

# PQ no different

by Katy LeRougetel

An independent Quebec would not guarantee a fair deal for working people unless the new country adopted socialist principles far removed from those now espoused by Rene Levesque, two Quebec socialists maintained in a Monday address on campus.

Jean Paul Peltier, of the Revolutionary Marxist Group in Quebec, said historically Quebec has always been the victim of force within confederation: the rebellions of 1837-38 were repressed brutally by the British army; in 1917 the army was again mobilized to crush Quebec demonstration against conscription; and in 1970 the War Measures Act was used to allow the army to jail trade union activists and national militants.

Suzanne Cabot, a leading member of the Quebec League for Socialist Action, pointed to the air-traffic controllers language dispute as an example of continuing oppression today.

"I would feel much safer if two Francophones could speak to each other in French—wouldn't you?" she remarked. "This air ruling is a blatant example of the oppression of the Quebecois."

Peltier linked the rise of the PQ with the increasing Quebecois opposition to oppression. However the PQ does not support these workers struggles, Peltier explained, for example, that the party only support certain strikes, those that are under the complete control of the conservative union leadership. Worker actions that step outside the bounds defined by the union bureaucracy reap little support from the PA.

In early December last year, the PQ dropped all charges against Dr. Henry Morgentaler. Chabot maintained, though, that the militant actions of women and Quebecois were responsible for Morgentaler's release, not the PQ. "Only such tremendous public pressure forced Levesque to grant this concession. If he wanted to keep women's support, he had to fulfill his election promise to free Morgentaler," Chabot explained.

Neither speaker characterized the PQ as a party that safeguards Quebecois interests, Peltier emphasized the need for a labor party based on the unions

concept, Peltier concluded.

Levesque's recent assurances to American businessmen there would be no nationalizations in an autonomous Quebec simply means the U.S. would be allowed to continue exploiting Quebecois unhindered, Peltier said. But both Canadian and American businessmen oppose separation because it would threaten the stability of the exploitive situation they now control.

Chabot warned against attempts by Canadian politicians and businessmen to confuse English workers. She saw the federal state uniting English Canadian workers against the "enemy" Quebecois, thus reducing opposition to wage controls and other government austerity measures.

Chabot called upon English Canadian workers to fight side by side with the Quebecois against their common enemy: the Canadian big business ruling class.



photo Kevin Gillesse

## Firefighters visit HUB...

But just looking around, to familiarize themselves with the building in case of a fire. This is a window and over there is a ventilation shaft, up above is a locked roof exit and...

## HUB from page 1

He said he was still studying the problem with smoke during a fire and was getting tips from the fire department and the National Research Council.

"Apparently heat came out of the apartment before the smoke and was trapped at the upper levels preventing the smoke from coming down. It was forming a heat wall containing the smoke. We're still studying this to see how we can get the smoke out quickly."

Booster pumps are scheduled to be installed to assist in preventing three-quarter inch hoses along the mall of HUB as proper equipment arrives at present HUB outlets.

"There are three settings on these nozzles," explained the fire department. "And if the nozzle is set between any two of the settings it will just as though the hose was kinked off and that may have

happened the night of the fire.

"Tenants shouldn't be fighting the fire, anyway, they don't have the proper clothing and if anyone caught on fire there'd be a hell of a worse problem."

The booster pumps are air pressure systems hooked into the emergency generating system which should allow the fire hoses to shoot water up to six stories.

Durrant also quoted National Research Council information on what to do during a fire in a highrise:

1. Don't panic.
2. Close the door to the room of the fire.
3. Sound the alarm.
4. Call the fire department.
5. Check the corridor for smoke or fire.
6. If there is fire or smoke in the corridor, get to an open window.
7. Use the stairs if possible and DON'T USE AN ELEVATOR.

A fifteen-storey highrise takes more than an hour to fully evacuate. HUB takes about nine minutes per floor to clear and Durrant says he is looking for ways to make it faster.

## Wilson cancels

The poor economic condition of Britain was the reason given by former prime minister Harold Wilson for cancelling an Edmonton speaking engagement scheduled for this week.

Wilson was to have spoken at the Jubilee Auditorium Tuesday, a event sponsored by the U of Alberta Alumni Association and the Students' Union. No alternate speaker has been announced.

Stewart Udall, former U.S. secretary of the interior, spoke on campus in November as part of an ongoing program designed to bring eminent people to the university.

## MacKay to speak

A politician who achieved national recognition as a result of disclosure of the "Sky Shops affair" in Nov. 1975, will visit the U of Alberta Tuesday, March 15.

Elmer MacKay, Progressive Conservative Member of Parliament for Central Nova in Nova Scotia, will speak at 1 p.m. March 15 at a Students' Union Forum in the UB Theatre. His topic will be "Conflict of Interest."

The open forum is sponsored in conjunction with the faculties of Engineering and Science.

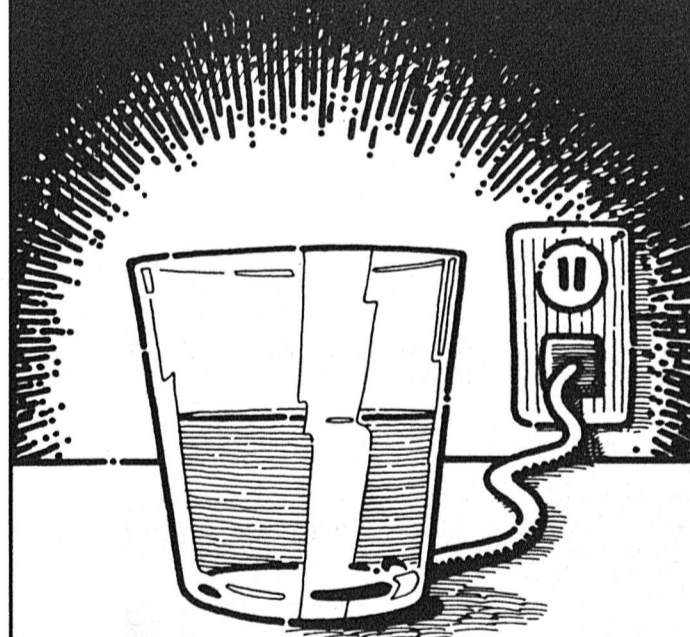
Mr. MacKay was first elected to the House of Commons in 1971 and was re-elected in 1972 and 1974.

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