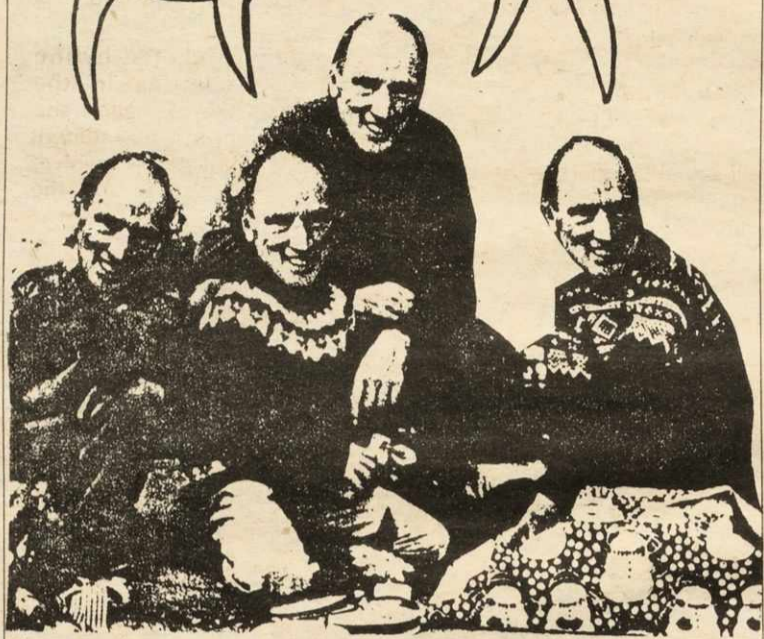


"Welcome to the Ministry of Youth."



Pierre's PR gesture

OTTAWA (CUP)—A confidential report presented to the federal cabinet last July says the newly-created Ministry of Youth is largely a public relations gesture.

The report, prepared by influential Liberal Senator Jaques Hebert, recommends establishing a Ministry of Youth to "restore hope" to young Canadians.

But Hebert admits "in spite of all its efforts the Canadian government cannot solve the youth unemployment problem." He promotes the creation of the Ministry of Youth as "a simple and inexpensive way" of restoring hope to young Canadians.

The report calls youth unemployment "a serious social problem" but concentrates on the political consequences of such a large group of disaffected voters. A major function of the Ministry of youth Hebert writes, is to "make public opinion aware of

the problems of youth."

Minister of Youth Celine Hervieux-Payette, named Jan. 10, denied her ministry in an exercise in public relations.

"These are Senator Hebert's views, my view is that I have the portfolio," she said.

"If we were pessimistic enough to say we were just created to appease youth, I'm not sure I would have taken the job," she said. "I have a leadership role to play."

"I intend to do something else than just PR," she said. She did not elaborate on what new programs her ministry would be sponsoring.

"I don't think the Prime Minister would have created a ministry just for the pleasure of having one," she said.

The report said the primary function of the ministry is to coordinate the "many generous

and often effective" job creation programs offered by the federal government. No new job creation funding will be made available through the ministry.

"I will do more than just coordinate the effort of the government," said Payette, although such coordination was a good place to start in addressing youth problems.

"I have the dollars in existing programs and I intend to make the best use of them," she said.

Payette said more job creation by the Ministry of Youth was unlikely because "if I enlarge the budget for job creation or youth unemployment, I'm taking it from somebody else's pocket."

She said the \$170 million in existing job programs under her jurisdiction is "a good start."

"The problem is huge," she said, but "I think we can do something."

Dal's P.C. youth to attend coming convention

by Bobby Morrison

The Progressive Conservative Youth of Nova Scotia are expected to play a major role in their party's upcoming convention to begin February 3 at the Lord Nelson Hotel.

About 2,000 delegates and observers will attend the three day event. Among those attending will be Federal Progressive Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney and Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan.

Jim MacDougall, the P.C. Youth provincial organizer, said about one-third of those attending the conference will be Young PC's. He said the Youth will have a strong presence at the Convention as they are involved in the actual organizing of the convention; being present at the registration desk, running the booster night, as well as campaigning and

running in the elections of senior officers.

The Nova Scotia PC Youth attribute their influential role to both their internal organization and the increased popularity of the Youth Movement under Brian Mulroney.

Irene Porter, N.S. PC Youth Association President, said the leadership of Mulroney and his election to the Central Nova seat caused increasing numbers of youth across the province to get involved in the party.

In a recent address to the PC Youth, Mulroney said, "I view the PC Youth as one of the most important elements in our party. Your views on policy, your enthusiasm and your organizational expertise are invaluable assets."

"Youth participation in the province and around the country

in itself demonstrates that the 'old boys' climate no longer exists," said MacDougall. "Our provincial convention in November was the largest youth

political gathering in the country this year and the largest per capita ever," he added.

"Since we have a new President (Irene Porter) and with the

elections coming up, the seniors are much more interested in what we have to say," said Ken MacAulay, a member of the Dalhousie PC Youth Association.

- NSCAD election results

by "Pokey Bernstein" Wright

Student union elections were held at NSCAD Jan. 23. The previous student union had been dissolved by a ruling from the chair, Charles Grantmyre, on Nov. 26.

Ten of thirteen vacancies were filled, with six candidates running unopposed, including SUNSCAD President Roger Lewis. Vacant are Art History, Graduate, and Foundation Representative posts. Duties of these posts will be performed by Vice President Inter-

nal Earl Miller. The new student union will serve until April, when elections for next year's student union will take place.

The autonomy of the chair and the chair's right to dissolve the student union were constitutionally entrenched at a general meeting held Jan. 20. A decision by the chair to dissolve may be over-ruled by a two thirds majority of the general meeting. Quorum for such meetings is 125 students or the number present after fifteen minutes.

Also, two new posts were created for next year: a Part-Time Students Representative and an International Students Representative. "These posts will fulfill a real need," said Vice President External Bob Tonks.

There will be another general meeting in February to deal with further constitutional amendments. By-laws will be introduced concerning job descriptions of the student union posts.

"It's an important thing to have these things clarified," Tonks said.

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