confrontations after that are all but sure to be violent.

Depressing conclusions, I admit. But surely a hard job is made even harder by ignoring the difficulties, by wishing them away. As a society, we are in very bad straits. If there is any hope at all, it depends on our locating the sources of our difficulties and facing them squarely. Our prospects are grim — but it is only by realizing how grim they are that we establish any chance at all of improving them. □

Alumni News

Alumni 'Sit-in' Nets $10,000

VANCOUVER ALUMNI staged a "sit-in" November 4-6 and succeeding in getting increased donations to the Alumni Fund. Sixty-eight alumni volunteers "occupied" Eaton's catalogue division, donned telephone headsets and carried out a three night telephone canvass of graduates who had not yet given to the fund. Phone lines were kept humming as 2,584 calls were made. The total raised, if all commitments are met, will be $10,720 — over $4,000 higher than last year's telephone blitz. Target for the telephone campaign was $11,000. "We're very pleased at the response to our telephone campaign," said Gerald McGavin, 1968 Alumni Fund chairman. "If the giving continues at this rate over the final months of the campaign we should be able to hit our target." With these donations, the total collected stands at $200,000 toward the 1968 fund target of $225,000.

Photos/Bill Loiselle

Pausing in between calls is association president Stan Evans, BA'41, BEd'44.

Pensive Dick Penn, BPE'49, listens intently to one of the many alumni he contacted in the telethon.

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California Grads Show The Flag

WHO SAYS CANADIANS aren't ones to wave the flag? Not **Los Angeles**-based UBC alumni. Eighty-nine of them "took possession" of the Princess Louise floating restaurant at Palm Beach on November 8 and promptly ran the Canadian flag up the mast. It was one of the memorable moments of the meeting which featured cocktails, dinner and some illuminating talks about the alma mater.

Medicine dean Dr. J. F. McCreary outlined the new concept of medical teaching embodied in UBC's new medical sciences centre. Alumni association director Jack Stathers, BA'55, MA'58, spoke about student unrest at UBC and enrolment forecasts. Los Angeles branch chairman, Dr. Jack Lintott, BASc'53, and John Williams, BCom'58, past chairman of the Alumni Fund, also spoke. Highlight of the evening was a color slide show of UBC today, prepared under the direction of branches director Byron Hender, BCom'68.

North of the border, the **Kelowna** branch held a very successful meeting November 7, chaired by Don Jabour, BA'57, LLB'58 and arranged by Art Dawe, BA'38. Following cocktails and dinner, the 47 alumni heard a talk by Dr. Rowland Grant, BA'52, MSc'55, PhD'60, principal of Okanagan College. Dr. Grant spoke of the need to integrate the college and the community, opening college facilities to community use.

Over in **Edmonton,** alumni held a successful reception October 5 at the Garrison Club prior to the Edmonton-B.C. football game. Edmonton alumni club president Gary Carter, BA'47, BSW'48, reports that plans are underway for a wine-and-cheese party February 21 at the University of Alberta Faculty Club.

Alumni Invited To SUB Opening

UNIVERSITY OF B.C. alumni have been invited to attend the official opening of the new $5 million Student Union Building during the week of January 20-25. Formal opening will consist of a week-long celebration and open house climaxed by a formal ribbon cutting on Saturday, January 25. The building will be on show with demonstrations and exhibitions put on by clubs and undergraduate societies and concerts by student groups, the music department and outside entertainers. A series of seminars will be held to discuss topics concerning the university today. For information contact: Barry Milavsky, Box 165, Student Union Building, UBC.

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Spotlight

Bevy of Homecoming Queen candidates congratulate Dr. Harry V. Warren on being named Great Trekker of 1968. Photo /Vancouver Sun

AN ALUMNUS WHO PARTICIPATED in the Great Trek of 1922 is the Great Trekker of 1968. **Dr. Harry V. Warren,** BA'26, BASc'27, was given the annual Alma Mater Society award during *Homecoming* — and promptly congratulated by the Homecoming Queen candidates. How sweet it is! UBC mineralogy professor Dr. Warren, a 1928 Olympic sprinter and "Father of UBC Field Hockey" was one of several distinguished alumni attending Homecoming. Receiving the alumni association's highest honor, The Award of Merit, during the festivities was **John J. Carson,** BA'43, chairman of Canada's civil service commission. **Dr. George Davidson,** BA'28, president of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., also flew out from Ottawa for the event. Dr. Davidson proposed a toast to the university during the 1928 reunion in International House. UBC chancellor **John M. Buchanan,** BA'22, replied to the toast. Also present were **Dr. Fred Soward,** LLD '64, retired head of international studies and dean emeritus of graduate studies, **A. H. Finlay,** BASc'24, professor emeritus of civil engineering, and **James Sinclair,** BASc'28, former Liberal cabinet minister.

1920's

Dominion archivist, **Dr. W. Kaye Lamb,** BA'27, MA'30, LLD'48, has become the first Canadian to win the Eastman Kodak Information Technology Award. It is given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of the science of information technology. . . . **Dr. Charles M. Mottley,** BA'27, MA, PhD(Toronto), has been appointed special assistant to the vice-president for planning and professor of operations research at Pennsylvania State University. He will be involved in the application and study of systems analysis and operations research. . . . **Robert B. Carpenter,** BASc'29, has been appointed commissioner of the B.C. Workman's Compensation Board. For many years he held executive positions with Canadian Industries Ltd. before being appointed to the B.C. Labour Relations Board in 1960.

'30-'35

Dr. Harold G. Paul, BA'30, MA'31, PhD(U of Okla), carried official greetings from UBC to the president of the University of Oklahoma at his inauguration. In his letter to UBC Dr. Paul said that UBC was the only Canadian university represented. . . . A proposal for an economic secretariat for Canada has been put forth in a recent article by **Ronald M. Burns,** BCom'31, in *Canadian Business*. This council would provide objective, expert analysis of proposed policies in a national context rather than in that of a particular group or department. Mr. Burns is currently director of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations at Queen's University and professor of political science. . . . Changes and growth in Canadian education is the subject of a new book—*History of Canadian Education* by **Dr. F. Henry Johnson,** BA '32, MA'35, PhD(Toronto). He is professor of the history of education and director of the elementary division of UBC's education faculty. . . . **Dr. Patrick McTaggart-Cowan,** BA'33, DSc'61, has been named principal scientific adviser to the federal cabinet. . . . **James D. McMynn,** BASc'34, has been named general manager of the West Kootenay Power and Light Company. . . . When **Donald F. Purves,** BCom'34, MSc(Columbia), was an undergraduate he had a summer job as an assistant purser on the old Alaska cruise ships. He is still with the CNR but now he's vice-president of their mountain region. Prior to this he was chief of development.

'36-'39

A lumberman-lawyer, **Gordon L. Draeseke,** BA'36, is the new president and chief executive officer of the Council of the Forest Industries of B.C. He has been associated with the forest products industry since discharge from the navy in 1945. Prior to his new appointment he was vice-president of administration and secretary of Rayonier Canada (BC) Ltd. . . . **H. W. T. (Tad) Jeffery,** BA'36, is now executive director of marketing for the Florida Citrus Commission. In the past he has held senior advertising and merchandising positions with Kraft Foods, Bulova, General Foods and two large advertising agencies. . . . The new Vancouver weatherman is not making any firm predictions. **Gordon Muttitt,** BA'38, says that his "inexact science" of meteorology will always be just that. He has returned to Vancouver after 27 years in many parts of Canada to be officer-in-chief at the federal weather station. . . . Director of the McGill University radiation laboratory **Dr. Robert E. Bell,** BA'39, MA'41, PhD(McGill), was named "Physicist of the Year" by the Canadian Association of Physicists. Dr. Bell has been Rutherford professor at McGill since 1960. . . . Former dean of engineering at the University of Alberta, **Dr. George W. Govier,** BASc'39, MSc(U of Alta), DSc(U of Mich), was made a Fellow in the Engineering Institute of Canada at the institute's general meeting. Dr. Govier has recently been involved with the development of an engineering faculty at the University of Calgary. . . . First aid for troubled marriage is the aim of a new society established through the efforts of a group of Vancouver people. Dr. W. C. Topping, retired sociology professor, **Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Latham,** MEd'60, (Lin Brown, BA'39), and **Mrs. Constance Harvey Robinson,** BA'37, are among the founding members of the Western Marriage Aid Society of B.C. The society, under the direction of Mrs. Latham, will be engaged in research projects, education and counselling on the prevention of marriage problems.

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'40-'46

Ralph B. Toombs, BASc'40, BA'46, MSc'53, has been named oil and gas adviser in the department of energy and resources. He joined the department's mineral division in 1952 and was assistant chief before his new appointment. . . . The activities of the B.C. School Trustees Association will be directed for the coming year by their new president. **James C. Campbell,** BSA'42. A member for over 11 years of the Gulf Islands School Board, he is best known for the annual Dominion Day lamb barbecue held at his farm on Saturna Island. . . . *The Physics of Medical Radiography* by Arthur Ridway and **Walter Thumm,** BA'44, BEd'54, of the B.C. Institute of Technology was published in October. The book is intended for use in hospital, junior college and technical institute training programs for x-ray technicians. . . . **Mrs. Beverly DuGas,** BA'45, MA(U of Wash), presently on a doctorate of nursing program at UBC, has been awarded a $3,500 fellowship by the Canadian Red Cross. She has spent most of her career in nursing education in B.C. with two years as a teacher at Punjab University with a World Health Organization team.

Anthony D. Scott, BCom'46, BA'47

. . . Head of the UBC economics department **Dr. Anthony D. Scott,** BCom'46, BA'47, AM(Harvard), PhD (London), has been named a member of the International Joint Commission which administers the Canada-United States boundary water treaty. . . . **Dr. Denis C. Smith,** BA'46, BEd'57, DEd (UCLA) will be spending next summer in Hawaii—as a visiting professor at the University of Hawaii. He will be lecturing on the organization and development of community colleges. Dr. Smith, who is chairman of higher education, UBC education faculty, has recently returned from a post-doctoral fellowship leave at the University of California where he studied regional college problems.

'48-'49

Calgary is the new home of **Reginald S. Anderson,** BASc'48, as a result of his promotion to manager of gas exploration and production for Shell Canada Ltd. He was most recently general manager of information systems in their Toronto office. . . . Carleton University's new registrar is **James I. Jackson,** BA'48, MA(U of Iowa). Prior to 1964 he was an associate professor of English at the RCAF Staff College. In the past four years he has been director of extension at Scarborough College and assistant director of extension at the University of Toronto. In 1967 he was appointed registrar at Scarborough College. . . . The B.C. Liberals held a new style revival meeting in Penticton and elected **Dr. Patrick L. McGeer,** BA'48, MD'58, PhD(Princeton) as their new provincial leader. Dr. McGeer, who has been the legislature member for Point Grey since 1963 will be leaving his research position at UBC because of the responsibilities of his new office. **Russell Brink,** BCom'60, LLB'61, was elected president of the party during the convention. . . . **R. A. (Tony) Barker,** BASc'49, MASc'51, has recently been named exploration manager of American Metal Climax Inc. From his headquarters in New York he will direct the company's world-wide exploration program for metals and minerals. He was previously manager of Canadian exploration. . . . **Dr. Hugh S. A. Gilmour,** BA'49, PhD(U of Utah), has recently been appointed to the senior staff of Kodak Research laboratories in Rochester, N.Y. He joined the colour photography division staff in 1956. . . . **Tom Kershaw,** BCom'49, is now sales manager of the Pacific Milk division of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers Association. Before joining Dairyland in 1962 as assistant sales manager he had several years experience in the petroleum and outdoor advertising industries. . . .

John MacKay, BCom'49

John MacKay, BCom'49, administrator of the North York General Hospital in Toronto has been elected to the council of regents of the American College of Hospital Administrators. A Fellow of the college, he will represent Ontario during his three year term. . . . Tourism and recreation are big business today and the province of Manitoba is setting up a new research and planning branch under **Gordon deRupe Taylor,** BA'49, MA'50, to handle the projected growth of the industry.

'50-'55

Since **A. Russell Latham,** BASc'50, MBA(Stanford), joined Allied Chemical Canada Ltd. in 1954, he said he has

worn many hats—his new one is that of vice-president of marketing. Previously he was director of sales and marketing. . . . New president of the Terminal City Iron Works Ltd. is **Stanley J. Mason,** BASc'50. He was formerly plant manager and a director of the company. . . . The outstanding contributions to pharmacy and public health made by **Douglas Denholm,** BSP'51, have been recognized with the presentation to him of the Dr. E. R. Squibb award by the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association. Mr. Denholm is on the faculty of the UBC school of pharmacy. . . . **William Hemerling,** BASc'51, has been appointed Vancouver district manager of FENCO Engineering Ltd. He has been with the company in several management and technical positions for 14 years.

Gordon L. Kilgour, BA'51, MSc'53

. . . **Dr. Gordon L. Kilgour,** BA '51, MSc'53, PhD(U of Wash), has left California to become professor and head of chemistry at Portland State College. In California he was professor of chemistry and acting head of the home economics department at San Fernando State College. . . . **H. Douglas Bose,** BSA'52, has joined the staff of Wolstencroft Agencies Ltd. as their farm representative. A past president of the Cloverdale Junior Chamber of Commerce, he will be based in the New Westminster office. . . . **Peter C. Forward,** BCom'53, has been appointed director of client service for the western division of Canadian Facts. He will continue in his position as managing director of Regional Marketing Surveys Ltd. . . . Two recent engineering projects by **John V. MacDonald,** BASc'53, have been honored with awards from professional engineering groups. A bulk material shiploading system received the Award of Merit from the Canadian Consulting Engineers Association and a floating railcar-barge ramp has been named the "year's outstanding waterfront facility" by the Consulting Engineers Council of Oregon. Mr. MacDonald, an associate in Swan Wooster Engineering Company, said that the projects are based on new economic concepts rather than technical ones.

Darell Campbell, BCom'54, assistant controller for the B.C. Telephone, has been elected president of the Society of Industrial and Cost Accountants of Canada. . . . **Robert E. Hallbauer,** BASc'54, is now general manager of mining operations for the Keevil Mining Group.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

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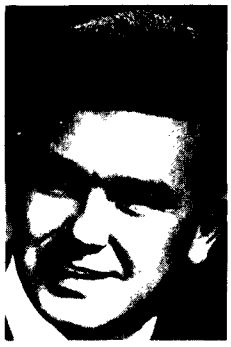
Patrick J. B. Duffy, BSF'55, MF (Yale), PhD(U of Minn) has been named program co-ordinator for land research with the federal department of forestry and rural development and forestry co-ordinator for the Canada Land Inventory.

Patrick Duffy, BSF'55

. . . The research work of **Dr. Kurt E. Ebner,** BSA'55, MSA'57, PhD(U of Ill), on the nature of milk enzymes has been honored by the American Chemical Society. Dr. Ebner was given the Borden Company Award for his discovery that the enzyme responsible for the production of milk sugar is composed of two proteins, one of which is believed inactive. This discovery is of great significance in the study of the evolution of proteins. Dr. Ebner is an associate professor in biochemistry at Oklahoma State University. . . . New director of counselling services at Simon Fraser University is **Dr. Beatrice G. Lipinski,** BA(U of Sask), MA'55, PhD(U of Cincinnati). A clinical-experimental psychologist, she will be responsible for administration of the counselling service and development of research. She had been in private practice since 1966 and has conducted seminars and staff development courses at the UBC school of social work. . . . **Peter J. Peters,** BCom'55, is now secretary and chief financial officer of the Scott Paper Company.

'56-'59

John Edmund Armstrong, BASc'56, has been appointed Ontario sales manager for Sarco Canada Ltd. Based in Agincourt, he has been with the company for nine years as sales and applications engineer. . . . **James L. Denholm,** BASc '56, has recently moved from Prince George to Vancouver where he is assistant manager of the local branch of the Industrial Development Bank. . . . **K. Marion Smith,** BSN'56, has been appointed assistant director of nursing at the Vancouver General Hospital school of nursing. Before joining the VGH staff she had extensive nursing experience with the Victorian Order and the RCAF. . . . Member of the Homecoming executive committee **C. Clare MacSorley,** BCom'57, has been made a vice-president of Hayhurst advertising agency. He will continue as director of client services in the Vancouver office.



Ross Fitzpatrick, BCom'58

Gary C. Castle, BCom'58, LLB'59, is now vice-president of leasing and development for Boultbee Sweet Realty Ltd. . . . **D. Ross Fitzpatrick,** BCom'58, is now vice-president and secretary of Combined Capital Resources Ltd. of Vancouver. He will hold the same position with a group of associated mining and industrial companies. . . . A luxurious resort set on a golden sandy beach, mariachi music and tequila—sound inviting? It's called Club Los Arcos and it's in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The club is still in the planning stages, under the supervision of **Vladimir Plavsic,** BArch '58, who is also a partner in the venture. . . . **Jean C. Downing,** BA(Manitoba), MA'59, is now an associate in the Regina consulting firm of Gordon R. Arnott and Associates. A member of the Town Planning Institute of Canada and the Association of Professional Community Planners of Saskatchewan, she was head of the land use division of the Saskatchewan water resources commission before joining Izumi, Arnott and Sugiyama in 1965. . . . We hope the wheels of our government in Ottawa are running a bit more smoothly with the assistance of some UBC types. In the prime minister's office **Gordon F. Gibson,** BA'59, MBA(Harvard), is the organizer of the PM's itineraries and travels. Vancouver lawyer **Thomas P. D'Aquino,** BA '62, LLB'65, who was on Trudeau's campaign staff is now executive assistant to minister without portfolio James Richardson. **Richard Hayes,** LLB'65 is now executive assistant to justice minister **John Turner,** BA'49, BA, MA, BCL(Oxon). Chief of the Skwah Indian Band, **William Mussell,** BA'63, BSW'65, a corrections officer with the national parole board in Chilliwack has been appointed special assistant to the minister of Indian affairs.

'60-'61

Indonesia is the destination of **Dr. Anthony A. Churchill,** BA'60, PhD(U of Wash), as a result of his new posting with the World Bank. He was previously an economist on the bank's staff in Washington, D.C. . . . **Edward J. Curtis,** BA '60, has been appointed general sales manager for the Hilton Hotels in Canada. Prior to this he was with the Western International Hotels as sales director at the Bayshore Inn in Vancouver. . . . The independent thinker has arrived at the Chronicle—in the form of a news letter by that name. IT's editor is **Gordon A. Dafoe,** BA'60. He will be teaching at Rochdale College in Toronto as well as attending courses at the University of Toronto and York University during the coming year. . . . A leader in the war on poverty in the Seattle area, **Walter Hundley,** BD(Yale), BSW '60, MSW(U of Wash) has been given the Gustafson Memorial Award for "distinguished community service by a professional social worker". He was executive director of a motivational scheme that served nearly one-third of Seattle's poor. The program combined a multi-service centre with direct neighbourhood communication and action. He has recently been appointed director of Seattle's Model Cities Project.

George Urquhart, BA'60

George M. Urquhart, BA'60, has been promoted to lieutenant-colonel (militia) and is now commanding the Canadian Scottish Regiment. A COTC member while at UBC he is now teaching high school in Victoria. . . . The top award in the B.C. government's housing plan competition has been won by **Charles E. Wills,** BArch'60. Last year he received a Centennial award from the Canadian Housing Council for his work.

The dazzling new star on Vancouver's skyline—the MacMillan Planetarium and Centennial Museum has several UBC grads on its staff. **Shirley A. Cuthbertson,** BA'61, will be supervisor of the children's museum. She is presently taking a six month course at the Fort Worth Children's Museum before opening the children's section early in the new year. **Shelia G. Calvert,** BA'68, will be working on archeological projects. Among her first will be a survey to locate and assess the condition of archeological sites in the Vancouver area. **Mrs. Keith E. Hayes,** BA'66, will be the librarian and **Patricia Mallek,** BA'67, will be the planetarium lecturer. As ethnologist, **Mrs. Lynn Maranda,** BA'67, will be looking after the Indian collections and will do research projects among the Coast Indians.

'62-'63

After a few years of globe-trotting **Colin I. Godwin,** BASc'62, has returned to UBC on a masters program. Since graduation he and his family have been in the Yukon, where Colin taught school, and in Australia and Chile where he was

exploration manager for a mining company. . . . **Stephen W. Hagemoen,** BASc '62, has been appointed a senior electrical engineer with Universal Dynamics Ltd. . . . **Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Suart,** BSc'62, PhD'66, (Susan Miller, BSc'65), are back in B.C. after two years with the Dupont research laboratories in Willmington, Del. Susan is science librarian at Simon Fraser and Bob is doing post-doctoral work in chemistry at UBC. . . . After a year in the Soviet Union, Dr. and Mrs. Donald L. Ritter, **(Edith E. Duerksen,** BSA'62), are now living in Claremont, California where Dr. Ritter is a professor at the California Polytechnical Institute. Their trip to the Soviet Union was sponsored by a USSR-USA scientific cultural exchange program. . . . . The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra recently premiered "Assinations for Orchestra and Electronic Tape" by **Lloyd Burritt,** BMus'63, MMus'68. The twenty minute work was written after the death of Robert Kennedy. . . . **Dr. and Mrs. T. Kenneth Gustafson,** BASc'63, MASc'64, PhD(MIT), (Corinne Brierley, BEd'67), are now living in Oakland, California. Ken is an assistant professor in electrical engineering and computer science at the Berkeley campus of the University of California.

'64-'68

Dr. John B. Armstrong, BSc'64, PhD (Wiscon), is on a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard. He will be continuing research in biological medicine on lipids. . . . **George L. Boechler,** BEd '64, has joined the UBC extension department as an education administrator. Prior to this appointment he was a counsellor and teacher in BC schools.

Brian Robinson, BA(Sir George William), BSW'65, MSW'68, is the new director of the Boys Clubs of Vancouver. The five clubs operate a camp and many community and service programs to meet the needs of over 1,000 members, aged from 8 to 18 years. . . . An attempt to revive the art of the northwest coast Indians is underway through the work of Alaska Indian Arts Inc., a non-profit organization in Haines, Alaska. **Mrs. Donna Morris Willard,** BA'65, has been a director and office manager of the organization for the past two years. At the same time she was city clerk for Port Chilkoot, Alaska. This fall she is at the University of Oregon to complete her law degree and then will return to Haines to begin the first law practice the community has ever had. . . . **Stephen Chitty,** BA'66, is the new publicity director at the Queen Elizabeth Playhouse. He has been with the company since graduation . . . . **Frank Gannon,** BEd'67, has just returned to B.C. from a year in England and is now special counsellor in the Grand Forks school district. . . . **Rodney L. Germaine,** BA'67, has been awarded a Sir James Dunn scholarship to enter the Dalhousie University law school. The $2,500 awards are given to outstanding students who show promise of attaining distinction in the law profession. . . . A Commonwealth scholarship has been given to **Mohan S. Jawl,** BCom'67, LLB'68. The scholarship covers travel, tuition and living expenses while he is studying medieval English at Morton College, Oxford.

Stephen Gill, BCom'67, LLB'68

. . . **Stephen Gill,** BCom'67, LLB'68, has been appointed clerk to Mr. Justice E. Hall of the Supreme Court of Canada for one year. His appointment is part of a new scheme to give special training to outstanding law students. . . . A year in Athens is ahead for **Tom Boyd,** BA'68, as a result of being nominated the G. P. Stevens Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies. He spent last August working at the excavations in Corinth before beginning his studies in September.

Births

Mr. and Mrs. George B. Chadwick, BA '53, MA'55, a son, Bruce Percy, September 11, 1968 in Menlo Park, California.
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Evers, (Heidi Tobler, MD'62), twin daughters, Kara Michelle and Krista Colette, June 24, 1968 in California.
Mr. and Mrs. Harley J. Harris, BEd'63, (Mary Babcock, BA'61, MEd'68), a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, July 16, 1968 in Vancouver.
Mr. and Mrs. David H. Phelps, (Margaret Peebles, BCom'62), a son, Richard Stuart, December 23, 1967 in Toronto, Ontario.
Dr. and Mrs. Kandula V.S. Reddy, MASc'63, PhD(Waterloo), a daughter, Prasanta, August 25, 1968 in Palmerton, Penn.
Dr. and Mrs. Donald L. Ritter, (Edith E. Duerksen, BSA'62), a son, Jason, March 31, 1968 in Vancouver.

Marriages

Armstrong - Tiemeier. Dr. John B. Armstrong, BSc'64, PhD(Wiscon) to Mary P. Tiemeier, June 19, 1968 in Coco, Florida.
Boyd - McKay-Keenan. Russell J. Boyd, BSc'67 to Susan McKay-Kennan, June 30, 1968 in Montreal.
Lennox-Leslie - Hennessey. Michael Lennox-Leslie to Joanne Hennessey, BA'66, August 27, 1968 in Vancouver.
Murray - Clark. Major Lark R. Murray to Trudie M. Clark, BSN'63, October 19, 1968 in Palo Alto, California.
Sharp - Davis. William David Sharp, BA '67 to Dorothy Gail Davis, BA'65, July 1, 1968 in Vancouver.

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Walton - Galloway. Phillip W. Walton, BCom'67 to Georgia Dell Galloway, BFd '67, September 1968 in Vancouver
Wilson - Pearson. Bryan R. Wilson, BASc '68 to Mary Catherine Pearson, June 12, 1968 in Vancouver.

Deaths

Dr. George S. Allen, BASc'33, MASc'35, PhD(Berkeley), September 4, 1968 in Vancouver. Dr. Allen was dean of forestry at UBC from 1953 to 1961. During that period he established the Sopron School of Forestry on the campus and was also closely involved in planning the MacMillan forestry-agriculture building. After leaving UBC he was director of forest research for the Weyerhaeuser Company of Washington and later head of the tree biology section in the federal forest research branch in Victoria. Dr. Allen was internationally famous for his work in silviculture and seed research. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son, his parents and brother.

George J. Crane, BASc'41, August 5, 1968 in Toronto. At the time of his death he was vice-president of Huron Chemicals Ltd. He is survived by his wife and four sons.

Mrs. Delbert O. Finlay, (Winnifred May Wiggins), BA'33, MA(Smith), September, 1968 in Toronto. A social worker in the Vancouver district for many years, she was a case worker at Essondale hospital and later worked with Family Welfare and the Children's Aid Society. She is survived by her husband and two sons.

George G. Gilchrist, BASc'20, September, 1968 in Toronto. He retired earlier this year after 24 years with Teck Hughes Mines at Kirkland Lake. For the last 17 years he was mine manager. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Rev. Takashi Komiyama, BA'35, September, 1968 in Vancouver. A graduate of Union College, he died soon after his return to Vancouver to become minister to the Greater Vancouver Japanese United Church. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and his father.

Dr. Alan Leslie Newhouse, BA'51, MD '55, September 5, 1968 in Merritt, B.C. He is survived by his wife (Harriet L. Ried, BA'50), two daughters, his parents and brothers.

Leslie G. J. Wong, BCom'45, MBA(Berkeley), October 19, 1968 in Vancouver. Professor Wong was chairman of the finance division of the UBC commerce faculty. In the early 1960's he was responsible for setting up an exchange program between Canada and Southeast Asia. Through the Colombo Plan he arranged scholarships for students from Singapore and Malaya to come to UBC for the MBA program while he and four other UBC professors began commerce faculties at the universities of Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. These professors were later replaced by the UBC-trained graduates. A memorial scholarship fund has been started in his name at UBC. He is survived by his wife, four brothers and two sisters.

Alumni Directory

Alumni Association Executive Committee

President: Stanley Evans, BA'41, BEd '44. Past President: Mrs. John McD. Lecky, BA'38. First Vice-president: David Helliwell, BA'57. Second Vice-president: Dr. Walter G. Hardwick, BA'54, MA'58, PhD(Minn). Third Vice-president: Sholto Hebenton, BA'57, BA, BCL (Oxon), LLM(Harvard). Treasurer: William E. Redpath, BCom'47.

Members-at-Large:
Mrs. Frederick Field, BA'42.
Peter C. Forward, BCom'53.
T. Barrie Lindsay, BCom'58.
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