

DIVIDE AND CON

book REVIEW

By EDISON STEWART

If any of you read Walter Stewart's first book, you'll have a pretty good idea of what to expect from his second. **Shrug: Trudeau in power** was certainly interesting. Stewart had an inside look at politics and he came out disliking Pierre Trudeau.

Some reviewers seem to think that because someone dislikes Trudeau intensely as Stewart does his observations are no longer valid.

Much the same has happened with the new book, **Divide and Con**. The problem is, Stewart's analysis cannot be tossed aside lightly. His points are indeed valid, contrary to some of the great Liberal thinkers in this country.

Divide and Con is about last fall's election and the methods each party uses to exploit Canada's regional differences. Briefly, Stewart makes the very good point that we have no federal elections in Canada: rather, he says, we have 264 by-elections.

Local candidates exploit local issues, though, as Stewart points out, their stands can rarely be expected to be in the national party's platform. And so it was that the Liberal in Scarborough promised his constituents he'd work towards getting a swimming pool.

Federal policies, says Stewart, have never, ever mentioned anything about swimming pools in Scarborough. And on it goes.

All parties - yes even those highly-principled NDPers - exploit our regional differences. Our campaigns are not fought national-

ly, but by each region. A good example is the case of the Liberal propaganda film run in Quebec. It showed several French Canadian ministers discussing how they've made the big time, and yes indeed, they do have a role to play in government.

Chances are, chortles Stewart, that if the same film had been shown in English Canada, Banana Bob would be PM.

But the Liberals are not the only ones at fault. Each party plays the issues according to region. As a result, we had unemployment in the Maritimes, bilingualism in Quebec, nationalism in Ontario, wheat on the Prairies, and industrial development in B.C.

Stewart also makes another extremely valid point. Canadian elections are the first-person-past-the-post-wins variety. In Fredericton, for example, people who voted for the Liberal and NDP candidates wasted their votes.

If seats in the House of Commons were allotted according to how the people really intended them to be (in other words, by popular vote) the Commons would look much different.

The NDP would have 44 seats in seven provinces instead of the 31 in five provinces they have now. That makes the difference between a national party on the rise and a mediocre regional party that's not moving at all.

The Conservatives would have 13 seats in Quebec, instead of their present two. The Liberals would have 36 seats instead of their 56.

Clearly, says Stewart, there's a gross distortion of the voters'

intentions.

But his proposal to change the whole thing may not be that much better.

"In Prince Edward Island, to take the simplest example, there were 56,349 votes cast in four ridings; that makes the vote-riding ratio 14,087. To win a riding, any party needs that number of votes plus one. The Tories are thus entitled to two seats and the Liberals to one; then the fourth seat goes to the Liberals, because they have the largest number of votes remaining when all the dividing is done."

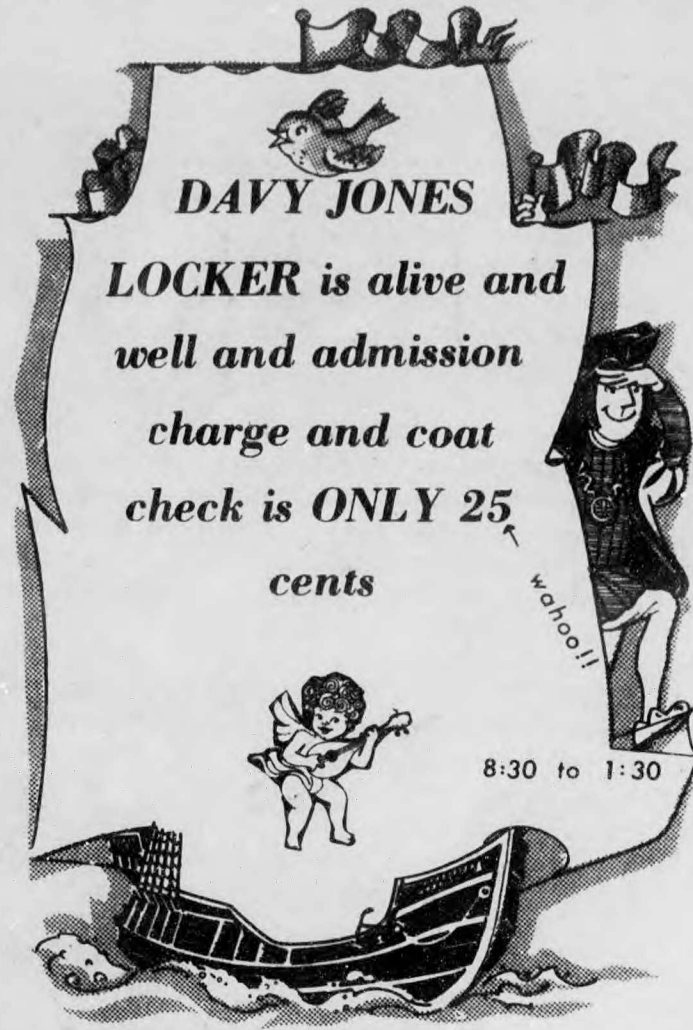
So it's quite conceivable, that according to Stewart's plan, the voters could get a Conservative instead of a Liberal MP, just because they happened to have a lower number of majority Liberal votes than the other ridings.

Stewart also proposes a "protected list" of up to 30 MPs. These people would form the basis of the cabinet, if the party were elected. So it's conceivable that a riding could get the right party, but the wrong candidate to represent them in the House of Commons.

It's worth reading, though. As Stewart says, there is something wrong with the system. Stewart has an interesting writing style, and his description of the election and of how the parties "divide and con" the people is an entertaining one.

His proposals bear further investigation.

Divide and Con. 250 pages. Published by New Press, Toronto. \$8.95. Available at UNB Bookstore.



BILL OF FARE:

CASAGMO OYSTER BISQUE

3 DOZ. SHUCKED RAW OYSTERS (WITH LIQUID)
 6 TBSP. BUTTER OR MARGARINE
 1 1/2 TBSP. WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE
 1 1/2 TSP. CELERY SALT
 1 TSP. SALT
 1/4 TSP. PEPPER
 1/4 TSP. PAPRIKA
 6 CUPS MILK
 1SPRIG FINELY SNIPPED PARSLEY

PREPARATION:

IN DEEP SKILLET OR KETTLE, HEAT BUTTER UNTIL SIZZLING ADD OYSTERS WITH LIQUID, WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE, CELERY SALT, SALT, PEPPER AND PAPRIKA

HEAT UNTIL OYSTERS EDGES CURL SLIGHTLY (APPROX. 1 MIN) ADD MILK, HEAT QUICKLY, DO NOT BOIL

TO SERVE:

POUR INTO FAVORITE TUREEN, DOT TOP WITH PIECES OF BUTTER, DASH PAPRIKA AND PARSLEY.

SERVE WITH CRACKERS

BY A.M. KORNER, JR.

BAND REVIEW



By LEE PALMER

Last Tuesday night "Edward Bear" along with "New Potatoes" performed at the Playhouse to a crowd of which the majority was high schoolers.

The group which backs up Edward Bear in both concerts and records opened the night with a rather strange but enjoyable selection of songs. They started with a long diversified version of Mustang Sally and continued on with numbers by the McGuire

Edward Bear

Sisters, The Temptations, plus several of their own compositions which included a single now out "Thinking Only of You" and several cuts off their album "New Potatoes". They have another album on the way which should be released around January under the Capital label. The band is composed of piano, drums, bass, lead and rhythm guitars with the two guitarists also doing the lead vocals.

When Edward Bear came on, New Potatoes faded into the background with their drummer switching to bongos and the two guitarists throwing in some mouth organ and sax. Their live sound, unlike some bands, did not vary from the recorded to any extent. Most numbers evolved around the same idea as "Last Song" which were both written and sung by the drummer who was the one responsible for the forming of the group. The songs written by the guitarist were altogether different

and not so "bopporish" as the majority of their numbers.

The group has been together for six years and they have to their credit two albums "Edward Bear" and "Close Your Eyes" along with single releases from these albums. They have a new 45 that should be out by Christmas. They operate out of Toronto and except for recording sessions are on the road most of the time.

They started out as a five man band but didn't receive any real recognition until they came to their present form which consists of a drummer, an organist, and a guitarist. They put on a good show and received a lot of participation from the audience. It was their second time in Fredericton and they have played places throughout the province. They say they like the Maritime audiences and that they will, in the words of their drummer, "Keep on going as long as the going's good."

IT'S HOT!



lights

Dalton, very good as the sole young man in "The Enter" and "Cromwell", snarls and bangs his fist trees in portraying Anna Calder-Marshall as one side of Cathy, and Rosealie in a brief but very spot as the first Mrs.

admit, grudgingly, that geography, at times, is catching the bare spirit of Bronte's moon-ism, desperately trying to empty everything else is. Wealth of material like a mind how hard Fuest, Tilley had to work to come up finished product this poor.



ch as the violin or piano. as the case with the "cello" the late Pablo Cassals it to the level of an "ed" concert instrument. me may be said of Segovia guitar. Many very good orary composers, Alex-Brott, Michael Baker. Tittle to name just three posed works especially bass, some of which were especially for Karr. As well usician who plays in a l style is also often ed to scorn of the same f he makes any attempt to ce an element of fun and life usic.

perhaps time that we realize lassical" music can be fun oyable, that every instru- as something to offer, and eople of whom I spoke be on the same level of ty as a man who would go oncert with a score and ch to make sure the music yed properly. Come out to r-Lewis concert and have a me.