

HUNTER STANDS ON PUBLIC POWER

by Dick Kupsch

"The profit motive must be taken out of the utilities for the sake of the people of Alberta and for the sake of the development of the province," stated David Hunter, leader of the provincial Liberal Party, at a meeting in Wauneita Lounge Tuesday.

To remove the profit motive, the Liberal party is advocating "public power"; the takeover and operation of electrical utilities by a public corporation free from government intervention.

The cost of such a take-over would be approximately \$280,000,000.

The removal of the profit motive could be accomplished in one of two ways:

- the public corporation could substitute low cost and service for the profit motive, or
- it could leave rates as they are and thereby provide the province with an additional source of revenue to maintain provincial development, and aid education.

Three private corporations would be affected by the take-over: Calgary Power, Northland Utilities, and Canadian Utilities.

FRANCHISED MONOPOLY

Electric power is on the verge of a great expansion. Unlike oil and gas, which is at present intensely competitive, power has a "franchised monopoly", in that only one power company serves a specific area.

Hunter said that the Conservatives brought public power to Ontario in 1907. Since then, the power com-



DAVID HUNTER

photo by Heinz Moller

mission has provided low cost power free from political control.

He implied that public power would not necessarily frighten away investment. He stated that Ontario has the highest ratio of foreign investment of any province in Canada.

Hunter said that electrical power is the key to the future development of industry and business in this province.

He stated that the trend today is toward public power. Manitoba, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia now have public power corporations, and Quebec will have one in the near future.

NOT TREND FOLLOWERS

"We are not just following the trend," he said, "nor are we necessarily embarking on the road to socialism." He pointed to Western Europe and attributed recent economic expansion in part to public power.

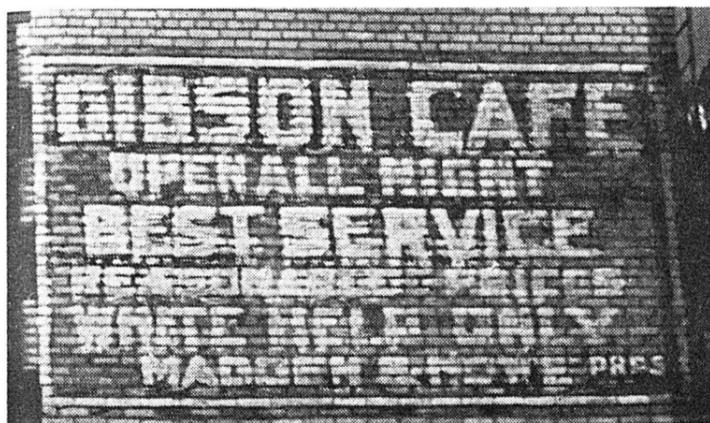
"The decision was difficult to make for a group believing in free enterprise," he said. However, the party felt that public power is a necessity.

The Alberta Liberal Policy Committee introduced the policy five days before the election in Quebec, in which Premier Jean Lesage asked for a mandate to form a public power commission.

"We do not want people to say that we are riding on the coattails of Lesage," Hunter said.

He added that in the next provincial election, to be held next year, the Liberals will stand or fall on the platform of public power.

"A party to be great must have a great issue and take a definite stand on that issue," Hunter said. "We have such an issue, and we have taken a stand. We will do what is necessary even if we suffer."



SEGREGATION EXISTS even in Edmonton as this sign shows. It was found in downtown Edmonton.

photo by Wm. C. Stenton

Imperial Language Studies

A research project on American Indian languages will be initiated at the University of Alberta. It has been made possible by a \$2,000 grant given recently by Imperial Oil Limited to the department of modern languages.

The cheque, presented to President Johns by V. J. Maroney, production manager for the western division of the oil company, is the first installment of a \$6,000 grant for use in the study of Indian languages.

Establishment of a language archive will be one of the important aspects of the project, according to Dr. Ernest Reinhold, associate professor of modern languages.

Dr. Reinhold said priority will be given to recording and analyzing the "critical" languages—those moving rapidly towards extinction—and the work will be carried out largely by graduate students under the supervision of trained linguists.

Through a series of interviews with speakers of the various Indian languages, tape recordings and written records, phonetic transcription will be made. Word lists will be compiled and accounts of history and legends will be collected on tape.

Samples of the recordings in the various languages will be stored in a language archive, Dr. Reinhold said, and will be made available to interested scholars for study.

At present the university has a small collection of samples of Cree, Blackfoot, and Eskimo.

Dr. Reinhold said there are only 50 speakers of the Sarsi lan-

guage left in North America and about 1,000 to 2,000 speakers of the Stony language.

"If linguistic research is not carried out soon, the information will be lost forever," he stated.

These, therefore, will be given priority, but studies will be extended to include other Indian languages of western Canada, chiefly east of the Rockies, but extending into the Northwest Territories—Chipewyan, Slave, Blackfoot, Cree, Sauteaux and Eskimo.

Linguistic studies were started at the university summer school five years ago, attracting students from other provinces and the United States. Of the four or five similar programs in North America, it is the only one at an English-speaking Canadian university.

Canada Going To Hell; Following Hitler's Footsteps?

Canada is going to hell—but so is the United States—and the Doukhobor problem is an example. Germany has already been there—just ask six million dead Jews. Is there not a connection between refusals by 1962 democracies to appreciate and allow the ethnic identity of religious and ethnic groups and Hitlerism, the German treatment of the Jews?

These were among points made by Dr. Charles Frantz, specialist in the field of race and ethnic relations, in his address to the sociology club's open session Tuesday evening. The head of the department of anthropology at Portland State College gave his topic as "Eros and Error: Will the Doukhobors Survive?"

Dr. Frantz traced, for his 300 listeners, the historical background of the Doukhobors, their traditional views and political organization. Outlining the Doukhobor move to Canada and their subdivision here into sects such as the Sons of Freedom, he considered relations of the Doukhobors to non-Doukhobors, both on the government and individual levels, and questioned how

they have managed to survive amid their internal strife and pressure from external stress.

SOVEREIGN STATE

The Doukhobors, he held, are first-



DR. C. FRANTZ

photo by Bill Owens

ly a sectarian community, not unique in society, but who claim to be a sovereign, sacred state. Their design is self-sufficient communities. They have pictured their relation to national governments as one of mutual recognition. Problems arise when a government, as the Canadian government, looks upon them not as sovereign states, but as groups within society with some autonomy.

Dr. Frantz explained that the key to understanding the Doukhobor clashes with governments is to be found in the Russian cultural heritage of the group. The Doukhobors originated in seventeenth century Russia as one of many protest movements within the Orthodox Church. Their culture incorporated in its beliefs two opposing principles: equalitarianism and authoritarianism.

Control on the local level had equalitarian norms. All members were part of a brotherhood. Authority was shared. The individual was submerged in the group. No man was to be able to assert himself as superior to any other.

RULE CREATES CONFLICT

National rule was an authoritarian regime of hierarchies in government and church. This created the conflict of attempting brotherhood in a society which was actually levelled.

Doukhobor society parallels this conflict. In the communities, brotherhood supposedly operates. In Canada, problems of conflict with re-

ligious rule are removed. However, the traditional antagonism with government remains. Fires, nudity, threats of immigration and other protest demands have long been used as attacks on government.

Isolation is necessary for the group to function ideally. "Civilization, however, keeps catching up on them," said Dr. Frantz. They have kept moving on, but now time has caught up with them.

Never have they been able to be totally apart from outsiders. Their attitude to outsiders is hostility, but this hostility is aimed at government, not at individuals.

CANADA OUTSTANDING

"Canada is outstanding," said Dr. Frantz. "Nations everywhere seldom recognize the corporate rights of sectarian divisions." Canada has recognized the right of the French. But Canada was forced to do so by Confederation, he added. Since then, Canada's immigration policy and her treatment of religious and ethnic groups brings questions to the nature of her democracy.

The noted anthropologist ended his lecture with an attack of questions. Cannot Canada recognize these ethnic groups without wanting to cancel their autonomy? Why is every deviation an evil? Is the nature of democracy uniformism, conformism, or more like pluralism? Why

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Brief Asks Grads Pay

A brief requesting that graduate students pay a compulsory fee of \$30 per year, to be presented to the Committee on Student Affairs Nov. 22, was approved at the regular Council meeting Monday night.

At present, graduate students have four ways of paying students' union fees: they can (1) pay only \$6 for Evergreen and Gold; (2) pay only \$4 for using SUB; (3) pay only \$5 for PEB privileges; or (4) pay a full \$27.50. Last year only nine of 639 paid the full fee.

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