

implementation is the problem -

mayor jones on bilingualism

Mayor Jones has appealed the decision by the New Brunswick Court of Appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. The New Brunswick Court of Appeal ruled that Section 11 of the federal OLA, and Section 14 of the N.B. OLA were within the jurisdictions of the respective governments.

Section 11 of the federal act allows a person in a federal court to give evidence in his official language of choice without having it be a disadvantage to him. It also states "when proceedings can effectively be conducted and evidence can effectively be given and taken wholly or mainly in one of the official languages" and that "proceedings be conducted and evidence be given and taken in that language."

Section 14 of the N.B. Official Languages Act allows a person to give evidence in his official language of choice, without placing himself at a disadvantage. Under this section, proceedings can "be conducted totally or partially in one of the official languages" when requested by any party, and the court rules that it can be done effectively.

Section 14 of the N.B. Official Languages Act was proclaimed, subsequent to the decision of the New Brunswick Court of Appeal. Given correct circumstances trial in provincial courts can be conducted totally in the French language.

"The real problem about the bilingualism issue, so-called, is that of implementation," Moncton Mayor Leonard C. Jones said.

Mayor Jones claimed bilingual services at city hall were adequate, and that "97 percent of the people can speak English."

In a lengthy statement, the civic leader presented his opinion of what true bilingualism is and how it could successfully be implemented across Canada.

Following is the text of the statement:

"Bilingualism, what is it? It is the capacity or ability of a person to speak or write fluently in two languages.

"In this country, the word seems to refer to written and oral fluency in the French and English languages. Bilingualism does not mean fluency in one language and stumbling through another. It should be pointed out that the matter of bilingualism, so-called, came to great prominence in our country as a result of the Pearson Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism at great expense to the Canadian taxpayers.

"Bilingualism is not confined to our country or our community or our province but has had its trials and tribulations all over the world, even in our neighbouring nation to the south, the United States of America, which has retained one language, English.

"The B and B commission made certain recommendations and arrived at certain conclusions, rightly or wrongly. The real problem about the bilingualism issue, so-called, is that, of implementation."

"The manner and method adopted by the federal and provincial authorities has been met with a great deal of concern and opposition by those particularly at the civil service level and in certain government agencies where individuals with several years of seniority and with excellent qualifications have been worried about the possibility of being displaced on losing their chances of promotion because of the meaning accorded to bilingualism and because of the arrogant, nonchalant and careless method of implementation.

"It is most difficult for a person to learn another language after a certain age. No employees who has given his loyalty, his life and his devotion to his employer should be put in the position of changing the rules or terms of employment in mid-stream.

"Millions of dollars have been spent in implementing the governments' rules but it has been an approach from the top of the ladder down instead of from the bottom of the ladder up.

"In our own community, in this province, and right across the country, it is regrettable that there are signs of separation or separatism caused by language and these are becoming more evident ... the separate school boards, separate hospitals, separate youth organizations, separate groups of every kind and nature. This certainly does not breed unity, harmony or co-operation, but rather just the opposite.

"The BNA Act was drafted more than 100 years ago and it is still the law of the land. My contention is that the Official Languages Act and any regulations, orders and resolutions etc. arising therefrom are ultra vires unless certain steps are followed and up to now, they have not been followed. But let us assume that the Parliaments and legislatures do rectify the situation and properly enact the legislation. Then the question of implementation and the manner and method of imple-

mentation has to be human, humane, fair and realistic.

"The basis of implementation has to be based on proper educational opportunities for all ... equal opportunity for all young people in our country to become truly bilingual, regardless of racial origin.

"The only honest and true way of doing this is to put all our children together in one, school system with a uniform curriculum, merge and consolidate all the separate school systems, hospitals, youth groups and so on into truly bilingual groups, not separate groups.

"When this is done over a short period of 15 to 20 years (realizing that it has taken much longer to

implement bilingualism using the method the governments are using now) we will have young people coming out of our schools and universities on an equal basis linguistically and we will have accomplished fairly what the legislatures are attempting to do from the top down.

"If we believe that the solution to the problem of true bilingualism is an educational one, and if we realize there have been great changes in mobility and transportation in the last 100 years, and if we realize there is a great need for a uniform curriculum across our country, then one will agree that education must be a national general service, and the cost of education a federal government cost."

Humanities Associations discuss Chilean coup

By LILLIAN RIOUX

On Monday, Oct. 29 there was an informal Panel Discussion organized by the Humanities Association of STU and UNB. The subject discussed was Chile - the coup and its implication for Democratic Change.

The general conclusion reached was that Chile doesn't seem to be on the road to democracy under Pinochet but on the road to military despotism.

Mr. L. Cumming was chairman and the speakers were: Daniel Gleason, Prof of Latin American History at STU, Luis Zanarto, a Chilean student studying at STU, Tom Good, a student at STU, and Dr. Argaez, professor of economics at UNB.

To open the discussion, Prof Gleason gave a historical background of Chile and a few of the reasons Allende's government failed in Chile. Zanarto also gave reasons as to why Allende's government failed and a summation of what is happening in Chile from a few weeks prior to the coup up to now.

Tom Good stated his views of the U.S. involvement in the coup. He maintained that the U.S. was not only involved but directly had a hand in organizing the coup. Gleason disagreed with Good on the idea of U.S. involvement because of lack of proof that the U.S. was involved. He feels that the idea of U.S. involvement is purely speculative.

Pat Callaghan founder of the New Democratic Party in N.B. was also present. He felt that if there had been a leftist coup there would have been far less bloodshed. Gleason opposed this idea by saying that in any coup there is alot of bloodshed.

Subjects attacked and brought into the discussion ranged from Jane Fonda to the church's involvement in the coup.

Gleason felt that the church was acting true to form in blessing General Pinochet while Pinochet's henchmen were slaughtering thousands of innocent people. The church in Chile supported Allende during his term in power but now seems to have nothing to say in the present government.

Right now Chilean government is in the hands of the Junta. The Junta consists of four generals with General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte as President.

When Zanarto was asked if Pinochet could be called a brutal fascist, he replied that Pinochet should be called worse.

Red 'n Black arrives in 10 days time

By CHRIS GILLISS

What does Shorty McAsshole, 6 drinks tinkling away on beer bottles, Al Jolson and whistling pygimes, Cindy Clark, Sue Dobson, and Annarita Woolridge have in common? It's that time of the year again folks - the UNB Annual Red 'n' Black Revue arrives in 10 days time.

The last few weeks have seen a flurry of activity - singing, practicing, ordering, coordinating, all the usual practices found in producing an event of this immensity.

Red 'N' Black will raise its curtain in the Playhouse this year. The entire atmosphere afforded by these facilities should greatly enhance the sophistication of the shows. As well, the increased audience space supplied by the Playhouse should enable all those interested theatre-lovers to obtain a seat.

Tickets are available from the information desk at the SUB and at the Playhouse.