UBC job cutbacks slammed

THE UBYSSEY

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By BILL TIELEMAN

The provincial government has slashed 350 jobs from a summer work program for students at UBC in a "blatantly political" move to save money, a UBC administrator said Thursday.

"It looks blatantly political to me and I think it's really shitty for the students to have to suffer. I'm pissed off," said UBC research administrator Richard Spratley, responsible for operating the program with funds provided by the labor ministry.

The move to reduce funding of the universities section of the youth employment program will cut the number of students employed at UBC to about 300 from 650 last year, he said.

The program was designed to provide funds for students involved in summer research projects coordinated by their department or faculty at the university.

Spratley said the same funding cuts are taking place for programs at Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria.

"Basically the programs for students have been slashed," he said.

Administration president Doug Kenny said the government decision to cut the jobs will be a great loss to students.

"I think we did have an excellent program out here and it's tragic and unfortunate that the program will suffer," he said. "It seems to be a semi-political decision."

Last year the program had about a $1.5 million budget at UBC but this year it will be about $700,000, Spratley said.

And the salaries for students have not increased since 1975. First- and second-year students are paid $550 a month, third- and fourth-year students $650 a month and graduate students and professional school students $750 a month.

Spratley said the government is making the cuts because university jobs are more expensive to create than jobs in business and farm sections of the youth employment program. In those programs the government subsidizes employers who hire students in the summer.

The government can get more political mileage out of cutting the university jobs and creating more farm and business jobs with the money saved, Spratley said.

A labor ministry official admitted Thursday that the government made cuts in the program to save money.

"We have attempted to put money this year into programs where employers have maximized the number of jobs for the amount of money involved," Bob Plecas, executive director of the ministry's manpower planning and policy division.

"Obviously the cost of creating jobs is less in the farm and business programs," he said. "We feel that the number of jobs for students (over-all) will not be cut."

But Plecas refused to say if the over-all funding level for the program will be increased from last year or if the cuts in the universities section will amount to an identical increase in other areas of the program.

"You'll have to wait until the budget speech comes out," he said.

Spratley said he sees no hope of the government changing its mind on the issue.

But student board of governors member Paul Sandhu said Thursday he will probably bring the matter up at Tuesday's board meeting.

"I would like to see the board take a position on this and approach the ministry of labor on this question," he said.

Kenny agreed that the board could take a stand on the job cutback and express their views to the ministry if they desired.

Sandhu said last year's program at UBC was not sufficient and that the massive cut will put students trying to find work this summer into an even worse position.

"The Alma Mater Society felt the program last year was grossly inadequate and with this cut it's going to mean students are going to be in a real financial bind trying to come back next year," he said.

Student board member Basil Peters also condemned the government action as "extremely unfortunate" for students in the present poor employment situation.

C'tee decides election valid, no new vote

By MIKE BOCKING

Alma Mater Society president John DeMarco is angry over a senate committee's decision Thursday to declare the Jan. 18 election of students to the board of governors and senate valid.

In a prepared statement the committee's chairman J. L. Stager says the election results will stand because of insufficient grounds for calling a new election.

The election review was called after charges of improper voting procedures at the polling station in the civil and mechanical engineering building. Students were said to have illegally given their proxy votes away.

DeMarco said the senate has lost face because they originally asked the AMS to conduct an investigation and deal with the scandal.

The AMS conducted an investigation and decided at an emergency meeting to call a new election.

But the senate decided to take the matter out of the society's hands and deal with the matter themselves.

The senate ad-hoc committee to investigate the recent student elections "determined the allegations of irregularities were not confined to a single poll, that direct evidence indicated that an irregularity did take place during the election and that indirect evidence indicated there may have been further irregularities."

"On the basis of all the evidence and personal testimony, the committee concluded that in accordance with the principle of the provincial statute, there were insufficient grounds for calling a new election," said Stager.

Student board member Basil Peters said he was happy with the committee's decision and added it was better that the final decision was made by the committee rather than the AMS.

And student board member Paul Sandhu said in a telephone interview, interrupting a lasagna dinner at the Olympia Pizza restaurant Thursday that he is still unhappy with the whole investigation procedure but that the committee's decision is one he can live with.

Paul Sandhu and Basil Peters were elected to the board in the January election.

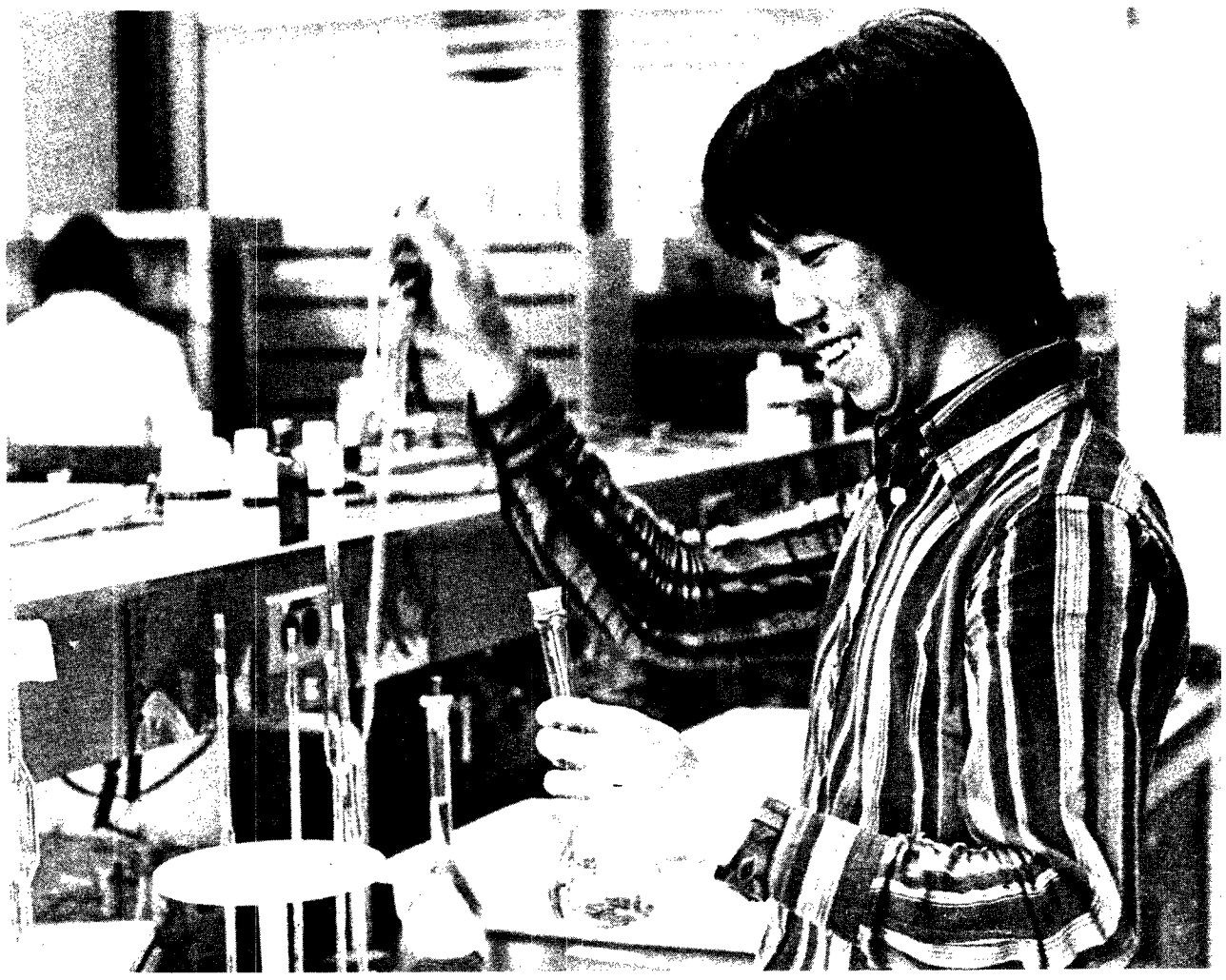
Bank campaign runs into trouble

A coalition of groups advocating the withdrawal of funds from banks with questionable investments is having problems with its campaign at UBC, according to UBC Lutheran chaplain Don Johnson.

Johnson said Thursday the Taskforce on Corporate Responsibility is beginning to have difficulty convincing people at UBC to withdraw their money from banks, such as the Bank of Montreal, with investments in South Africa and other repressive nations.

"Students are pooping out because they're really uptight about marks, and we're just not sure how to keep raising the issues," he said.

The taskforce has set a March 21 target date for individuals and institutions to withdraw money from banks with investments in South Africa.



—geof wheelwright photo

MAD SCIENTIST Paul Hendrick, biochemistry 3, tinkers with basic building blocks of life as he attempts to create ideal professor in test tube. Hendrick failed at attempt to form a prof who would always give As when DNA molecules went on sabatical and catalysts were too bored to function.

BoG feelings mixed on Chile

By CHRIS ELENIAK

Members of UBC's board of governors have varied feelings about taking a stand against the university's investments in Chile, a survey of several members indicated Thursday.

"I hope the decision will be to pull out of these investments. I am opposed to investing in Chile," said board member Ken Andrews. "This year looks better than the past. Hopefully change will come this year."

UBC owns 8,000 shares worth $260,000 in Noranda Mines, which invests heavily in Chile.

"The board is more aware (of the issue) due to the greater degree of publicity and also because the organizers are better prepared," said Andrews, president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, local 116, on campus.

Opposition to the university's investment in Noranda and calls for UBC to protest Noranda's involvement with the repressive Chilean military junta have come to a head in the Chile Week this week.

Board chairman George Morfitt said Thursday the question of opposing Noranda's involvement in Chile will be difficult for the board to resolve.

"It is a question of how far the board goes in non-university matters. If the people of Canada feel it is not illegal to have investments in Chile, then it si very difficult for us to take a moralistic view and have a different attitude."

Student board member Paul Sandhu said Thursday UBC should take a look at the actions taken by other universities on investment policies. Recently the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba decided to withdraw investments from corporations investing in racist South Africa.

"The board should be willing to take a strong look at the situation with other universities.

"I am not convinced that it is not a non-university matter. Investments to a large degree have come by student monies."

Sandhu said the board's decision would be dependent on the composition of board members.

"Looking at the composition of the board — most of the members are in business. Business-oriented people may not look at it in a moral sense," he said.

Student board member Basil Peters said Thursday the decision was a politically difficult one for the board.

"I take the responsibility of prudent financial management implicit in a board position very seriously," he said.

Faculty board member Don Russell said he was trying to keep an open mind on the question.

"My general view is that it is appropriate to take such matters into consideration but that they should not dominate concerns. The board is in charge of financial affairs and this is what should dominate," he said.

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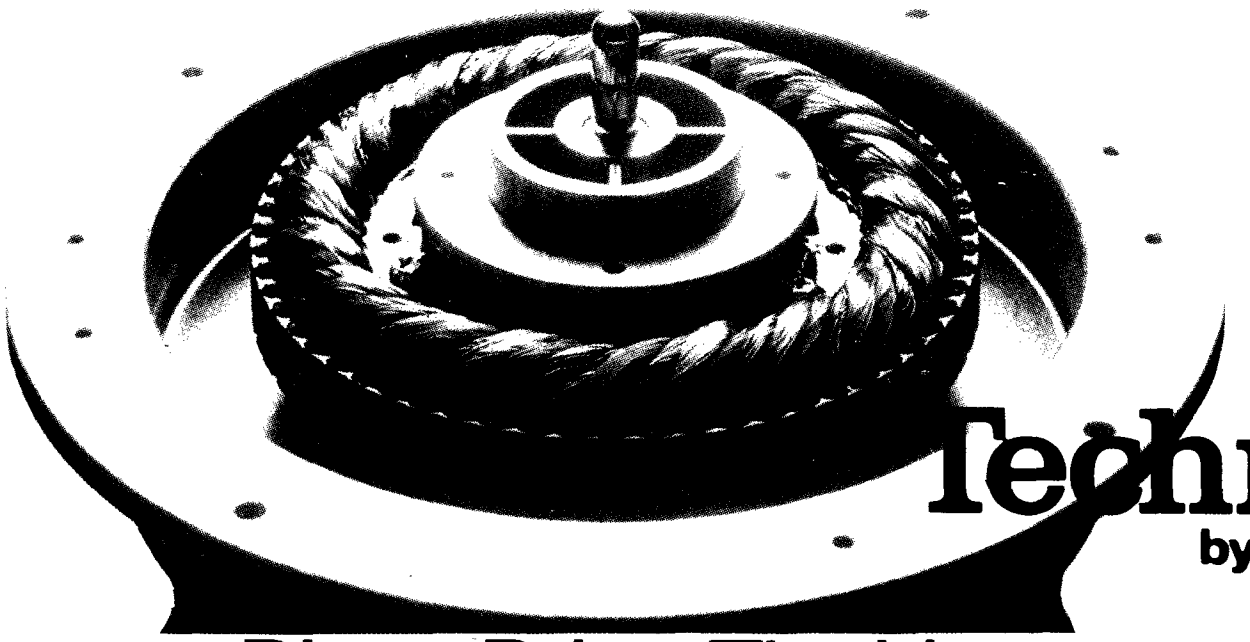

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Against university investments

Students organize

By LARRY BLACK
Canadian University Press
Ottawa bureau chief

Canadian banks and corporations and their shareholders, among them universities, have long escaped major criticism or their roles in supporting the economy of South Africa.

They have argued, seemingly successfully, that their presence in the racist regime is a liberalizing influence, "keeping the door open and maintaining contacts," one banker claims, "to break down the degree of segregation that exists."

But an examination of the involvement of Canadian universities in South Africa, and the realities of the apartheid economy betray this myth.

Students and other members of the university community across Canada are organizing to bring pressure against administrations that reap profits from investments in the repressive country.

In the last 15 years, while the investments of developed nations have increased manyfold, life has grown harder for the average person in South Africa.

Wages for black workers dropped by 18 per cent, black unemployment has risen to 25 per cent of the work force, and the white-controlled government now spends 45 per cent of its budget — $2 billion — on military expenditures to control the population.

"No matter what you hear in the press, the black African is in worse shape now than they were in South Africa 10 years ago," according to one opponent of questionable university holdings in the corporations.

Canadian universities are tied in with the worst of what is going on in South Africa. Among the most recurrent names on university corporate holdings lists are the big names in exploitive investment:

Inco, Noranda, Falconbridge and Alcan all own extensive mining interests in South Africa and in neighboring Namibia, a country illegally controlled by South Africa;

In 1973, Alcan's treatment of its black workers was documented by Hugh Nangle for Southam Press. His report showed the majority of blacks working for Alcan were earning well below even that country's poverty line. Blacks were not allowed to train for skilled jobs and hence were cut off from earning higher wages.

Until last September, most university administrators were content to turn their heads from their involvement. According to the University of Alberta: "the primary determinant for corporate investment is return. The University of Winnipeg wanted "good return for the university." And Dalhousie University's investments are "those which have a guaranteed high rate of profit."

But since then, campus campaigns have resulted in two universities, Manitoba and Winnipeg, agreeing to divest what they now term "socially injurious" investments in apartheid. The new policy at Winnipeg is aimed at companies "which violate or frustrate the enforcement of rules of domestic or international law intended to protect individuals against deprivation of health, safety or basic freedoms."

The university's previous criteria were only that a corporation be legally incorporated, obey the laws of Canada and contribute to the country by employing people.

The senate of Queen's University will use its stock in Noranda to protest that corporation's proposed $350 million investment in Chile, after more than 2,400 students voted late last term to oppose the investment proposal, to be decided by Noranda shareholders at a May meeting.

The university had told students it was seeking direction for its investment policy — "the student referendum and motion before senate are moves to provide direction," one student explained.

"Morality is a big part of the thinking of a university," one Queen's professor told the university senate.

"Would we have said the universities in Germany should have said nothing about the persecution of the Jews? If morality is not the business of the university, then whose is it?"

In the U.S., campaigns are under way at least 15 universities, and have resulted in state-wide divestitures in Wisconsin and Oregon.

The University of Massachusetts voted to sell $540,000 of shares in 16 corporations following two years of student pressure. Hampshire College withdrew $215,000 after two-thirds of its faculty signed a petition.

At Stanford University, thousands of students demonstrated last May against investment policies in the largest student demonstration since the Vietnam war. Campaigns have also been launched at Smith, Amherst, Princeton, Southern Illinois, Dartmouth, McAllister, Harvard, Yale and Bryn Mawr.

In Canada the campaign has spread to major national chartered banks that are said to have guaranteed as much as 60 per cent of the $3 billion the South African government owes world wide.

Some Canadian universities, like the universities of Toronto and Victoria, own shares in banks, while most at least deal with one of the four major banks — the Royal, the Bank of Montreal, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and the Toronto-Dominion Bank.

These banks loaned $8 million to the South African ministry of finance in 1971, $9 million a year later to the government-owned iron and steel corporation, and another $2.5 million to another government firm.

According to a spokesperson for church groups involved in the campaign against Canadian involvement in South Africa, "Bank loans at this time strengthen and back white minority rule. Canadian banks making such loans have become partners in apartheid, partners in South African racism."

Students are also withdrawing accounts from the banks and depositing their money in credit unions. Student associations at the universities of Ottawa, Manitoba, Winnipeg, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Toronto, and the National Union of Students, the Ontario Federation of Students and Canadian University Press have all come out against the banks' support of apartheid.

—matt king photo

SITTING IN TRASHED Science Undergraduate Society office, SUS president Anne Gardner surveys effect of nocturnal visitors. SUS, which last week broke into several undergrad society offices to "announce" science week, found own office in auditorium annex 216 had been trashed in expensive escalation of undergrad feud. SUS claims arts undergrad society is responsible but AUS denies it.

Women's Week begins Monday

Starting Monday, the UBC women's centre is holding the second Women's Week of the academic year on the theme of women's capabilities.

"We are trying to make people aware of what women are capable of," organizer Susan Ursel said Thursday.

The week will be a celebration of women's abilities but seminars and speeches will also concentrate on serious women's rights issues, Ursell said.

"The status of women is a very important but neglected area on campus," Ursell said.

Ursell said the week will also help publicize the many services that are available to women on campus through the women's centre and other organizations.

The Alma Mater Society women's committee will be spending $1,504 to hire speakers, rent movies, print posters and present entertainers during the week, Ursell said.

The events taking place during the week are:

Monday: Women In Marriage, noon, SUB 130; poetry meeting, noon, Angus penthouse; video on What Will I Be, noon, Scarfe lounge; Daycare and Parental Responsibility, noon, SUB 205.

Tuesday: Video, Rape as a Social Disease, noon, Scarfe lounge; Gay Alliance Towards Equality discussion, noon, SUB 207; Women in Art, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Lassere 102; Movie and discussion on rape, 7:30 p.m., SUB auditorium.

Wednesday: International Women's Day parade, 12 noon, Robson and Bute; Movie Union Maids, noon, SUB auditorium; Feminist musician, 11:30 a.m., SUB conversation Pit.

Thursday: Marketable journalism and creative writing workshop, noon, SUB 115; Video on Sexism in Schools, noon, Scarfe lounge; Running a Co-op publication, noon, SUB 130; Imagery in Writing, and creative writing workshop, 1:30 p.m., SUB 117; Update on the Status of Women in B.C., 4 to 6 p.m., SUB 205.

Friday: Feminism — A Class Analysis, noon, SUB 213; Equal Opportunity for Women — A Case Study, with Ald. Darlene Marzari, noon, SUB 205; Video on ideological structures and how women have been excluded, noon, Scarfe lounge; Medical Self-Help for Women, noon, SUB 130; Rape in B.C., noon, SUB 207; Briefing for national action committee of women for Ottawa conference, 1:45 p.m., SUB 130.

Saturday: Wendo self defence for women, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., SUB 200; Bear garden, men and women welcome, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Graduate Student Centre garden room.

Third World frustrated with economic order

The elimination of poverty in the West and the Soviet Union without a corresponding change in other areas has left Third World countries frustrated with the present economic order, a foreign affairs expert said Thursday.

"The fact of poverty is not new. What is new is the elimination of poverty in the western world and the Soviet Union," said Arnold Smith, former secretary-general of the British Commonwealth.

Man's increasing knowledge of world-wide inequalities creates a need for less inequality, he said.

Although a higher level of human consciousness has leaders paying at least lip service to the necessity of achieving a better living for poorer nations, Smith said, it is a long way from being accomplished.

And there seems to be even less agreement about the methods to be used to encourage global development, he said.

The most important factor is the will to change, said Smith.

Canada can contribute to shaping international relations if it uses its many and substantial resources, he said.

"Canadians underestimate their ability to influence world politics," he added.

One of the tremendous changes in international affairs during the past few decades has been the growth of international organizations, he said.

Since the Second World War an enormous number of international organizations, such as the United Nations, commonwealths, caucuses of rich and poor countries, and others have been formed to foster co-operation and understanding between various nations and races, he said.

International organizations enhance the influence of middle powers such as Canada, he said, by allowing them to express views that might otherwise be ignored by bigger countries.

"We must not leave underdeveloped countries to stew in their own juices," he said.

"With the decolonization of British Asia in the '40s, and Africa in the '50s and '60s there was an enormous increase in sovereign states," he said.

After decolonization Third World leaders voiced their disagreement with the "bi-polar" concept of the world and turned their efforts to improving the economies of their countries, he said.

Socreds are stealing our jobs

Isn't it great waking up in the morning with the knowledge that the provincial government has a budget surplus? Almost balances the depression caused by not having a job lined up for the summer or for after graduation, doesn't it?

Yes, the Socreds are up to their revolting budget game again, and 350 UBC students will be pounding the pavement instead of doing productive research on campus this summer.

The cash, if not going to help produce these 'surpluses,' will wind up being spent on a business-oriented job program. You see, businessmen are mad because their Socred puppets haven't jumped when the strings have been pulled, and so now the Socreds need more money to dole out in goodies before election time draws near.

Premier Bill Bennett said recently that enough money has been saved lately to allow a loosening of the purse strings. Obviously, his remarks weren't addressed to the people of B.C.

In fact there is no budget surplus and there has not been one since the early days of W. A. C. Bennett's premiership. In other words, the Socreds have lied to the people of B.C., before and after suckering the electorate into voting for them in 1975.

Money has been shuffled off into crown corporations (where deficits magically become 'contingent liabilities') and financial wizardry is employed to allow charming Billy make his deceptive state of the province messages to the people.

Higher tuition fees are but the latest in a series of punitive taxes and levies to hit people who can ill afford higher costs, and now the government is taking away the means to pay tuition and living costs from 350 of us. There are enough UBC students who will be without a job this summer as it is.

It's not often a UBC administrator will phone up The Ubyssey and call a provincial government move "blatantly political." Normally, such an event would be extraordinary, but since Bill and boys have taken over, this is becoming commonplace.

If you apply for a youth employment program job and don't get one, remember who to blame come the next election. More people will be doing the same.

Perhaps the Socreds have to pay for those massive budget overruns they're trying to hide right now — like Grace McCarthy's tourist promotion based on a brief visit 200 years ago by a syphilitic old sea captain.

B.C. is the land of opportunity — you can't get a job and can't even get welfare. But at least books balance.

Sad ending

The great student board and senate election flap is finally behind us, except for a lingering stench.

The senate committee which investigated the allegations decided not to hold the elections again despite strong evidence of wrongdoing. This evidence was strong enough to prod the student representative assembly into voting for another election, a motion which the senate, and now the senate committee, have defied.

In its statement, the committee said "direct evidence indicated that an irregularity did take place during the election and that indirect evidence indicated that there may have been further irregularities."

After it became known that irregularities had occurred at the engineering poll, people who were upset about this revelation began threatening to bring forward other irregularities. The threats were acted on — without evidence. The senate committee may unwittingly have become the victim of these threats, as did student reps on SRA and senate who chose to ignore the strong evidence of the original irregularities.

Because the committee met in camera, we can only hope that justice was seen to be done. Unfortunately, justice was not done.

Letters

Profs irresponsible

The faculty of science's decision to refuse public teaching evaluations is a fine example of the faculty members' total neglect for a high quality of education on this campus. Furthermore, it is another excellent example of the faculty members' complete irresponsibility toward the taxpayers and people of this province who finance this university.

Ninety per cent of the funds used to operate this university are public, while the remaining 10 per cent are derived from student tuition fees. For their money, both the people of this province and the students at UBC deserve the opportunity to access the quality and performance of those emplyed here. If the university cannot demonstrate that it is accountable to the people of the province, then the public has a legitimate reason to refuse funding of this institution.

The university is in a financial crisis, and a large part of our fiscal problem can be attributed to faculty members who the public and the ministry of education feel are being paid excessive wages and salaries. Unless the science faculty can show they are responsible and accountable for their work, they should not expect UBC to receive enormous budgetary increases year after year. Most importantly, the faculty at this institution should not be disappointed when they receive only minimal increases in wages come next September.

As a member of the board of governors, I am grossly disappointed and irritated with the faculty of science's decision. It only makes the board's task of convincing the government and the public that the university needs additional funds immensely difficult, especially when the group which comprises UBC's largest expenditure cannot demonstrate financial and academic accountability.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the science undergraduate society for the time and effort they put into this most viable and constructive projects. I hope this setback will not discourage you from continuing your work at faculty meetings.

Paul Sandhu
board of governors

Stolen

As part of the publicity for Chile Week, the sponsoring committees put up "Stop Noranda" signs at certain entrances to the university. In doing so, the organizers were making use of their right to freely publicize their views.

These advertisements were part of a campaign intended to bring up the issue of the Noranda investment in Chile for an open discussion in the university community. During Chile Week we have given students the opportunity to become aware of this issue and to cast their vote by signing or not signing the petition circulating on campus.

However, some people seemed to feel threatened by this open discussion and have stolen three of our "Stop Noranda" signs. These signs were large pieces of plywood and must have been as difficult to remove as they were to put up.

We invite these people to use proper means of voicing their oppostion through letters in The Ubyssey or by approaching someone at our committee's table in the SUB foyer.

committee for the defence of human rights in Chile

THE UBYSSEY

MARCH 3, 1978

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Editor: Chris Gainor

Seven randy men plied into a decrepit, obsolete, rundown, rusting, junk heap of a jalopy. Dave Morton and Marcus Gee cringed in terror as a gargantuan ass loomed in the doorway of the tiny battered Austin. Chris Gainor smiled sweetly as he placed his pert little touche neatly on the back seat. Bruce Baugh and Tom Hawthorn looked over their shoulders from the front seat in envy at the cuddly scene for Mike Bocking had taken a flying leap and landed squarely on the silvery moon. Verne McDonald, Eric Promislow and Greg Edwards were run over by the speeding heap. Dave Hancock drew the bloody scene of brains and intestines from the besplattered sidewalk. Mike made suggestive, kinky suggestions to Chris Eleniak about lasagna and meatballs in an Olympipia Pizza restaurant. Neil McAllister, Geof Wheelwright and Ed O'Brien smeared spaghetti sauce over their little pink bodies and watched as a troop of army ants devoured the sauce before their kinky little tongues could. Carol Read waited in the parking lot with a halo over her head while Matt King, Will Wheeler, Greg Strong and George Huey did the unpardonable sin of doing absolutely nothing with Heather Conn and Kit Tam. They all piled into the off, off, off-white car and Bill Tieleman drove it off a bridge.

PAGE FRIDAY

Quebec • Its politics and culture

This week Page Friday examines the politics and culture of Quebec.

The issue opens with a commentary on the Parti Quebecois on PF 2. On the same page is a general overview of Quebec culture.

A portrait of Quebec premier Rene Levesque appears on PF 3, while on PF 4 Quebec playwright Michel Tremblay and author Marie-Claire Blais are profiled.

The so-called October Crisis of 1970 is the subject of an analysis on PF 5.

The views of Canadians and Quebecois on whether Quebec can realize its aspirations within Confederation are surveyed on PF 6 and PF 7. A poll of the opinions of Vancouverites is included.

The economic prospects for Quebec and Canada in the event of Quebec's separation are assessed on PF 8. Small town Quebec and Acadia are the subjects of features on PF 9.

The Quebec music scene is examined on PF 10 and we look at the Quebec film scene on PF 11.

Vista appears on PF 14.

Parti Quebecois makes compromises

By CHRIS GAINOR

The Parti Quebecois faces the excruciating problem all groups of idealistic or semi-idealist groups must face once they are thrust into power: how much to compromise.

Since the PQ leans to the left and is working toward the goal of a separate Quebec, predilections which are unpopular with the business and political elites of Canada, it must set directions in a minefield. A misstep will prove fatal or at best injurious.

The federal government, business and the media are hostile to the PQ government and can be depended upon to try and work for its defeat in the next election.

The PQ situation is analogous to that of B.C's NDP government, which was brought down by business and the media, aided by its own mistakes. It must be remembered that the nature of the PQ and of its opposition is different from the B.C. situation.

The first priority for anti-separatist groups will be to defeat the PQ's planned referendum on Quebec's future within Confederation. Once the referendum is defeated, then pressure can be applied to bring down the government.

For a group containing people with such diverse political views, the Parti Quebecois has done remarkably well in government. Of course it has made some mistakes and alienated some people, as the media has informed us, but on the whole remains highly popular within Quebec.

The referendum, which w a s originally planned to take place later this year, will likely not occur until next year. For now, the government is working on establishing Quebec's separate identity culturally and linguistically.

Best-known part of this effort is Bill 101, the language legislation which has generated a great deal of controversy among Quebec anglophones and outside Quebec.

Camille Laurin, cultural affairs minister and architect of the language policy, says the anglophones "continue to hope for a return to the Quebec of yesterday, while we are irreversibly in the Quebec of tomorrow."

Laurin, a psychiatrist who is currently drafting a cultural policy similar to the language policy, is laying the groundwork to make Quebec formally separate in language and culture, which it is already to a large degree. Bill 101, Laurin says, will make Quebec "as massively French as Ontario is English," a clever but incisive commentary on Quebec's position in Canada.

Bill 101, more than anything else, has caused the lack of business confidence in Quebec and sparked the departure of many businesses to Ontario or the West. Without Bill 101, undoubtedly, another excuse would be found for the business exodus.

The PQ leans to the left, but yet has scope for such people as economic conservative Jacques Parizeau, now Quebec finance minister. Parizeau is trying to assure business with his hold-the-line budgets while other parts of the government carry out plans which could be called mildly socialistic.

This is where the PQ faces its big problem: how much to move Quebec to the left and toward separation and how much to assure business, which will be out to get the PQ come the next election whatever the PQ does.

Thus far it has announced a nationalization of much of Quebec's asbestos industry, gone ahead with Bill 101, and introduced the most progressive labor legislation in North America to the National Assembly. To placate business, it has produced conservative budgets, watered down the labor legislation (to the anger of labor) and watered down its public auto insurance promises.

At the PQ's first party congress after its election victory, premier Rene Levesque told delegates his government would not be bound by party resolutions, certainly another move designed to assure business.

But as Ghislain Dufour, director of the Conseil du Patronat du Quebec, the province's leading employer's group said, the PQ government is "autocratic and socialist."

Dufour would undoubtedly have an interesting conversation with any socialist labor leader, who is likely displeased with the reduction of the new labor bill's powers against strikebreakers.

Dave Barrett's NDP government in B.C. enjoyed great popularity in the first 18 months of its existence, as the PQ is now. The NDP did not survive the efforts of its enemies once the economy turned sour in 1974. The PQ, however, gained power thanks to the economic crisis, but is faced with the task of improving the economy. As long as the lack of business confidence persists, an improvement is unlikely.

Barrett's cabinet was made up of people who had served in the legislature prior to the 1972 victory, a conservative choice which meant that unqualified people were in cabinet while better talent sat in the back benches.

Levesque has chosen a talented cabinet, the most academic cabinet in Canada. It is organized into two tiers to allow easy decision-making on the political level, and all shades of opinion in the party are represented on both tiers.

If the PQ can maintain its popularity over the next year, it may well return to power, if not win the referendum.

Playing its game of holding the line with money and being bold in language and culture legislation, the PQ may escape being tarred for any economic problems Quebec may suffer, unlike Barrett, who imposed badly-needed royalties and taxes on corporations. Despite the merit of these taxes, Barrett was blamed for putting the economy into a tailspin, when it was in fact outside conditions which were responsible.

The NDP was also tarred with charges of poor fiscal responsibility, which were actually caused by their not reacting quickly enough to an economic turndown and not shuffling around expenditures as artfully as the Socreds have done. But Parizeau has been given fairly good marks.

The middle of the road is also the most hazardous part of the road. While the PQ may win the part of the electorate which supported in protest against Robert Bourassa's failed Liberal government, it may turn off its hard-core supporters.

When the labor bill was amended to allow people to remain in strikebound plants to protect employers' assets, which opens up a big loophole in anti-strikebreaking provisions, thousands of trade unionists demonstrated against the amendment. The law still allows the government to break strikes in "essential services," a loophole which caused the Liberals a great deal of grief.

In civil service negotiations, the PQ has been dragging its feet, and Levesque has warned that government wage settlements must be kept down. This may alienate workers formerly friendly to the PQ, but again is designed to woo others who stand to the right of the PQ mainstream support.

See PF 13: LACK

Quebec's culture provides basis for nationalism

By WILL WHEELER

If we are willing to consider French-speaking Quebec as a culture that is fighting for its life, then most of the issues facing Quebecois artists can be seen in a new light. Although Canada as a whole is facing the same danger of assimilation, the question of language has in the Province of Quebec served to bring the danger into sharper focus.

Even if language does not form the basis of all thinking, as some claim it does, it gives distinct qualities to the culture which embraces it. Language sets a nation apart from others (Unhappily, Canadian English is quite close to American English, otherwise known as Merican) and bestows definite linguistic qualities on the literature written within its confines.

The use of French in Quebec has ensured the survival of a distinctive culture in the midst of a swampy sea of North American homogeneity. Considering the odds they are bucking, it should be no wonder that the Quebecois have seen the need for drastic or even violent action.

Some say 'they' should learn English, since it would make things easier for everyone. But since language is a major basis of culture, this would be an invitation to cultural suicide (or genocide). It is one thing to expect immigrants to learn a new language and quite another to expect the same of citizens of one of Canada's oldest settled regions.

This roughly approximates the situation in which the Quebecois artist find themselves. Faced with the desperate odds, many have declared themselves to be separatists first and artists second.

For example, a number of separatist filmmakers have publicly stated that, in light of the highly expensive nature of the film industry, an independent Quebec would perhaps not be able to support their artform. Yet they are willing to make this sacrifice. Survival has always been a basic priority for Canadians.

Yet there is another aspect to the enigma of contemporary Quebec: in many artistic fields it now supports thriving activities which are the envy of English Canada.

Since language is the major battleground for Quebec's cultural survival, it is understandable that writers and poets should be at the forefront. They have played a major role in giving expression to the Quebec experience and thus giving a certain maturity to their culture. Marie-Claire Blais, to cite an obvious example, has served to show the bleak, mood of a society which has long lived in submission and despair. Pierre Vallieres in White Niggers of America has given shape to the naked anger. On the other hand, in his plays Michel Tremblay has shown a cause for hope. (In Bonjour, La, Bonjour, for example, a brother and sister learn to accept that they are in love. An excellent metaphor for artist working within a culturally inbred society.)

Not only is the activity occurring in the province vast in quantity (and I hope I haven't seened to have attempted a survey) it has also shown itself to be of national and international stature. Many Quebecois authors are available in translation and are widely read and studied throughout Canada.

Theatre and film have also been called upon to do their share as language and culture oriented media. Although traditionally associated with literature they differ from it in two ways. First, they draw more people, such as craft persons, technicians and photopraphers, directly into the artistic process.

Secondly, they add the element of performance and visual representation to basic narrative. These two aspects have the effect of broadening and solidifying a culture, as well as increasing its activity. Thus French Quebec continues to build dikes against English North America by developing a sense of separate identity. At the same time, as Quebec plays and films are seen across the country, the rest of Canada is forced to realize that Quebec is different.

Music is a special case, although related, since the province supports a healthy popular music industry which dwarfs that of English Canada. Again, we have the case of an art-form which is at least partially oriented to the advantage of the French-speaking (or singing). While young people are often willing to listen to lyrics they don't understand, Quebecois musicians are appreciated more than local musicians in other parts of the country.

Although groups such as Harmonium have had success outside Quebec, most musicians have not leaped the gap between the so-called Two Solitudes. Lyrics are incapable of proper translation and most musicians are no doubt unwilling to gear themselves to a specifically English audience.

Dance is an opposite case since, along with visual art, it defies language-oriented expression. Thus Quebec-based dance companies, which are among the best in the country, continue to tour widely. Visual art in Quebec is heavily influenced by New York and tends to avoid the basic conditions of Quebecois society as a basis for its foundations.

Yet, even dance and visual art from time to time invaded by literary (as ballet demonstrates) and cultural concepts.

Levesque's idealism has long history

By TOM HAWTHORN

For some Quebecers, Rene Levesque is the leader who will lead the Quebecois people out of the land of Anglophone domination.

But for some Canadians, most notably English-speaking Quebecers, the mere mention of Levesque's name evokes emotions ranging from fear to unadulterated hatred.

Perhaps the most notable feature of Levesque's 18 year career as a Quebec politician has been his ability to be controversial while arousing strong emotional and ideological responses from all Canadians. For in his various careers ranging from radio and television journalist to cabinet minister to unaligned separatist to Quebec premier, Levesque has, more than any other French-Canadian, reflected the aspirations of a large sector of the Quebec population.

Since the astonishing victory of the Parti Quebecois in 1976, Levesque has been a figure of national and international prominence as he and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau have begun the arduous negotiations over the future of the Canadian nation.

Levesque's ascension to the premiership was a remarkable accomplishment considering that he had left the provincial wing of the Liberal party a short 11 years before over the question of Quebec nationalism. But what made this architect of the Quiet Revolution decide to enter politics and to eventually adopt the goal of Quebec's independence?

Levesque first received notice as a journalist when he left Laval University in 1943 to join the French-language service of the United States Office of War Information. He later recalled that he would have done anything to go overseas, "but not in His Majesty's uniform."

When the war ended, and after Levesque had travelled across the continent with the U.S. Seventh Army, he returned to Quebec to join the French-language section of the CBC. He soon became one of its top journalists, specializing in reporting on international and American affairs.

With the advent of television Quebec's cultural base began to widen immensely. In 1956 Levesque began Point de Mire, a news analysis show which soon became one of the most popular on the CBC. But while he was introducing his chain smoking habits to Quebec's television viewers, Levesque was soon going to unknowingly embark on a political career which would be still taking shape more than 18 years later.

While Levesque had shown more interest in international affairs as a journalist, the 1959 CBC French-language producers' strike thrust him into the center of the politics of Quebec nationalism. The producers originally struck to guarantee their right to unionize, but as the strike wore on it soon became a struggle over the attitude of Ottawa's English-speaking politicians to a conflict affecting French-Canadians only.

The lack of concern on the part of English-speaking politicians and producers effected Levesque immensely.

"The whole bloody French network became virtually non-existent, and nobody cared," he said. "Here Radio-Canada was supposed to be so vital a part of the CBC — it was so important to broadcast in French. But Ottawa didn't give a damn.

"I learned then that French was really very secondary in the rest of Canada's mind, certainly in Ottawa's."

By the time the 69-day strike had ended, Levesque had embarked on a political trip of succession which to this day has not reached its final stopping point.

When a provincial election was called in 1960, he decided to make the jump from journalism to politics on the side of the Liberals.

When Jean Lesage's Liberals handily defeated the remnants of Maurice Duplessis' corrupt Union Nationale regime, it marked the beginning of a "quiet revolution" which was to ultimately change the face of Quebec society and the political career of Levesque.

Despite his lack of political experience, Levesque was appointed to the cabinet as Natural Resources minister and he immediately began to mold his concept of the state of Quebec. His first major test was the nationalization of Quebec's hydro-electric industry, which he successfully accomplished after the Liberals were remandated in the 1962 provincial election.

Levesque's newfound interest in Quebec nationalism also received a great deal of media attention. He began to increase his promotion for the liberation of "the last and oldest of the colonial peoples."

"At the present time there is no more devouring interest for me than the interests of five or six million French-Canadians," he said in 1962.

"I've always been proud of being French-Canadian. We've been stuck in the shit for a long time, and much of it was of our own making. But what's important is that we shouldn't slide back into the shit."

Levesque's statements and the unknown paths the Liberals were treading in the field of social reform quickly transformed cabinet solidarity into feuding units of political belief.

By the time the 1966 election rolled along, the Liberals were in desperate shape. They lost. Most party members place the blame on Lesage's handling of the campaign, even though the Liberals received 47.2 per cent of the vote compared to 40.9 for Daniel Johnson's Union Nationale. It marked the end of an era of social change in the province, but still greater transformations were brewing for the future.

After an extended period of dissension within the party, Levesque issued his book entitled Option for Quebec, which outlined his belief in the necessity of a sovereignty-association relationship between Quebec and the rest of Canada.

"Rene Levesque has at last put an end to the rumours which have surrounded him for months," the Montreal Star said in an editorial. "He wants sovereignty for Quebec because only through it can Quebecers achieve the 'security of our collective existence'. In other words, Mr. Levesque has opted for separatism."

He had been branded at a time when support for separatism was political suicide; he would be there when the separatists became the official democratically elected government of the province of Quebec.

At the Liberal party convention that year, Levesque's proposal for Liberal support of his sovereignty-association theory was soundly defeated. He left the party for good, taking with him a good number of the younger supporters. One that almost went was Robert Bourassa.

In that instance Levesque found himself suddenly without a party. He had cast himself into the political uncertainty of the Quebec nationalist movement of the '60s.

Separatist groups at that time were very small, with the exceptions of Pierre Bourgault's Rassemblement pour l'independance Nationale (R.I.N.) and the more conservative Ralliement Nationale. Bourgault and his followers were by no means convinced of Levesque's sincerity, and he was not exactly pleased with their policies. So, less than two months after his departure from the Liberals, Levesque and dissident Liberals formed the Mouvement Souverainete-association (M.S.A.).

In October, 1968, another party was formed headed by Levesque. More than 800 delegates met to mold the policies of the Parti Quebecois. In eight short years, the PQ was to become the strongest political machine in the country.

The 1970 campaign was to prove to be amongst the most bitter in Quebec's history. Young Robert Bourassa had been elected leader of the Liberals earlier in the year, and he set out to destroy his old associate's party as quickly as possible.

Levesque was just as adamant as he called on French-Canadians to take their place as the citizens of any normal nation would.

"If we don't pay attention, there will be anarchy, and it will cost us dearly," he said.

"If we don't take an option that will enable two generations to look at one another without being ashamed, things can go from disgust to open revolt, and it will cost us dearly."

Campaigning reached a tense and feverish pitch in the weeks before the election, as Bourassa attacked the "dangers" of a PQ victory while Levesque rejected the "paternalistic WASP arrogance" which had led the other parties in the past.

The Liberals won handily, but the Parti Quebecois won a surprising 23.1 per cent of the vote. It was obvious that they were to be a party to be reckoned with in the future.

On election night, Levesque asked a huge crowd at Montreal's Paul Sauve Arena, "Don't you find that this defeat has the smell of victory?"

Levesque's victory was almost totally extinguished by the spark of urban terrorism that was to strike Quebec later in the year.

When Front de Liberation du Quebec terrorists kidnapped British trade commissioner James Cross and Liberal cabinet minister Pierre Laporte, it marked the blackest event to occur in the ten years of change Quebec had just undergone.

The PQ's ability to weather claims that it was soon to disappear became evident in the 1973 election as they polled 30 per cent of the vote and became Her Majesty's Official Opposition in the National Assembly. Levesque was again personally defeated and for a while seriously considered resigning as party leader.

The most significant change in the PQ in the three years until its electoral victory in 1976 was the adoption of the referendum scheme, whereby a PQ victory no longer meant immediate independence negotiating.

When the corrupt and unpopular Liberals called an election for Nov. 15 no one in Quebec imagined that Levesque was to become the next premier of Quebec. Levesque himself said on election night that he was shocked by the victory.

In the near future the promised referendum will be held and it will probably be the major test of Levesque's political career. Without success Levesque would more than likely abandon politics. But with public support for an independent Quebec state Levesque's career will take yet another turn in the progression of events following the 1959 producers' strike.

The thought of Levesque negotiating the future of both the Canadian and Quebec nation is at one time invigorating and dismaying. Will this man, who to a large core of Quebec citizens is the saviour of the Quebecois people, be able to achieve his dual-goal of an independent Quebec state with loose economic ties with the rest of Canada?

Levesque's strongest supporters believe so. He is sometimes quoted so passionately in some parts of the province that even Levesque is surprised by it.

In any case, Levesque has assured himself of a major role in the future development of the Canadian nation. Whether special status is granted Quebec, or a new constitution is created, or Quebec eventually does achieve political independence, it is certain that Rene Levesque's aspirations, as will those of most French-Canadians, will be a decisive factor in the determination of Canada's existence in the next decade.

Tremblay, Blais take different paths

By GREGORY STRONG

Playwright Michel Tremblay and novelist Marie-Claire Blais are two of the most exciting and prominent writers in the literature of contemporary Quebec. Each artist has been particularly successful in developing an original literary style that uses French Canadian dialects.

One reason that Quebec has a coherent artistic expression is that the Quebecois have a special cultural identity. And while there is no special language for English Canada that would separate it from either England or America, Quebec has a unique dialect of the French language and indigenous cultural traditions.

Joual is the special language or patois of the French Canadian. It is a corruption of textbook French that uses the special slang that developed through three hundred years separation from France and it is spoken with a strong regional pronounciation.

The success of Quebec culture began with the gradual liberation of French Canadian society from the twin influences of a Roman Catholic clerical and educational establish-

MICHEL TREMBLAY . . .
Quebecois playwright

ment and English Canadian businessmen. During the sixties the Quebec Liberal party under Jean Lesage fixed greater French Canadian control over the economy and the language. The party had the slogan, "maitre chez nous," or masters in our home and this drive for independence liberalized Quebec society. It also established the political careers of both Rene Levesque and Pierre Eliot Trudeau, who later exploited his federal policy of bilingualism for additional political support in Quebec.

This movement for independence can also be traced back to the popular music of Quebec folksingers like Gilles Vigneault whose simple lyrics to his song Mon Pays seemed to capture the rurality and isolation of Quebec. The Quebecois had a sense of their unique historical and literary heritage.

Mon pays ce n'est pas un pays c'est l'envers
D'un pays qui m'etait ni pays ni patrie
Ma chanson ce n'est pas ma chanson c'est ma vie
C'est pour toi que je veux posseder mes hivers.

Playwright Michel Tremblay was to say of these years, "I think that English Canada did not know we were there. They just didn't care. But we're people who want something."

Both Michel Tremblay and novelist Marie-Claire Blais were born to the same French Canadian working class milieu. But while the dramatist Tremblay is committed to separatism and his plays always contain a level of political allegory, Blais is strongly apolitical and writes from an intensely personal vision.

"I never went on the streets with placards," says Tremblay. "I do it with my pen and I think I do it much better." But Tremblay is a better dramatist than propagandist. He has central importance as a Canadian playwright because his series of ten plays represents the only large and consistent body of dramatic literature written by a single playwright in Canada.

Michael Tremblay was born in 1942. His first experiences with drama were when he was in high school. After he graduated, Tremblay began work on several novels, and he entered a short dramatic piece in a CBC contest where he won first prize.

Tremblay finished the first version of his best known play, Les Belles Soeurs, in the summer of 1965. At this point he believed he should protray the language and the characters of the working class background he knew as a child.

"The first play I did was about women because we haven't really had any women in our Quebec theatres because they would speak bad French!"

Les Belles Soeurs is a play that magnifies joual and its particular musical qualities. The play begins with a woman who has won one million premium stamps and pastes them with the help of her fourteen neighbours.

Les Belles Soeurs is a vulgar and realistic play. The characters scramble through the stories of their bitter comical lives in an almost plotless drama. The strength of the play is that it revealed the particular life of one type of French Canadian. Tremblay was a playwright whose characters, thought, looked and spoke like their real life counterparts.

The play had a long series of rejection slips from Quebec theatres. Tremblay's characters and language had never been seen on stage. Joual was regarded as bastard French because it was spoken only by the uneducated.

In 1968, Les Belles Soeurs was finally staged by Andre Brassard at Le Theatre du Rideau Vert. It was the first production that Brassard had directed and its overnight success established both author and director as local celebrities. The honesty and truth behind Tremblay's portrayal captured the imagination of his audience. It revolutionized theatre.

"There was a hole in Quebec theatre, we had to tell people how they were and what to change."

Since that time Tremblay has written other plays which have been televised by the CBC and performed in other Canadian centres as well as Paris, France. His plays show a world of the comic and the grotesquely sentimental. They include such works as En Pieces Detachees, La Duchesse de Langeais, Forever Yours Marilou, Demain, Montreal M'Attend, Bonjour la Bonjour and Hosanna with its duet of a drag queen and a biker.

The plays have extended Tremblay's vision of Quebec as seen through a vibrant sub-culture and developed his theme of the Quebecois as cultural transvestites.

"I think everybody in my play is a transvestite because they want to be somebody else. They want to be somebody else so much that they dress as women. Everybody in Quebec wants to be somebody. We were nobodies for three hundred years."

Marie-Claire Blais is a novelist who works within an older aesthetic tradition. She avoids politics because she believes that it will interfere with the process of art. And Blais writes in that special European form of the novella which concentrates a single event with a stronger poetic tone.

"I want to show how individuals are governed by absurd instincts that make heroes or animals out of them," says Blais. "People claim that such excesses don't really exist. But I know for sure that the way my characters act is perfectly possible."

Blais' characters are powerless against their fates and what first appears as random choice is actually predestination. Perhaps their actions are as credible as Blais would have us believe. But what she actually demands of her readers is that they accept and forgive her characters. They call out for a divine mercy beyond any political and social justice, and that can only come from a complete understanding of them and their world. Often her characters are children who perform violent or unnatural acts and yet acquire an innocence because they are abused in a society of depraved adults.

Marie-Claire Blais was born in l'Hopital de l'Enfant Jesus de Limoilu in a rural Quebec village in 1939. Her family moved to a three-room tenement in the tough working class district of St. Henri, Montreal, where she was educated in a convent. She had a desperate need to write and by age 12, she completed her first novella. She was dealing with her deprived and impoverished background by mythologizing it and exaggerating its features.

Her father made her withdraw from school when she was sixteen so that she could help support their large family. She was forced to write late in the night while her family slept. At nineteen she left her home and rented a small room where she could write privately.

In her spare time she took courses at Laval University where one of her professors Mlle Jeanne Lapointe showed Blais' finished manuscript of La Zalle Bete to the head of the Social Sciences Division. Father Georges-Henri Levesque was intimidated by the violence and turgid passion in the book. But he recognized its artistic worth. He helped the eighteen year old girl find a publisher in 1959.

La Belle Bete, or Mad Shadows as it has been translated into English, was an immediate success. Blais was given recognition as a child prodigy. She had rejected a depiction of the realistic world in the novella and given her own highly stylized articulation of reality.

The central character of La Belle Bete is a beautiful and narcisstic retarded child, Patrice who is the dumb centre of several different love triangles. All the characters in the novel share his narcissim and vanity with the exception of the abused and ugly child, Isabelle-Marie, who eventually revenges herself on the entire family.

Marie-Claire Blais was given a Canada Council grant. She spent a year of study in France. Then she returned to Montreal where she learned German and English so that she could read Kafka and Faulkner.

She kept writing and her work attracted the notice of American critic Edmund Wilson who was preparing a study of Canadian Literature. He included a review of her work in his dreadful misrepresentation of Canadian literature known as O'Canada. He sponsored her for a Guggenheim Fellowship in the U.S. where she lived for several years.

What is so devastatingly original in her work is her strange combination of the grotesque and the gothic with the innocent and the naive. Her work has never been concerned with a suspension of the reader's disbelief in her stories so much as with exposing her characters as pure literary invention. The mistake that most of her readers and critics have made when they assess her work is that they confuse the social and political environment of Quebec with Blais' poetic dream landscape.

Un Saison de la Vie d'Emmanuel is probably her greatest book. It was her fifth published novella and established her international reputation. In 1965, it won both the prestigious Prix France-Quebec and the influential Prix Medicis of France. It has since been translated into some fifteen different languages.

Still there are moments of great humour in the story and several comic descriptions that offset some of the tragedy. Blais explains, "Artistically it was a great breakthrough for me because it was the first time I could combine humor and tragedy in my work."

And if the qualities of darkness and despair in her work are rejected by some of her readers perhaps that feeling can be further qualified by Quebec filmmaker Jean-Pierre Lefebvre.

"The great mistake Americans make is to despise despair. To despair is to become simultaneously aware of the difficulty and grandeur of life and death. Seen in this light despair becomes a very positive kind of attitude."

Marie-Claire Blais and Michel Tremblay have given us a considerable insight into the culture of the Quebecois. Their work is an honest and penetrating study of both French Canadian society and personal artistic temperaments. They have provided us with enduring art forms and a distinct voice.

Quebec theatre flexes muscles

By CAROL READ

The theatre in Quebec is the most socially-oriented and advanced in Canada. The prestige of artists and intellectuals is higher there than in other provinces, and church-run schools encourage students in the performing arts. With this cultural climate, combined with three hundred years of tradition and a Quebecois fear of assimilation, Quebec theatre has evolved into a force both reflecting and fueling the growing separatism.

The founder of modern Quebec theatre was Father Emile Legault, a Canadian who had studied in Paris. Instead of using French-trained actors, he trained his own in Quebec and formed a semi-professional company, Les Compagnons de Saint-Laurent, in 1937.

L'Equipe was the next company to be formed. In 1948, Les Compagnons and L'Equipe helped start the first professional theatre, the famous Rideau-Vert.

Other new theatres appeared — the Theatre du Nouveau Monde ('51), the now defunct Theatre-Club ('53), the avante-garde Apprentis-Sorciers ('56), the first international theatre, La Poudrier ('58), and L'Egregore ('59).

In 1958, the playwright Gratien Gelinas founded the Comedie Canadienne for the purpose of producing Quebec plays and encouraging talent. The avant-garde Les Saltimbanques began in 1963 and merged with Les Apprentis-Sorciers in 1968 to form the Centre de Theatre d'Aujourd'hui. The Theatre Populaire du Quebec and the Nouvelle Companie Theatrale are funded by the Quebec cultural ministry to perform serious drama.

Quebec playwrighting has developed as fast as the theatres. There were some worthless plays produced in pre-1914 Montreal, but the true foundations of a unique Quebec school of playwrights began with Leopold Houle and Yvette Mercier-Gouin. Gouin's La Reussite was staged in the Theatre Daunous, Paris, in 1938.

It was Gratien Gelinas' Tit-Coq which first brought attention to Quebec cultural identity. The play, staged in 1948, was a great hit in Montreal because it dealt with lower-class Quebecois and English Canadians.

Influenced by Gelinas, Quebec playwrights grew away from the traditional rural themes. Most notable of these are Paul Toupin and Jacques Languirand.

Toupin's plays are universal and do not portray Quebec society. Le Mensonage, set in 15th century Brittany, is a love story which ends happily after many misunderstandings. Brutus, Toupin's most famous play, interprets history in a new way: Caesar, disguised as a slave, visits Brutus' house and hears of the assassination plot.

Languirand is influenced by Beckett and Ionesco and writes theatre of the absurd. Les Insolites is about a policeman interrogating an innocent person who happens to be holding the murder weapon. Les Grands Departs ('57) centres around a family who wait for a moving van which never arrives. Each member considers the prospective move to be an emancipation. Unfortunately, Languirand's plays have seldom been well produced.

Francoise Loranger's first play, Une Maison . . . un jour, and her second play, Encore cinq minutes, portrays the conflicts between different generations of Quebecois families. Her Double Jeu is a psycho-drama in which Quebec society is interpreted.

During the 1960s, separatism became a main theme of many plays. Jacques Ferron, who for years had only a small following, was inspired by FLQ bombings when he wrote La Tete du Roi in the early 1960s. The play has a backdrop of a dynamited Montreal statue.

In 1967, de Gaulle visited M ntreal and two important separatist plays were produced. Gelinas staged Hier les enfants dansaient, and Robert Gurik wrote his scathing Hamlet, Prince du Quebec. Hamlet is Quebec's uncertainty about her future; Claudius is the English Com-

See PF 12: THEATRE

Liberals exploited the October Crisis

By TOM HAWTHORN

No other series of events has ever had an effect on the Canadian nation as did the October Crisis of 1970.

From kidnapping to political assassination to the suspension of civil liberties following the implementation of the War Measures Act, Canada was thrust into the dark reality of political terrorism.

The events of that October have also unquestionably played a major role in the development of the Quebec which exists today. But how much has that development been manipulated by the governmental actions of prime minister Pierre Trudeau and Quebec premier Robert Bourassa?

In retrospect, it appears evident that there were many misunderstandings and over-reactions on the part of government leaders. As governments have a knack of doing in crisis situations, panic seemed to motivate political reaction to the terrorists.

PIERRE LAPORTE . . .
killed in hands of FLQ

But were there other reasons behind the introduction of the War Measures?

It was on the morning of Oct. 5, 1970, when two armed men arrived at the home of the British trade commissioner in Montreal, James Richard (Jasper) Cross, and abducted him from his wealthy Westmount home.

A few hours later, the men identified themselves as members of the FLQ (Front de Liberation du Quebec), an urban terrorist group responsible for armed robberies and bombings in the 1960s.

The kidnapping of Cross did not immediately alarm the provincial Liberal government. In fact, Premier Robert Bourassa decided not to cancel an economic summit meeting in the United States.

Conditions for Cross' release, as delivered through communiques to radio stations, included publicity for their political manifesto, a "voluntary tax" of $500,000 to be paid by the Quebec government, the liberation of FLQ members from Quebec jails as "political prisoners" and an aircraft to take the kidnappers to Algeria or Cuba.

Five days later, a second cell of the FLQ kidnapped Pierre Laporte, Quebec labor and immigration minister, from in front of his unguarded St. Lambert home. Cabinet solidarity began to split as they could not decide what form of action to follow. In the meantime, the Montreal and Quebec Provincial police were having no success in discovering the kidnappers.

On Oct. 16, armed with requests from the Quebec and Montreal governments, the federal government invoked the War Measures Act, a piece of legislation dating to the two world wars. Among other things, it outlawed the FLQ, empowered the police to search without warrant, and provided for arrest and detention without bail.

Hundreds of Quebecois, most of whom were separatist sympathizers, were immediately arrested. Federal troops were brought in to guard property and individuals as a panicky nation tried to unravel the events unfolding in Quebec.

Prime minister Trudeau told Canadians that night the measures were necessary to prevent an "apprehended insurrection" in Quebec, and that some persons (the FLQ) were planning on destroying Canada's democratic institutions and replacing Quebec's democratically elected government.

He said it was necessary to bring in the armed forces and to suspend civil liberties in order to capture those "who advocate or support the violent overthrow of the democratic system."

Pierre Laporte's body was found the next day in the trunk of the kidnap car on the armed forces base at St. Hubert.

Any question of the necessity of the War Measures was immediately extinguished in the minds of most Canadians. Two months after the event, 87 per cent of all Canadians indicated their approval of the implementation of the War Measures.

James Cross was discovered and freed on Dec. 3, 58 days after being kidnapped. His abductors were flown to Cuba in exchange for his release.

On December 27, Paul Rose, Francis Simard and Jacques Rose were arrested in a farmhouse 20 miles southwest of Montreal. The three, along with Bernard Lortie, were later charged and convicted of the kidnapping and murder of Laporte.

The greatest crisis in Canada's history ended just as suddenly as it had started. But many questions remain unanswered to this day.

Justice minister John Turner told the House of Commons on Oct. 16 that the full reason behind the government's decision to implement the War Measures may never be known.

"It is my hope that some day the full details of the intelligence upon which the government acted can be made public, because until that day comes the people of Canada will not be able fully to appraise the course of action which has been taken by the government," he said.

Indeed, almost all federal documents pertaining to the events of that October still retain their "state secret" designation, thus making them unavailable for public scrutiny.

The supposed reason for the government's invocation of the War Measures was revealed in an Oct. 26, 1970 Toronto Star article quoting top-level officials as indicating Trudeau feared that influential Quebecers were planning on replacing Robert Bourassa's government.

"In Ottawa's eyes, such a proposed takeover, no matter how benign or non-violent its perpetrators claimed it would be, could have ended in the destruction of democracy in Quebec," the article said.

"Ottawa is understood to have used this information as part of the process to justify in its own mind that 'a state of insurrection' did exist."

Suddenly the crisis took on a new perspective. According to the article, Trudeau invoked the War Measures Act in order to prevent an influential group of Quebecers from replacing a legitimately-elected government.

Later on, it became known through the media that those involved in the Provisional Government Plot included: Claude Ryan, editor of Le Devoir; Rene Levesque, leader of the Parti Quebecois and the most influential separatist politician in the province; union leaders; academics; members of the PQ, and the president of a Quebec-based co-operative insurance company.

The above named had met at a downtown Holiday Inn in Montreal on Oct. 14 and had drafted a statement urging Bourassa to seek a negotiated solution with the FLQ.

When the War Measures Act was proclaimed, Levesque held a press conference and announced that "Quebec no longer has a government."

"The bit of country over which we had any control has been swept away by the first hard blow. The Bourassa cabinet has stepped down and is no more than a puppet in the hands of the federal leaders."

For the Liberals in Ottawa, this was enough to convince them of their actions.

Ryan was implicated in the provisional government plot mostly because of suggestions he made to premier Bourassa. As the two had made a habit of doing, Bourassa called Ryan to ask his advice on how to deal with the FLQ. Ryan said he believed that it would be best if: i) Bourassa negotiated with the FLQ, and ii) took other representative leaders of Quebec society into his cabinet.

The importance of the provisional government plot is not whether it existed or not. Rather, the importance is that supposedly rational and honest politicians in Ottawa, in the midst of a crisis which was rocking the nation, believed it to be true.

After the crisis, it became painfully obvious that The Toronto Star's story was a grotesque distortion of actual fact. In the midst of the rumor making, Ryan told his editor to stop mentioning the accusations because "we're not in Hitler's Germany, you know, we're in Canada."

Since it is obvious today that a plot to replace Bourassa's government never existed, why were government members (such as justice minister Turner and labor minister Bryce Mackasey) spreading the rumors?

Ignoring the possibility they had been actually convinced of the plot, which would be highly unlikely considering their responsibilities and backgrounds, only two possible reasons exist: (1) to discredit Ryan, a leading Quebec critic of Trudeau, and (2) to provide an after-the-fact justification of the War Measures Act.

The most obvious reason is that the government members believed the FLQ was a sufficiently large force as to pose a serious threat to democratic institutions. Cabinet ministers Jean Marchand and Gerald Pelletier both estimated that FLQ membership numbered as much as 3,000 and that they were well armed with stolen arms and dynamite.

However, it was more than obvious after the crisis that the FLQ was an extremely small organization, if any organization ever existed.

Even kidnap victim James Cross believed the crisis "was a case of six kids trying to make a revolution."

The history of the FLQ also indicates that it never possessed the power Marchand and Pelletier believed it had.

If it can be assumed that they were not stupid enough to actually think the FLQ had the ability to overthrow the Quebec government and bring about the "revolution" which Drapeau feared so much, then it can only mean that federal government wanted to conclusively discredit Quebec separatists.

This can only be assumed to be the motive behind the War Measures when the actual results of the suspension of civil liberties are taken into account.

When the act was proclaimed at 4 o'clock on the morning of Oct. 16, more than half of the eventual 400 arrests took place within 12 hours. The quick action by the Montreal police would seem to indicate that arrest lists had already been prepared and that a great deal of advance preparation had been done.

JAMES CROSS . . .
fortunate to escape

While the act outlawed the FLQ and its supporters, those who were arrested were more often than not separatist sympathizers. Despite newspaper headlines referring to the detainees as "FLQ sympathizers" and "suspected terrorists," more than 90 per cent of those arrested were released without any charges being laid.

Those who were released consisted of a mixture of journalists, academics, students, labor leaders, professionals and white-collar workers. The one common denominator was that they were all members of Quebec's democratic left; they were separatists and they were socialists.

The thought of NDP members, also democratic socialists, being arrested in other parts of Canada would probably alarm most Canadian citizens, but there was a prevailing belief among the Canadian population and the Montreal, Quebec and Canadian governments in 1970 that separatists were by definition terrorists.

Many times in his political career Trudeau made this equation. To him, being a separatist was to be a terrorist. And he has obviously made the elimination of separatism his major political goal.

Despite the fact that the PQ is a democratically legitimate political party, a large number of federal politicians believed, and still believe to this day, that the PQ was responsible for the political terrorism which plagued Quebec in the 1960s.

Once the equation is made between the FLQ and the PQ, it was very simple for the federal government to justify the incarceration of separatist citizens. In fact, many political cartoons of the time did not blame the FLQ for Laporte's assassination, but depict the tragic event as the responsibility of separatism as a whole.

If the discrediting and elimination of the separatist movement was the objective of the federal government's implementation of the War Measures, then it succeeded in the short run. PQ party membership decreased dramatically in the months following the crisis and it did indeed appear as if separatism was finished as an effective political force in Quebec.

The total effects of the crisis may never be known. A number of PQ supporters now admit their belief in separatism was strengthened when the federal Liberals suspended civil liberties. Other Quebecers adopted federalism permanently.

The events of that October were admittedly the most tragic in Canada's 110-year history, but until government documents are revealed most Canadians will just never know what actually occurred in that dramatic month.

Can Quebec realize its political and cul

By HEATHER CONN
and TOM HAWTHORN

Gilles Tremblay is 41, and a professor of history at l'Universite de Montreal. Tremblay is a separatist.

Seven years ago he could have been arrested without warrant or bail. In 1963, he could have been dismissed from his job for his beliefs in Quebec nationalism.

Today, however, the tables have turned. Tremblay is now a ministerial assistant for the Parti Quebecois. He is no longer a separatist, having adopted the more positive sounding *independiste*. Tremblay will not be fired from this job because his future is the future of a great many Quebecois.

In the 18 years since Quebec nationalism revived itself as a political force in Quebec it has been transformed from a fringe element to a legitimate and powerful political machine. And after the 1976 elections, a party dedicated to the goals of Quebec independence formed the official government for the first time in Quebec's history.

Quebec nationalism has existed in Quebec perhaps from the very first colonization. As a colony of France, Quebec very rapidly developed its own sense of identity. Jesuit journals reflected and noted this individuality, and one earnest missionary complained to France about "the independent spirit" of the Quebecois people.

Nationalism once again reared its head in 1837, when disgruntled Patriotes rebelled from British rule in a time of economic hardship. The rebellion was quickly crushed though, and rebel leaders including Louis Papineau escaped to the United States.

From that time on, Quebec nationalism would remain as a possible objective in the province. At the turn of the century, Honore Mercier, and later Henri Bourassa, reasserted the Quebec nationalist resistance to British imperialism.

Separatism enjoyed a widespread revival in the depression era of the Thirties, but petered out after the economy improved with the advent of the Second World War.

With the coming of the conscription crisis, the Bloc Populaire party formed nationalist opposition to compulsory military service. In the 1944 Quebec elections, the Bloc Populaire won 15 per cent of the vote and four seats.

The independence movement received another push of support in the late 1950s, stimulated by an increase in unemployment. In 1957, the separatist l'alliance Laurentienne was formed. While political observers generally ignored the Alliance, it was to be the first in a generation of separatist parties.

The most important of these was Le Rassemblement pour independance nationale. Formed in 1960, it appeared on the Quebec scene at a time of dramatic political upheaval, following the sudden death of Union Nationale premier Maurice Duplessis.

It was also in the early Sixties when the political terrorist groups such as the Front de Liberation du Quebec (F.L.Q.), l'Armee de Liberation du Quebec, Armee Revolutionnaire du Quebec, and the Front Republicain pour l'Independance were formed.

These fringe groups were generally involved in the many bombings and bank robberies which plagued Quebec in the 1960s. The F.L.Q. was to be ultimately responsible for the October Crisis of 1970, while the other groups eventually joined R.I.N. or the Parti Quebecois.

In the 1966 Quebec election, R.I.N. and the more conservative Ralliement Nationale received a total of 8.8 per cent of the vote. It was evident that the separatists were not going to win an election in the near future without at least stirring up dissent in Quebec. Under the leadership of Pierre Bourgault, they were to do just that.

After Rene Levesque left the Liberals in 1967 over the issue of sovereignty-association, he presided at the birth of the Mouvement Souverainete-association. The M.S.A. soon gained a strong base of support. Clause Ryan, then of Le Devoir and now a candidate for the Quebec Liberal leadership, believed the M.S.A. was rooted "deeply in the conscience and the political tradition of French Canada."

The M.S.A. had 13,000 supporters when it assimilated the 500 to 4,000 members of the Ralliement Nationale. For the first time in the 1960s, the separatist movement began to actually resemble a political movement as opposed to the numerous small fringe groups which had previously existed.

In 1968, 800 delegates, most of whom were from the moderate wing of the M.S.A., met to form the new separatist Parti Quebecois. While the party was modeled after the democratic socialist NDP, only about 12 per cent of the PQ's members were from the working class.

"On the day after its birth, the Parti Quebecois seems clearly to be the political movement of a single class in our society, the white collar workers, the intellectuals and the professions," wrote Claude Beauchamp of La Presse.

It was to be a winning formula. The Parti and leader Rene Levesque took the Quebec nationalist movement out of the land of the political fringes into the respectability of party democracy.

In its first electoral test, the PQ polled 23 per cent of the vote, increased this total to 30 per cent in 1973, and ultimately was victorious in 1976 with 44 per cent of the vote.

As for the October Crisis, it acted as the final stand for political terrorism in Quebec. The riots and demonstrations of 1969 and 1970 quickly dissipated following the murder of Pierre Laporte and the invocation of the War Measurees Act by the federal government.

But now that Quebec nationalism is in vogue, the first dissent against the PQ are being heard from groups which have traditionally supported the nationalist movement.

And as the independence political debate is waged between Trudeau and Levesque the lines are being drawn in Quebec and Canada over the question of Quebec's independence.

People in Vancouver are the farthest removed from the Confederation debate, but a small sample of three UBC students shows surprising support for the goals and aspirations of French-Canadians.

Most French Canadians in Quebec strongly desire a French identity and an end to English dominance, but do not favor separatism, says French Canadian Serge Bedard, sciences 1.

The Parti Quebecois came to power last year because French Canadians desire change, not separation from Canada, according to Bedard.

"I don't believe the people who voted for the Parti Quebecois were voting for separatism. They were voting for a change in government from the corrupt Bourrassa leadership."

French Canadians voted for Parti Quebecois in the last provincial election to strike out against English oppression, he said.

"All French Canadians feel English oppression. Most French workers, les ouvriers, from Montreal live directly in oppression and they're the most prone to all this (English domination). There is a deep resentment towards the 80 per cent English domination."

Bedard explains a familiar case of English domination in Quebec's past.

"In my home town five years ago, the three pulp and paper mills were English owned. English-speaking workers from other provinces were transferred into Quebec to work. A definite language barrier existed between the English bosses and 70 per cent of the workers, who were French. Often the bosses need a translator just to talk with the workers."

Bedard says his uncle, who worked 15 years for one company and his grandfather, who was employed for 30 years, could not advance their positions simply because they were French. Often bilingual or trilingual French-Canadians who were qualified and totally familiar with a mill were not hired, he adds. Instead, English-speaking workers who were completely unfamiliar with the mill were brought in from outside the province.

In the northern town of Alma, Quebec, rigid discrimination existed seven years ago, says Bedard. There were distinct separations in town between the French and English and the two never crossed paths, he adds.

"If a foreman in a mill (in Alma job situations) decided to hire French-speaking workers who were qualified, he got a call from higher up to replace his choice with English workers. English-speaking workers were hired and then given crash courses in French."

This was the situation in Quebec in the past, but everything's changing now, says Bedard. He adds there is more movement for French Canadian dominance in Quebec's own economy. French Canadians should have more independence in their own province, he says.

"French-Canadians have the right to be struggling for a French identity. They don't think they have one."

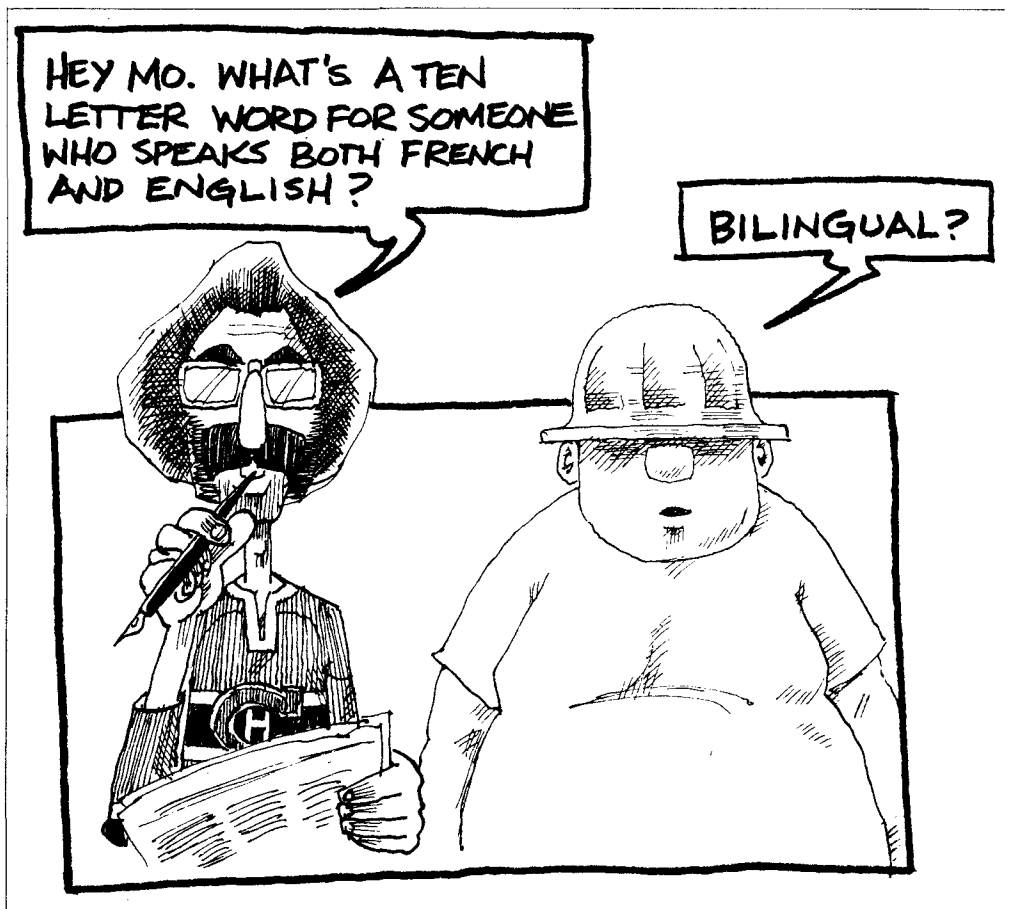
Bedard says language bill 101 is a good idea. The bill stipulates that all immigrants and all English-speaking students outside the province must go to French school. This opens up culture within Quebec and gives the French Canadians more strength, he says.

"There's a good possiblity an immigrant coming to Quebec to a French school will marry a French girl and the second generation will be French."

This will decrease the amount of English-speaking people in Quebec, adds Bedard.

He says the key to French-Canadian identity is its culture.

Toronto-born Marili Moore, biology 3, says she feels French culture plays an



ural aspirations within Confederation?

ıportant role in Canada. She says she has ways been exposed to French films, plays ıd music. As a Torontonian, Moore adds at she did not feel alienated from Quebec an English speaking Canadian.

But many English speaking Canadians ·e ignorant in their attitudes towards the rench, she insists.

"A prevalent, holier-than-thou attitude ɪists among many English speaking anadian. They think of the French in terms us and them.

"I feel English speaking people who don't en try to understand the French and hate ɜm because they're different are in a sad ıte. English Canadians who feel they don't ve to pay attention to the French or learn

French Canadians are justified in seeking a separate identity.

"In the past they've been treated as second class citizens by the English and given lower class jobs, as in Montreal, with English in charge."

At one point, people were despised if they were French and the French were ashamed of their language, says Zwolak. She adds that the Quebecois are trying to eliminate a negative image of themselves.

"They want to stand up for who they are."

But in asserting Quebec's independence, Zwolak says she thinks Levesque has gone a little too far with his language bills. The Quebec premier has reversed the full gamut in his attempt to make French-Canadians dominant, she says.

They think the French are trying to get privileges, says Zwolak.

But Quebec is doing a favour to the rest of Canada, says Bedard.

"Quebec is fighting for more provincial power and other provinces could follow suit.

"English speaking Canadians are starting to have a greater understanding of Quebec since the French government came into power. Since Quebec's possible separation is a major issue, English Canadians are more aware of the French. Quebec has gained importance."

Bedard says he does not think separation is the answer to Quebec's future.

"I think Quebec should stay in Canada since it contributes to the growth of the country as a whole. Separation would be an economic and cultural disaster for Quebec."

heir language are losing out on a big part of heir life as Canadians."

Moore says she agrees with the French 'anadians' sentiment towards English ppression.

"The Quebecois are justified in being isgusted with centuries of English omination. It's very archaic to think the ıture of a country is decided by one battle n the Plains of Abraham (in which general Volfe led the English to defeat the French 'orce under Montcalm.)"

A woman whose mother is French-anadian, Michelle Zwolak, rehab 2, says

Zwolak adds that she does not think separation would be a good move.

"We need them and they need us. I see no reason why we can't learn to live together. Each of our cultures complements the other."

As a worker in Victoria's French-Canadian drop-in centre, Zwolak says French Canadians out west are really ignorant about English Canada.

But English-speaking people in B.C. are ignorant of French Canadians and their history. Many have never had French Canadian friends and feel threatened by the French, she says.

Polls support Quebec

By KIT TAM

A small survey conducted in the past couple of months shows that ninety-four percent of those Vancouverites interviewed are in favour of an economic union with a post-separation Quebec. It's only common ense to aid eech other rather than to further destroy each other, said the majority of those interviewed.

The purpose of the interviews was to investigate how Vancouverites viewed the Quebec situation. As one-half of those interviewed are within my acquaintance, I cannot say the survey represents Vancouver.

However, the views expressed here are similar to the general views expressed at the Pepin-Robarts Task Force hearings in Vancouver last month. The results of my survey are as follows:

1. Since the November 15, 1976 election of the Parti Quebecois (P.Q.) do you think the separation issue has been overplayed?
Yes 64.7%
No 35.3%

2. Do you believe that national unity is our key concern right now, or is it rather a question of economics? Of employment and inflation?
National Unity is most important 5.9%
Economics is most important 64.7%
They're inseparable 29.4%

3. Do you believe that Trudeau is using the separation issue to camouflage his problems with the economy and draw public attention and sympathy to his "federalist cause"?
Yes 47.1%
No 29.4%
Possibly 23.5%

4. Are there any circumstances under which you would be in favour of a Quebec separation?
Yes 52.8%
No 29.4%
Undecided 11.8%
Don't care 5.9%

5. Do you believe Canada should take up arms to prevent Quebec from separating?
Yes 5.9%
No 88.2%
Undecided 5.9%

6. Should Quebec separate and attempt to take over Labrador, would you be in favour of Canada taking up arms to defend Labrador?
Yes 23.5%
No 23.5%
Undecided 5.9%
Try negotiation 23.5%
If Labrador requests it 11.8%
Uncategorized 11.8%

7. Should Quebec separate, do you believe Quebec should be limited to the land that it covered at Confederation?
Yes 5.9%
No 88.2%
Negotiate land borders 5.9%

8. Are you in favour of maintianing the status quo to keep Quebec within Canada?
Yes 17.6%
No 70.6%
Undecided 11.8%

9. Are you in favour of an economic union with a post-separation Quebec?
Yes 94.1%
No 5.9%

10. Do you think such a union would be viable?
Yes 70.6%
No 5.9%
Undecided 23.5%

11. Do you believe the rest of Canada could survive without Quebec and vice versa?
Rest of Canada can survive without Quebec:
Yes 88.2%
No 11.8%
Quebec can survive without rest of Canada:
Yes 64.7%
No 35.3%

12. Do you believe the Western provinces are capable of surviving as one entity outside of the Canadian federation?
Yes 82.4%
No 17.6%

13. How do you think the Canadian federation could be saved? Any alternatives? There were many different answers to this question. Among the more popular are:

1. Get rid of Trudeau and Levesque and,

2. Greater decentralization and a rewritten constitution. The majority favoured the latter solution.

14. Do you think the P.Q. election was beneficial in that it made Canadians all over stop and really face the problem for the first time instead of continuing to ignore it?
Yes 82.4%
No 11.8%
Uncategorized 5.9%

15. During his election campaign, Levesque had said, "If we are elected, we will be elected to administer the province as it now exists." Do you feel he has lived up to this remark?
Yes 58.8%
No 23.5%
Undecided 17.6%

16. What are your feelings towards Bill 101? Is it democratic? A breach of the constitution? An inevitability?
Democratic 9.1%
Undemocratic 31.8%
Breach of Constitution 13.6%
Inevitable 27.3%
Understandable 13.6%
No reaction 4.5%
Most people gave more than one answer for this question.

17. How do you feel about Levesque's actions in granting language rights to the Inuits, but not to the English minority in Quebec?

The answers to this question were varied. One person simply said, "He just wants to be an asshole." However, the majority either felt that Levesque was being undemocratic, that he was using double standards, or that he had no choice since he could not cry about the callous treatment of his minority language and at the same time, be callous in his treatment of the Inuits' minority language in Quebec.

18. Do you feel that all those Canadian unity conferences are doing any good for the country?
Yes 47.1%
No 52.9%

19. What are your impressions of Rene Levesque? The response to this question indicated that most of the people thought Levesque was relatively honest, quite ambitious, and very determined.

20. Do you think he will succeed in removing Quebec from the Canadian federation?
Yes 23.5%
No 47.1%
Undecided 29.4%

These are only the statistics. The result in its entirety reveal a great deal more.

In conclusion, those who are more well-read on the Quebec situation are less certain about many of their own feelings, and hence, were more cautious and moderate in their replies. On the other hand, those who were less well-read on the issue responded more quickly and with more certainty. They also presented more radical views.

Also, despite a lack of knowledge of the issues by some, a large majority of Vancouverites showed more empathy for the Quebecois and more concern for the future of the Canadian federation than the Eastern perception of "parochial" B.C. would indicate.

Separation leads to US assimilation

By MIKE BOCKING

The two national hockey teams line up on the Montreal Forum's ice to hear Roger Doucet belt out the two national anthems — O Canada and Gens du Pays — before the first period of the 1982 Stanley Cup.

While the Canadian players face their Quebec counterparts on the ice, the prime minister of Canada and the president of the Republic of Quebec trade politically-couched hockey quips in the VIP box.

Is this scenario possible? Premier Rene Levesque has said that in the near future a democratically-determined nation will appear on the world map.

But to what extent is Quebec capable of becoming a truly sovereign state?

Economist Kimon Valaskakis of the Gamma Research Group, a co-operative venture between the Universite de Montreal and McGill University, says complete sovereignty means economic, technological, military and cultural independence.

Political independence naturally follows from these.

Valaskakis says in an article for Le Devoir, Dec. 10, 1977 that an important criteria for determining economic independence is the extent to which an economy is open to others.

Valaskakis says economies can be given co-efficients to describe the extent to which a particular economy is open to others. The higher the co-efficient, the less independence political leaders have in controlling their economy.

Quebec has a co-efficient of 40 per cent Valaskakis says, one of the highest in the world.

And the diversity of one's trading partners also has an important effect on independence.

Quebec has all of its eggs in a few baskets. Thirty-five per cent of its exports are to Ontario, 28 per cent to the United States and 13 per cent to the western provinces.

And Quebec's capital is largely owned by non-Quebecois.

Valaskakis estimates 60 per cent of Quebec's capital is in American hands.

And Quebec's exports are not well diversified. Eighty per cent of its exports are semi-finished products and within this group there is little diversification. This leaves the Quebec economy at the mercy of the slightest changes in the world economy.

Quebec is hardly in a position to freely manage its own economy.

But Canada's situation is not much better. The degree to which the Canadian economy is dependent on foreign economic decision-makers has been told many times and need not be repeated here.

But the fact that both Quebec and Canada are dependent to a large extent on outside pressures illustrates the fallacious nature of the current debate on separatism or national unity — depending on your ideology.

The issue has been discussed in a vacuum and is most often described as a Canada-Quebec, or worse, an Ontario-Quebec problem.

This analysis neglects the North American triangle which includes the American society as well as those of Canada and Quebec.

Canadians have been obsessed with the Quebec-Canada leg of this triangle to the exclusion of studying the Quebec-American and Canada-American legs.

The separatism issue is even more fallacious because Levesque's proposal is really only a warmed-over version of federalism. Levesque realizes economic separation from Canada is suicidal for Quebec and is asking for economic association after separation, which will require the delegation of some economic power to a central authority in Ottawa, not to mention an impressive display of political footwork.

At the same time, other Canadians are frantically searching for a third option which will have the same net effect as the Pequiste proposal but would avoid the traumatizing effect of separatism.

The difference between moderate Pequistes and those English Canadians searching for a third option, between the status quo and separation is packaging.

Both want a more decentralized federation but the symbols, such as separation first, are getting in the way.

But symbols are important and this one could lead to the breakup of the Canadian common market.

A popular theory to explain the eventual demise of Canada is the domino theory.

When Quebec leaves the Confederation, it has been argued the peripheral provinces in the Maritimes and the West will succumb to the lures from the South.

The Maritimes, cut off from the rest of English Canada, will have little choice but to join the U.S. to avoid complete economic stagnation.

Alberta will be a rich prospect for the U.S. with its oil fields and British Columbia could provide the U.S. with an attractive land bridge to Alaska.

Ontario, the province for which Confederation is all about, will also finally knuckle under to the irresistible pulls of Washington.

Some observers have said Canada is similar to a cocktail party where everyone is bored to death but everyone is too polite to be the first to leave.

But once the first guest departs from the party it will become an exodus.

The only possible solution is to make Canada an exciting party.

That is not to say Canada should adopt a strident nationalism like that of France. Even if it is possible it is probably not desirable.

According to Valaskakis, what is possible, because of a series of historical accidents, is a truly pluralistic society which encourages multi-dimensionality and makes being different a virtue.

Valaskakis says that in order to accomplish this nation it will be necessary that Canada remain distinct from the U.S. and that Canadians attempt to introduce a geo-political counterweight to balance the giant to the South.

For historical, cultural and political reasons this counterweight should be Europe.

Canada should develop links, both economic and political with the European Economic Community to counter the massive influence of the southern colossus, says Valaskakis.

The Quebec problem is the Canadian problem. The election on Nov. 15, 1976 has accelerated the question of Canada's survival.

Given the North American triangle, it is doubtful Canada would survive long without Quebec.

Canada is worth saving because a truly multicultural society is one worth searching for and making a reality.

The Pequiste proposal for separation is a pipe dream given the political and economic dynamics of North America.

Levesque often lauds the quality of small countries.

Small nations can exist on continents such as Europe and Africa where there are many small countries. It is unrealistic to create a small state next to the U.S.

If there is a parting of ways between Quebec and the rest of Canada it will be little more than a symbolic pretence in the long term.

Quebec cannot have real sovereignty due to its economic situation. Any sovereignty which it acquires will be largely symbolic and not real.

Valaskakis says that Quebec sovereignty, to the extent that it is real, is not possible and to the extent that it is possible, is not real.

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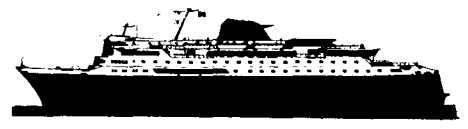

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Quebec's small towns face extinction

By ERIC PROMISLOW

The Bas-du-Fleuve is not the most striking part of Quebec.

Most tourists try to cross it as quickly as they can, regarding it as a long, unnecessary journey between Quebec City and the Gaspe and Maritimes. Narrow potato fields, and endless display of churches and a lack of people who speak English don't have much to offer for visitors trying to circle the Gaspe in a weekend.

But if there is one area that captures the essence of rural Quebec, this is it. The Bas-du-Fleuve, known as the Saint Lawrence Lowlands to those who have never been there, stretches for some 200 kilometres between Quebec City and Riviere-du-Loup, where the Trans-Canada hangs a right to more colorful scenery of the Maritimes.

From the highway, it is one dull area. Billboards advertise places to stay in Riviere-du-Loup, the Gaspe, and Maine, but not in the vicinity. The only town that receives a substantial number of visitors is St.-Jean-Port-Joli, famous for its wood carvings.

However, the traveler who pulls off the highway to spend a day leisurely, either in a village by the Saint Lawrence or in the valley, is bound to discover an incredible group of people.

One thing characterizes these people: their pride. Some live in the same small parish where their ancestors set up a homestead 300 years ago. Others have moved from Montreal, Quebec, and even France to live in a slow-paced Riviere-du-Loup. They love the area, and they're always showing it.

The area isn't particularly charming. The lakes are further east, near Maine. The river neatly separates the Laurentians in the north from the rolling hills of the southern lowlands. The eastern townships are more charming, the cities are more exciting, and the north is more adventurous.

What the Bas-du-Fleuve does have is la joie de vivre that the Quebec travel posters are always showing. Its people aren't rich. Most are farmers, small merchants, factory workers (where there are factories), or unemployed. But they are among the friendliest in Canada, being more than happy to share what they have to welcome visitors.

The youngest villages are over 100 years old, and every anniversary is joyously celebrated. The parades aren't impressive in a commercial sense, but there's a feeling of sincerity in the simplicity of a parade that relies on high school bands and church groups to supply the entertainment.

Sometimes a town doesn't even need to have a milestone anniversary to declare a celebration. Last summer, tiny Ste. Helene, a town of 1300 people 20 miles west of Riviere-du-Loup, found itself flanked by two bigger towns that were 125 and 150 years old. Not to be overlooked, the village dutifully noted its 138th birthday with an outdoor dance and barbecue. That's what the people of the area are like.

While birthdays grab their attention, their sense of family history doesn't let them overlook a death. However, it appears that the Quebecois regard death with more levity than the morose English, even if their small-town relationships are more intimate. It's almost considered bad taste to not get drunk or at least pleasantly inebriated, at a wake.

The people's present lack of a high reverence for the dead shows how even the rural townspeople have freed themselves from the church's educational stronghold. The clergy lost control of the schools in the late 1950s. Since then, university students have been studying law, medicine, and business administration instead of theology and the classics. This new, intellectual elite forms much of the background of the Parti Quebecois.

Nevertheless, the church still makes itself felt. It has been said that in Quebec, the smaller the town the larger the church. A nice saying, but it isn't true — they're all huge. Ste. Helene's is right in the centre of town, as almost all village churches are. Riviere-du-Loup is built on a large hill that rises from the river. A large, bright neon cross at the top of the slope reminds its 14,000 people of their heritage in 20th century fashion.

But Quebecois don't flock to church in droves every Sunday morning, as the myth has it. Nor are the women simply baby-machines anymore. In fact, Quebec now has the lowest fertility rate of the 10 provinces. Cohabiting couples are accepted as easily in rural Quebec as in more sophisticated cities. While the Quebecois still nail crosses on their bedroom walls, their morals seem to have kept up with those in the rest of North America. Still, Ste. Helene's two schools show that tradition dies hard. The town has two schools, and the parochial one is at least 10 times the size of the two-classroom public schoolhouse.

STE. HELENE CHURCH-YARD . . . central location indicates place of religion.

The food the people of Quebec eat is an important part of their way of life. Old family recipes are faithfully passed down the generations. A visitor to the Bas-du-Fleuve will invariably have a chance to try such specialties as split pea soup (of course), pig's feet stew, tortiere (a kind of meat pie), lots of potatoes, and, for dessert, what else but la tarte au sucre. It's a delightful pie, made of a thin, flaky crust over a filling made of white and brown sugar, honey, molasses, raisins, pecans, and other such yummy things.

The pie is a huge favorite with the Quebecois and their insatiable craving for sweets. The result of their diet is a population with one of the highest rates of false teeth in the world.

Most Quebecois can't afford constant dental care. Over half of the population has false teeth, which works out to a better investment in the long run. Because their teeth are in such poor condition, fresh fruit isn't eaten very often and fresh vegetables are boiled until they're good and limp. The diet in rural Quebec ranks as one of the worst in North America.

Another reason for the poor diet is that the state of the province's agriculture has deteriorated to the point where all it can grow are potatoes and barley.

Over the years, the agricultural land has been divided into narrow strips, some less than 50 meters wide. When the French first settled in Canada, they distributed the land so everyone had a piece of waterfront on the Saint Lawrence, as there weren't any roads. Farmers divided their rectangular lots into thinner strips for each of their sons, and this pattern continued.

Today, the number of farmers has decreased, but the old fences separating each strip of land still stand. Sheep and cows are raised between two lengths of potato fields. It's a very uneconomical system, but after centuries of such use, the land can't be improved.

One question keeps on coming up: are the people of the Bas-du-Fleuve in an irresistable decline, or can the villages continue to survive? The answer may lie in the differences between dying Ste. Helene and its prospering neighbor, St. Pascal.

Ste. Helene can't help giving the impression that it's on its last legs. Except for a couple of appliance stores owned by the town's only entrepreuner, Camille Levesque, and two small grocery stores, it has no businesses. The Catholic school, the bank and the post office are the only modern buildings in town. Many of the unemployed townspeople are considering moving to Quebec City for a job and a richer life.

It's the strong community spirit that keeps the villagers from leaving. Status in Ste. Helene, if it does exist, could be measured by how close one lives to the centre of the town, where the valley highway meets the freeway access road. All the townspeople know each other, and most of what qualifies as news is passed by word of mouth. Live on a farm, half a mile from the church, and one can't help feeling occasionally secluded.

St. Pascal is a mere eight kilometers to the west, but it is incredibly different. Its population is only 4,000, but it is a metropolis compared to Ste. Helene.

It has several restaurants, a Simpson Sear's mail-order centre, many small shops, a theatre, and many other amenities usually found only in a town of twice the size.

Ste. Helene is a farming community. St. Pascal once was, but business has rejuvenated it to the point where it now boasts one of the highest per capita productivity rates in the entire Bas-du-Fleuve.

This came about in the early 1950s when the sons of the town's wealthy farmers and artisans formed the Jeunesse Rurale Catholique. The JRC became a consortium of businessmen who gave each other confidence and a sense of superiority over the church. They gradually usurped the church as the centre of power in St. Pascal.

See PF 12: ENTREPRENEURS

Acadians on verge of extinction

By ERIC PROMISLOW

Even a quick, three-day whirlwind tour of the Maritimes is enough time to see that something is wrong there.

What's happening is that the Acadian people are on the verge of becoming fully assimilated into a normal English way of life. Some people in Quebec point to the Acadians and say that the francophones of Quebec will soon be in the same situation if they don't do something to wipe out the English influence.

Most of the Acadians are found in the southwest tip of Nova Scotia and the North and East coasts of New Brunswick. For the last 200 years, they have been considered a persecuted people.

Originally from France, the Acadians came to North America at the same time as the voyageurs, but settled further east, particularly in the fertile Annapolis Valley. Although they spoke French, they felt independent, allied neither to the French settlers along the St. Lawrence nor with the British colonists in New England.

Britain was given possession of much of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1755. The Acadians who lived there refused to take an oath of allegience to the king of England. The English gave them a final deadline. Most of the farmers ignored it, and the British expelled them to Louisiana.

Most of them stayed there, and have been, for the most part, assimilated into the American culture. Many returned to New England and the Maritimes, only to find that the English had taken over their fertile farmland, leaving them with the less desirable land in northern New Brunswick and the Bay Sainte Marie area of Nova Scotia.

Spending three days in the region wasn't enough to get a complete idea of the Acadians' plight, but we did get a fair idea. In Quebec the francophones expect people to try to speak in French first. Acadians will accommodate any anglophone, regardless of how much French the visitor may know.

We asked two guys in Edmonston, N.B., how to get to the Maine border. We spoke in French; they tried to answer in some twisted form of English, and we asked them to speak French so we could understand them.

A girl who works in a grocery store in Chatham, N.B., where the languages are spoken in almost a 50-50 proportion, said that she couldn't speak French, but the Acadians in town didn't generally shop at her store.

A brother and sister, also from Chatham, when asked if there was an apartheid of sorts there, replied that most of the younger Acadians speak very little French and associate with the English kids.

There are many more forms of what seems to be a voluntary assimilation among the Acadians.

Andre Fortas, a specialist in social and economic development at the University of Moncton, where most instruction is in French, reports that many parents in northern New Brunswick send their children to English schools. Acadian students in Moncton often go to the English University of New Brunswick in Fredericton.

Sir Francis Xavier university in Antigonish, N.S., once had many Acadian students. Today it is completely Anglicized.

There are 8,000 Acadians in Saint John, N.B., yet they practically had to fight to convince the Hatfield government to set up a French school there. In fact, many people in the Maritimes, both English and Acadian, consider it an act of conspiracy to speak French in the presence of an anglophone. So went the argument against a French school in predominantly English Saint John.

New Brunswick is a bilingual province in theory, but the use of two languages is limited to the highway signs near the Quebec border. One politician, Leonard Jones, has represented the Moncton area, most recently as an MP, although he is known for his bias against francophones.

When he was mayor of Moncton in 1968 a large group of francophones at the university demonstrated for the right to have their language recognized. Many of the students were arrested. At their trial Jones denied them the right to defend themselves in French.

As well as having lost their language, the Acadians have been denied work in their traditional occupations such as farming, fishing and working in the woods.

National Sea Products and Consolidated Bathurst have monopolies in the latter two areas, and the McCain frozen foods company, with considerable support from the Hatfield government, controls most of the agriculture.

The wealthier English farmers can afford to make a larger, more economical deal with McCain than the Acadians can. Many barns in northern New Brunswick look as if they're on the verge of collapsing.

For a Quebecois, the state of Acadia is a warning of what can happen in Quebec if the English manage to take over.

Quebec music asserts independence

By ERIC PROMISLOW

If there is only one reason for a Vancouverite to learn French, it's to enjoy Quebec's music more.

Ascending from the Rene Simard level, some fantastic sounds have been emerging from la belle province during the past few years.

The current music scene in the rest of North America has been criticized for being bland, stagnant, dull and homogenous. The music from Quebec doesn't fit any mould. In fact, the driving force behind most groups seem to be a search for individuality rather than the "Perfect Sound."

Harmonium, as they sing in their title piece "have fun making harmony." They've had fun making it around the world, and their three albums, Harmonium, Les Cinq Saisons, and l'Heptade, can stimulate the most jaded listener.

Gilles Vigneault has been enchanting young and old for longer than most people remember. The iconoclastic Robert Charlebois has made a huge impact in the United States and English Canada, as well as being firmly ensconced in the arts in Quebec. Andre Gagnon is a world-renowned pianist, considered to be one of the best living popular artists.

There are many others, not well known out here, but superstars at home.

The two most popular groups, Seguin and Beau Dommage, are diametrically opposed in their styles.

Seguin takes the folk music of the fur traders and gives it an irresistible modern appeal. Listening to them is like wandering into a renaissance fayre.

Beau Dommage, on the other hand, is a Montreal band, as is evident in their music. As with most Quebecois artists, their music is hard to classify. It ranges from the dynamic Le Picbois (the woodpecker) to the lyrical La Complainte d'un Phoque en Alaska (un phoque is a seal, a convenient word for any visitor to Quebec to learn).

Lougaroup is one of the more popular folk groups. Most of their material consists of the old, popular folk songs of the province. What's interesting is that many of these songs have managed to creep into the English folk culture, yet no one is aware of their French origin.

Other major singers include Felix Leclerc, Diane Dufresne and Pauline Julien.

Leclerc can be considered Vigneault's closest contemporary, although he certainly is no rival.

Dufresne is the spunky, ebullient woman who hasn't completely grown up. She not only sings, but writes most of her material, dances, acts, and loves dressing up as a clown. Her vivacious personality pervades in her songs.

Julien channels all her energy into her singing. Her songs are generally more serious and political than Dufresne's, although she has her light moments. Nevertheless, both are fantastic singers by anyone's standards.

Michel Pagliaro has been singing in both languages for years. Most of his repertoire is FM-oriented: fancy instrumentals with little political content.

The separatist climate in Quebec has given much of the province's music the same kind of consciousness that American music enjoyed in the late 1960s. Most of the separatists are between 15 and 35, the age bracket that buys most records.

Additionally, Quebecois youth are considered by some to be more than five years behind popular American trends. Students at l'Universite du Quebec in Montreal recently passed through the acid stage — Tom Wolfe's The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test was the book to read. They're now "into" demonstrating, and the issue of independence has given them the perfect cause to rally under, much as the Vietnam war did 10 years ago for Americans.

However, Quebec's culture is very susceptible to American influence, and the province has more than its share of discos.

Montreal's discos are one of the few places where English and French freely mix. They're scattered in the old part of Quebec City, but both visitors and locals seem to prefer the livelier brasseries (pubs). Trois-Rivieres boasts North America's largest disco. Even the tiny, 300-year-old village of Kamouraska has succumbed, with not one, but two discos.

Quebec's discos aren't too distinguishable from any others, but going to a brasserie is an experience that has no English parallel. The conversation is always lively. The local Molson beer, Brador, puts any other brand to shame. And, if one can hear the music, one probably can't recognize it. Jazz and 1960s acid rock are particular favorites in an area where Billboard's Top 40 means nothing.

Most Quebecois music is aimed at the middle-class youth in the Hull-Quebec City corridor. It isn't unusual to find a 14-year-old out in the Gaspe singing along to Hotel California without being able to understand the words.

The music scene focuses on Quebec City. If it is hard to find good amateur music here in Vancouver, it's nearly impossible to avoid some young, eager guitarist in Quebec City. No self-respecting brasserie would open its doors without some kind of live entertainment. Hopeful musicians sometimes outnumber pedestrians on the boardwalk overlooking the St. Lawrence. Behind the majestic Chateau Frontenac lies a park that features an outdoor concert on almost every pleasant summer evening.

Even the bigger stars are more accessible. Pauline Julien and Diane Dufresne recently performed in Montreal. The best tickets went for a mere $5. Nor do the stars play exclusively in the cities. There are many concerts in the Eastern Townships, the St. Lawrence Lowlands, the Lake St.-Jean area, and even the Gaspe peninsula.

Not to forget what these people are singing about. A separatist theme predominates in much of the music of Charlebois, Leclerc, Julien, Seguin, and some of Harmonium's. Vigneault's and Dufresne's music takes a more positive approach. They sing of a nationalistic sense of being Quebecois. Dufresne does it with her mock-joual accent, Vigneault through his celebrations of the province and its people.

Even without its lyrics, much of Quebec's music, from the age-old folk songs from France to Harmonium's intricate instrumental tunes, has a universal appeal that transcends any language barrier.

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Film industry lost drive after PQ win

By GRAY KYLES

Only a few years ago Quebec was the focal point for much of Canada's feature filmmaking. Many of the most interesting directors were living in Montreal and working in French and the public was responding.

But since 1975 there has been a change in Quebec. Now the most interesting work is coming out in English and the Quebecois industry is on the decline.

While English-Canadian filmmakers floundered after the Second World War there was a new spirit growing in Quebec. Resentment over conscription and Canada's involvement in the war had contributed to the growth of French Canadian nationalism and there was a re-awakening of interest in the arts.

It was not until the 1960s that things took off. A group of young intellectuals working at the ONF (National Film Board), writing for the now defunct magazine Objectif, or graduating from universities began to build a movement in Quebec which would lead to the rebirth of the film industry.

In 1963 Claude Jutra left the Film Board to produce his first independent feature, A Tout Prendre, which received a great deal of recognition from critics and was moderately successful commercially.

But success came slowly in Quebec. There was only one real hit between 1964 and 1968 and that was Gilles Carle's La Vie Heureuse de Leopold Z which was very popular with the general public.

The big breakthrough came in 1968 when Cinepix released Valerie, a sexploitation picture directed by Denis Heroux. Although there were better films being made, by directors such as Jean-Pierre Lefebvre, Gilles Groulx, Gratien Gelinas and Pierre Perrault, Valerie was the film that paved the way for a real explosion in feature filmmaking.

Gilles Carle rose to prominence in 1968 with his second feature The Rape of a Sweet Young Girl. Like many directors of the period, Carle was influenced by Godard and the New Wave. All of his features have displayed a strong political statement.

Between 1970 and 1972 he produced three important features which helped to develop a vision of Quebec on film. Red, Les Males and La Vraie Nature de Bernadette represent Carle's finest work and all were popular successes in Quebec and France and played in art cinemas in major cities across Canada.

Carle and Quebec became popular in France in 1970 and a new market opened, encouraging Quebecois filmmakers to produce more.

Jacques Leduc had little success in his homeland but triumphed in Paris with On est Loin du Soleil in 1971. Other directors such as Jacques Godbout, Claude Fournier and Marcel Carriere followed with popular successes in both Quebec and France.

But Jean-Pierre Lefebvre became the darling of the intellectuals in Quebec and Paris with a series of important films that have received almost no release in English Canada.

The greatest moment for the Quebecois industry however came in 1970 when the National Film Board released Claude Jutra's Mon Oncle Antoine.

This picture swept the Canadian Film Awards that year and was a great success throughout Canada and France and was a popular "art" film in the U.S. and Britain.

Jutra, who is possibly the best filmmaker ever produced by Quebec, was also the most popular following the release of that film. Due to the success of Mon Oncle Antoine, which was a superb reminiscence of small-town Quebec and adolescence, he was able to raise the money to produce the historical epic Kamouraska.

In 1976 the Liberal government of Robert Bourassa was under considerable pressure from Quebec's filmmakers (most of whom are separatists) to develop a program of support for the provinces film industry.

Bourassa responded with a mixed bag of legislation aimed at aiding the industry. But one part of that legislative package may have done more to hurt it than anything else.

The law now states that any film exhibited in Quebec must be available in both French and English. Many Hollywood companies had previously been content to exhibit their pictures in English only but suddenly they discovered the massive French-speaking audience.

The general public now preferred Le Sting to Les Ordres and the industry went into a decline. Such fine films as Denys Arcand's Rejeanne Padovani and Andre Forcier's Bar Salon failed to attract anyone but the intelligentsia.

But as the Quebecois cinema has gone into a commercial decline it has also suffered an artistic decline.

Jean-Claude Lord has achieved great success with the separatiste potboiler Bingo while the far more impressive Padovani failed. Lord's latest picture Panique is the only French hit in Quebec in two years. It's a disaster film.

It would appear that much of the energy and vitality that marked the industry from 1968 to the mid-70s has been dissipated since the election of the Parti Quebecois.

After writing, directing and acting in films which asserted a Quebecois identity for so long the filmmakers have lost much of their impetus. With the election of Levesque some of the drive has been lost, the filmmakers have achieved much of what they worked for.

The Parti Quebecois has yet to do anything significant to support the film industry which is tragic.

It appears that Levesque has not yet realized what a powerful medium film can be.

Quebec's filmmakers have done much to promote the cause of independence. Perhaps if and when independence comes they will be given the opportunities to once again make an important contribution to their society.

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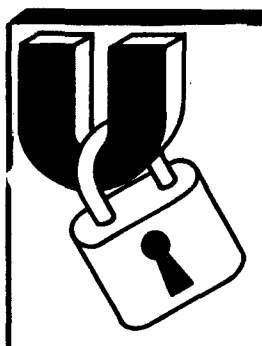

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NATIVE RIGHTS

Monday, March 6 SUB 212 12:30
Chief Delbert Guerin
Musqueam Indian Band

Wednesday, March 8 SUB Party Room 12:30
Marc Beaulieu
Dene Nation

Thursday, March 9 Buchanan 104 12:30
Daniel Johnson
Council for Yukon Indians

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2425 MacDonald at Broadway

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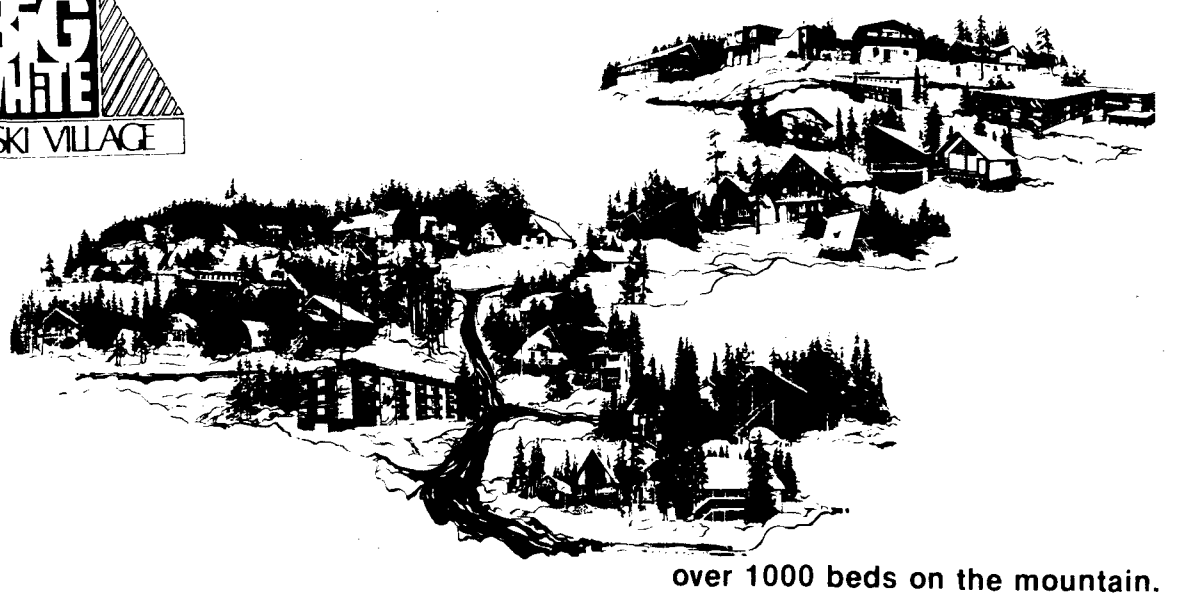
BIG WHITE SKI VILLAGE

"Ski a Village on a mountain"



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Entrepreneurs save Quebec village

From PF 9

The entrepreuners have now completely replaced the clergy as the town's patrons. They have turned St. Pascal from another agricultural town in the Bas-du-Fleuve to one of Quebec's wealthiest towns in the under-5000 population bracket, giving it modern recreational facilities, a baseball park, and badly needed youth programs. Deteriorating buildings are replaced, but the people are careful to preserve the town's historic landmarks.

Although St. Pascal is growing and keeping up with the urbanizing trends of the 20th century, its people have retained the same community spirit as their Ste. Helene neighbors. The people all know each other. The meetings of the town's businessmen are purposely informal, with much joking and light-hearted insulting. They may know how to make money and keep their town prosperous, but they're as lively as any other group of Quebecois.

The future of the Bas-du-Fleuve seems to be hidden in these two towns. In fact, most of the villages in the Bas-du-Fleuve seem to be either prosperous and lively or in a similar state to Ste. Helene.

The separatists are concerned about this area. If Quebec's culture is to survive, it won't be in Montreal. The separatists want to preserve the lifestyle of Quebec, tarte au sucre, rotten teeth and all. There aren't any Macdonalds restaurants east of Quebec City.

The average inhabitants of the Bas-du-Fleuve don't want to separate. Their main concern is that they can stay where they are and not have to move to Quebec City searching for work. It's part of their pride.

Theatre endures

From PF 4

monwealth, and Queen Gertrude is the Church. Trudeau, Pelletier and Marchand are disguised as Laertes, Rosencrantz, and Guildenstern respectively. Pearson is Polonius, Bougault is the Officer-of-the-Rhine, and Levesque is Horatio. The Ghost is de Gaulle's voice (betrayed France).

During the late '60s and the '70s, the use of joual, the lower-class speech, became popular. Both Marcel Dube and Michel Tremblay use joual to reach Quebec audiences and emphasize Quebec's linguistic uniqueness.

Michel Tremblay is now the most famous of the Quebec playwrights. More than anyone else, he has made joual an acceptable dialect. His Les Belles Soeurs is about a poor housewife who wins a million trading stamps. Her jealous neighbors steal them as they feel her win was unjust. Hosanna is a study of a male transvestite who has no identity (a comment on Quebec's struggle for identity).

Perhaps the popularity of Tremblay outside of Quebec will make the rest of Canada more aware of the richness of Quebec's theatre. There is a common fallacy that Quebec only began to develop culturally during the Quiet Revolution. This is not so. Quebec theatre is a symbol of a culture which has been growing for 300 years.

Enter contest now!!!

Hey, you might already be a weiner. But here's a chance to really prove yourself.

Page Friday is running a Worst Joke in the World Contest, and if you can make us at The Ubyssey frown and say, "That's not funny, that's sick!" then you could win any one of the following grand prizes.

We got two year-long subscriptions to National Lampoon magazine, that bastion of sick humor. We got several record albums of the Lampoon's newest album, That's Not Funny, That's Sick. And we even got tickets to the Lampoon's show of the same name that will be in Vancouver March 12 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

To win any of these important prizes, bring your sick jokes to The Ubyssey office, Room 241K of the Student Union Building. Make sure you have your name, address and phone number with the joke so we can contact you if you win.

The worst jokes will be published next week in Page Friday. The chopping block for entries is Wednesday at noon.

Georgia STRAIGHT and Perryscope Concert Productions
PRESENTS

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With Special Guests
IAN DURY & The Blockheads
Thursday · March 16 · 8:00 PM
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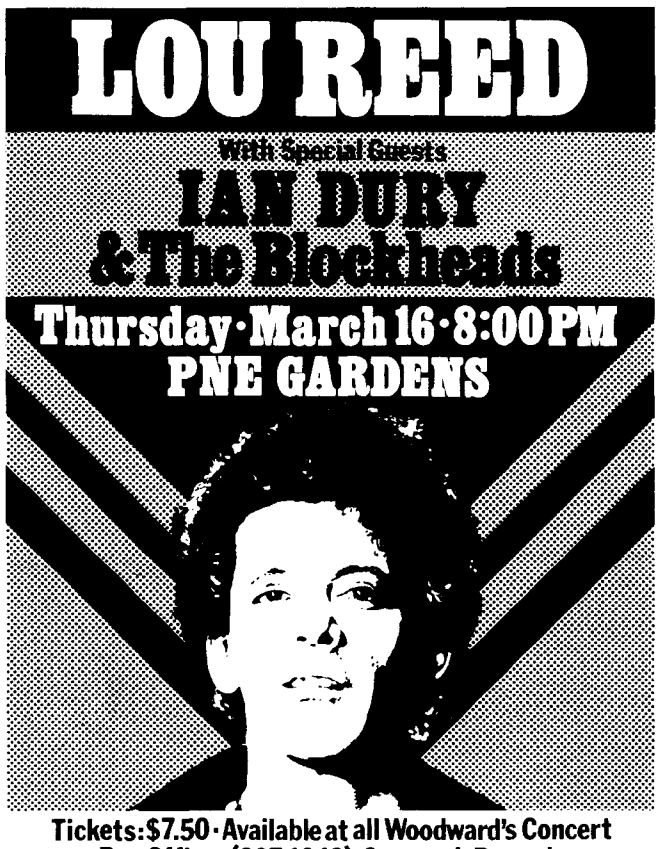

Tickets: $7.50 · Available at all Woodward's Concert Box Offices (687-1043), Grennan's Records, Thunderbird Shop at UBC, and Quintessence Records

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The Education Student Association
Invites All Faculties to
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FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1978
Hors d'oeuvres and Full Facilities
Music by Roscoe Sound Productions
TICKETS: In Scarfe Building
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If you were a grad student during the summer of 1977, the Education Deduction Certificate you received from the Registrar may be incorrect. Corrected certificates are in the process of being prepared. If you want to receive the full deduction for which you are eligible, do not file your Income Tax return until you receive the corrected form.

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CLEAN-UP

Lack of organized opposition aids PQ

From PF 2

One issue in which the PQ is trying to have it both ways is abortion. Levesque rejected a pro-abortion resolution at the party's conference last year, but later, it was quietly announced that clinics would be set up to allow abortions under current federal laws.

In predominantly Catholic Quebec, abortions are not available in hospitals to the level that they are elsewhere in Canada, and these clinics will bring Quebec into line. Anti-abortion groups are furious, and the PQ may lose out without really taking a stand on the issue.

Part of the PQ's success to date relates to the disunity and lack of organization among the opposition. When the Liberals settle on their leader, choosing between Raymond Garneau or Claude Ryan, and the federal election is held, the attacks will begin in earnest.

If Quebec is anything like B.C., there will be demands for a united front against the PQ in the next election, similar to that of a free-enterprise coalition to oppose the NDP. Such a coalition formed into one party behind Bill Bennett, and led to the downfall of Barrett.

A one-party coalition between the Liberals, Union Nationale and Creditistes is unlikely, but an alliance of sorts could be formed during the referendum fight.

In a white paper on the referendum, drafted by radical Pequiste Robert Burns, pro- and anti-referendum forces will have to join one of two umbrella committees, which would be allowed to spend equal amounts of money in the campaign.

This provision has caused anger among the federalists, who complain this will give the PQ an advantage. But it is a shrewd move on the part of the PQ, who realize the referendum's opponents can draw on much more massive financial resources than the PQ. And it is hard to fight, because equal funding simply ensures that the referendum will be more democratic.

Like any group which attains power after a period in the wilderness, a number of idealistic supporters of the PQ are disillusioned. Many of these people are young people, most of them university students.

Prior to taking power, the PQ was extremely popular on the campuses and in the Cegeps, almost to the exclusion of other parties. Now, though the PQ retains most of its popularity, it is suddenly more establishment and less idealistic. Its education policies have been, on the whole, a disappointment to its most fervent supporters.

Like any other social democratic group, the PQ must work within a hostile system and not alienate too many people. Like the NDP, it has made compromises which are understandably distressing to many supporters.

Thus far, it has gone about making changes in a far more logical way than the NDP and has not stepped on the toes of its enemies.

The problem is, its enemies are crying that their toes have been stepped on, as they undoubtedly would have no matter how much the PQ bent to their will.

Organized labor was unhappy with the NDP over its strike-breaking legislation just before the 1975 election, and its less-than-enthusiastic support contributed, many people believe, to the NDP's downfall.

The PQ should keep that in mind, for their opposition will grow much tougher than it has been up to now. If the Liberals and Union Nationale can each remain strong and fight for the same votes, the PQ may have little to worry about.

They would easily win an election today with more than the 41 per cent of the vote they had in 1976, thanks to the great personal popularity of Rene Levesque. But with the referendum fight looming and the opposition uniting, the PQ should remember that the voters have short memories.

THE HIDING PLACE

Fri. March 3 IRC No. 2 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by: Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship

TICKETS: door $1.50; advance $1.25;

SUB 235 or I.U.C.F. Booktable

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—B.C. Director

UBC WOMEN'S WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 6

12:30 — Women in Marriage, SUB 130, Women's Centre.

12:30 — Poetry Reading; Donna Sturmanis, Angus Penthouse.

12:30 — Video: "What Will I Be?" Scarfe Lounge.

12:30 — Daycare and Parental Responsibility. Grace MacInnis, SUB 205.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

12:30 — Video: "Rape as a Social Disease." Scarfe Lounge.

12:30 — Gay Alliance Towards Equality (G.A.T.E.). Discussion. SUB 207.

1:30 - 3:30 — Women in Art. Avis Rosenberg. Open Lecture. Lasserre 102.

7:30 p.m. — "Not a Pretty Picture" Movie. 50c admission. Rape Relief Discussion (after) SUB Auditorium.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

12:00 — I.W.D. Parade. All women welcome. Starts at Robson and Bute.

12:30 — "Union Maids". Movie: Freesee. SUB Auditorium.

11:30 — Ferron, feminist-musician. SUB Conversation Pit.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

12:30 — Marketable Journalism. Lois Light. Creative Writing Workshop. SUB 115.

1:30 — Imagery in Writing. Peg Brennan. Creative Writing Workshop. SUB 117.

12:30 — Video: "Sexism in Schools". Scarfe Lounge.

12:30 — Running a Co-op Publication — Makara Seminar. SUB 130, Women's Centre.

4:00 - 6:00 — Update on the Status of Women in B.C. Seminar, SUB 205.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

12:30 — Feminism — A Class Analysis. V. Embree, SUB 213.

12:30 — Equal Opportunity for Women, A Case Study. Darlene Marzari, SUB 205.

12:30 — Video: Dr. Dorothy Smith: Ideological Structures and How Women Have Been Excluded. Scarfe Lounge.

12:30 — Medical Self-Help for Women. Women's Health Collective. SUB 130, Women's Centre.

12:30 — Rape in B.C. Nancy Goldsberry, SUB 207.

1:45 — Briefing for National Action Committee of Women — Ottawa Conference. (March 19), SUB 130.

TOUR
Utilizing Women's Resources, Dorothy Martin. Main Library front doors.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. — Wendo Self-Defense for Women. Alice MacPherson, SUB 200.

8:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. — Bear Garden — good music, good times, good bears. Men and Women Welcome. Grad. Student Centre, The Garden Room.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Wendo Self-Defense for Women. SUB 200.

For futher information: SUB 130-local 2163

MARCH 6-12

VISTA

By NICHOLAS READ

Cultural Funk is presenting Vancouver songstress **Jane Mortifee** for one performance only on March 5 at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre. Jane is one of the best known entertainers on the Vancouver music scene and she will be joined for Sunday's concert by local musicians Wayne Kozak on saxophone and flute, Pete Clark on bass, Dave Calder on percussion, Brett Wade on guitar and Doug Louie on keyboards. Showtime is 8:30 p.m., and tickets are available at the door. Come early!

The Burnaby Arts Council's musical series Bach to Brahms in Burnaby will continue this Sunday March 5 at the James Cowan Theatre, Century Park, 6450 Gilpin. The featured artists for Sunday's concert will be the piano trio, **One Third Ninth.** Concert time is 8 p.m., and tickets are available by contacting the Burnaby Arts Council office at 6450 Gilpin, or by telephoning 298-7322.

The Burnaby Art Gallery's series of weekly free concerts is also continuing this weekend. Willi Germann will present the jazz sounds of the new local band, **Scarecrows**, on March 5 at 2:30 p.m. The performance will take place at 6344 Gilpin, and admission is of course, free.

Those of you who were looking forward to seeing **Annie Hall** for the tenth time, but at SUB Theatre prices, will have to go on waiting, as the Woody Allen Comedy has been replaced by the knockout movie of 1976, **Rocky**. Syllvester Stallone's Cinderella story of the punch-drunk pugilist who gets another crack at the heavyweight title of the world will be on view Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

the dream play
by august strindberg

vancouver east cultural centre
march 3 to 25
reservations and tickets
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RESTAURANT GUIDE

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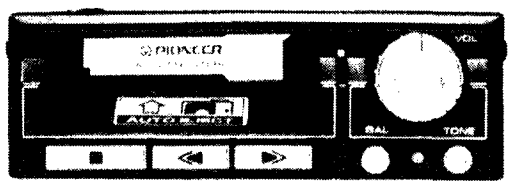

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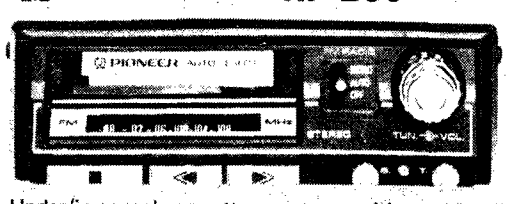

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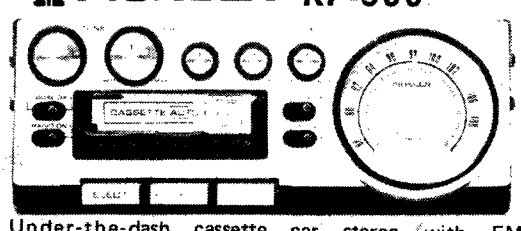

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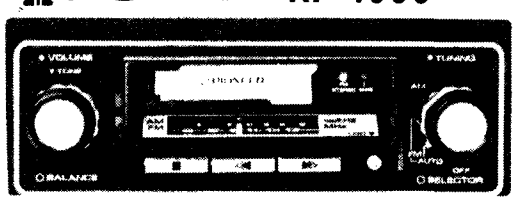

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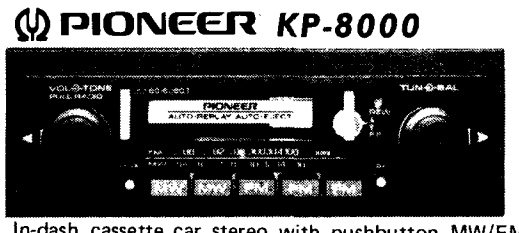

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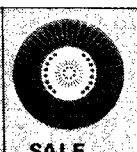

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TODAY

SPEAKEASY
General meeting to discuss redesigning and upgrading of Speakeasy, Campus Information and the Crisis Centre, noon, SUB 215.

UBC DEBATING SOCIETY
General meeting, noon, SUB 113.

BAHAI CLUB
Informal discussion on the Bahai Faith, noon, SUB 115.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
Women's committee meeting, noon, SUB 130.

AMNESTY UBC
Nomination meeting for coming elections, noon, SUB 212A.

UBC SKYDIVING CLUB
General meeting, noon, SUB 212.

HUMAN RIGHTS
IN CHILE COMMITTEE
Chile week, movie — boycott, noon, SUB auditorium.

SUS
Boat races, noon, outside SUB.

HANG-GLIDING CLUB
General meeting, noon, SUB 215.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS
Forum: Panel discussion on International Women's Day, 8 p.m., 1208 Granville St.

ATA
General meeting, noon, Graduate Student Centre, committee room.

SATURDAY

YOUNG TRUTCHKYITES
13th International tea-party and lamb roast, 4 to 6 p.m., International Brotherhood of Belly-button Lint Pickers Hall.

CHINESE VARSITY CLUB
Car rally, 5:30 p.m., Oakridge gas station.

CAMPUS MINISTRY
Ted Scott banquet, tickets at 224-3722, 6:30 p.m., SUB party room.

SUS
Crystal ball — semi-formal dance, live band, hot hor d'oevres, $5, advance tickets only, Hotel Devonshire.

MONDAY

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
Women's drop-in, noon, SUB 130.

UBC KARATE CLUB
Women's self-defense club starting, everyone welcome, 8:30 p.m., Gym A, Winter sports complex.

TUESDAY

CHINESE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Bible studying, noon, SUB 213.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE
Women's committee meeting, noon, SUB 130.

Hot flashes

Speakeasy gets a new facelift

Speakeasy, the volunteer campus information and crisis centre, is redesigning and upgrading its operating space in the main foyer of SUB and wants ideas and opinions from students on how it can be improved.

Interested people should go to open discussions today at noon and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in SUB 215.

Speakeasy volunteers have information on almost anything students want to know about on or off campus, including legal and medical aid, as well as being ready to talk about problems of any sort.

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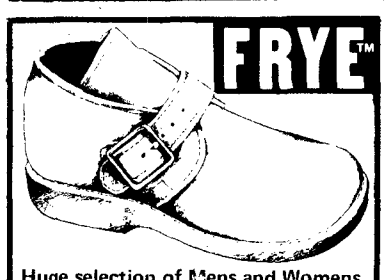
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THEA KOERNER HOUSE

Graduate Student Centre
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1978 at 12:30 p.m.
in the Ballroom at the Centre

NOTICE

The Board of Directors will recommend to the membership constitutional changes. Details have been sent to all members and are posted in Thea Koerner House.

NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS are now being accepted for three positions on the Board of Directors of the Graduate Student Centre. Nomination forms are available at the Centre office, until Tuesday, March 21, 1978 at 4:30 p.m.

COMPRO ENTERPRISES PRESENTS

MARCH 11, 1978
8 p.m. - 2 a.m.

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DEAN OF WOMEN'S OFFICE
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CAREER ORIENTATION FOR WOMEN

Panel Discussion

by
UBC WOMEN GRADUATES
AND FRIENDS

"WOMEN IN COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES"

Thursday, March 9, 1978, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Buchanan Building
Room 102

Panelists:
Lynn Alden Psychology Dept., UBC & Burrard Health Centre
Frances Cluett, Director of Rehabilitation, Home Care
Donelda Ellis, Graduate Student, School of Nursing, UBC
Lillian Ingram, Dept. of Social Development
Joanne Stan, Head, Occupational Therapy, Psychiatric Unit, UBC

Panel Moderator:
Maryke Gilmore,
Career Counsellor,
Assistant to the Dean of Women

THE CLASSIFIEDS

RATES: Campus — 3 lines, 1 day $1.50; additional lines 35c.
Commercial — 3 lines, 1 day $2.50; additional lines 50c. Additional days $2.25 and 45c.

Classified ads are not accepted by telephone and are payable in advance. Deadline is 11:30 a.m., the day before publication.
Publications Office, Room 241, S.U.B., UBC, Van., B.C. V6T 1W5

5 — Coming Events

FREE VANCOUVER INSTITUTE Lecture. Prof. Arnold Smith, former secretary-general of the Commonwealth who now teaches international relations at Carleton University, Ottawa, speaks on "Canada and World Politics — Today and Tomorrow", Saturday (March 4) at 8:15 p.m. in Lecture Hall No. 2 of the Woodward Building.

10 — For Sale — Commercial

'75 HONDA HATCH-BACK, $2,300. 669-3213, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Dealer No. 526A

ORGANICALLY grown Okanagan fruit and vegetables. Wholesale prices in bulk. Free Delivery. 738-8828.

11 — For Sale — Private

20 — Housing

JOBS FOR UNDERGRADUATES & GRADS
Frontier College offers challenging positions as labourer teachers in outlying communities throughout Canada. Full-time or summer jobs. Singles or couples apply to Student Placement Centre. Info Session: Monday, March 6 at 7:30 p.m. Law 101.

30 — Jobs

CAMP FIRCOM is now accpting applications for summer staff positions. For information call First United Church weekdays at 681-8365.

35 — Lost

40 — Messages

LISTEN TO the cry of the aborted children. Their cry is a cry of terror. Heed their cry.

65 — Scandals

ARTS PEOPLE! Huggable sweaters in Arts colours (navy, white, yellow) are available until March 8. They're 100% and $24.50. Come to Buchanan 107 any noon hour to order.

S.U.S. RESURRECTS the Crystal Ball. Saturday, March 4th, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. at the Devonshire. Students $3.00. Grads free. Tickets at S.U.S. office.

PUNCH! WHAM! ZAP! No, not Batman, but "Rocky", Subfilms presentation this weekend. For only 75c.

70 — Services

WE PRINT RESUMES. Our Xerox 9200 prints and sorts in one fast operation. Low cost . . . no wait! Typing service if needed. Stapling, too. Phone for prices. Evening and weekend service by special arrangement. Burnaby Instaprint, 433-9713, 5487 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C.

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80 — Tutoring

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85 — Typing

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99 — Miscellaneous

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
will have a representative available on campus on Friday, March 10, 1978 to interview students (all majors) interested in pursuing Master's and Ph.D. programs in Business.
Please contact your Placement Office for an appointment.

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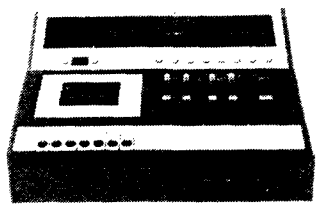

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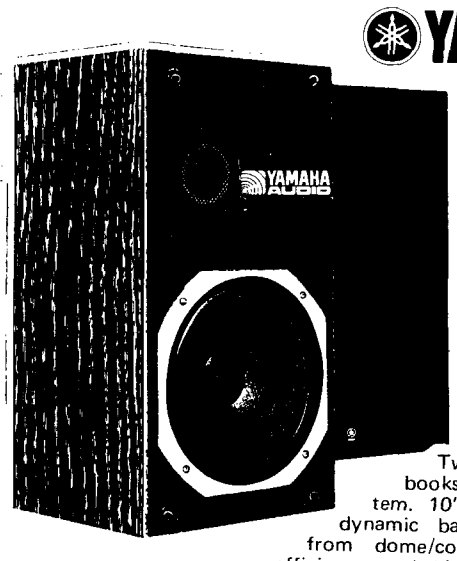

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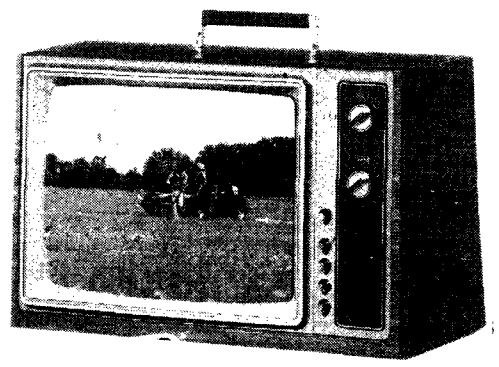

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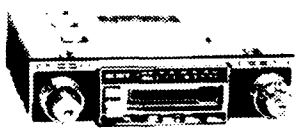

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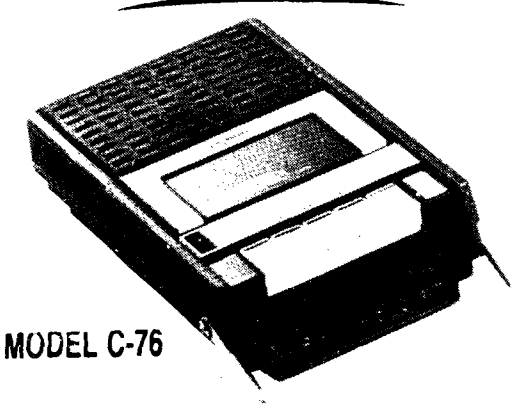

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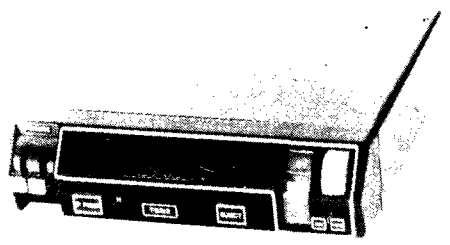

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