

## Convocation

## Cultural climate warm - Herbert

Today's university graduates are entering a cultural climate which is warm, tolerant, and exciting, the executive director of the Canada Foundation, told the convocation class Saturday at U of A.

"To a university graduating class nothing can be more important than the climate into which the class must venture," says Walter B. Herbert at Fall Convocation.

In his address, Mr. Herbert compared the society of today with that facing him when he graduated.

He described the public level of artistic taste in Canada as "almost primitive."

"Economic, political, social and religious climates were favourable in my day but culturally the climate was brutally unfavourable," he said.

Mr. Herbert outlined important changes in the religious and cultural fields.

"The entire community has become less than enthusiastic about spiritual values," he said. But in the cultural field, "there has been nothing to equal the cultural explosion of our times," he said.

"The developments in our country since the Second World War in the fields of arts and architecture, music, theatre, ballet, creative

writing and sculpture—in all the arts—fine and lively—creative and performing—have been all-embracing and revolutionary."

Mr. Herbert predicted, "Each member of the class will find an ever-increasing array of cultural amenities to lighten the burdens of the horribly materialistic world into which they were born."

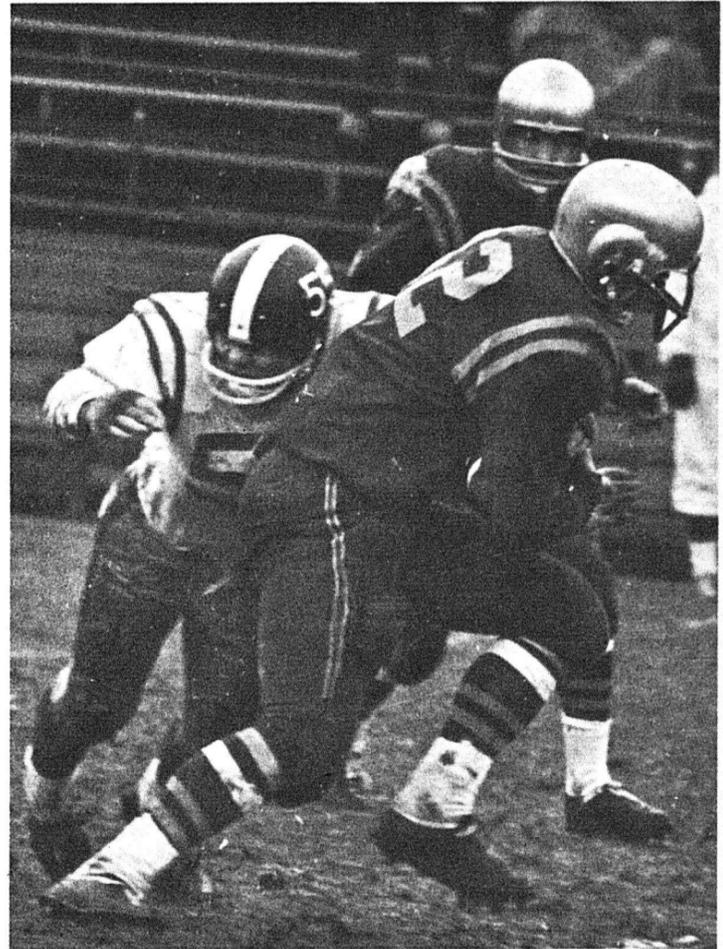
Some examples of the cultural explosion in Canada as given by Mr. Herbert are:

- 200 cultural organizations,
- 100 cultural publications,
- 44 official and 150 commercial art galleries,
- the thriving of drama and music,
- poets and playwrights and novelists are respected and encouraged,
- scholarships and travel grants for students of the arts are multiplying.

Mr. Herbert said this generation has many burdens which are unfair and undeserved but also new cultural opportunities which have been created and passed on by the older generation.

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—Driscoll photo  
**LOOK COACH I'M BRAVE**—One of the Blues' more sensitive tacklers hurls himself at Irwin Strifler during the Saturday saturnalia in Toronto.

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