

CAMPUS CANADA

FLQ best that ever happened to Quebec ?

BANFF, ALTA (CUP) - The FLQ's action last October was probably the best thing that ever happened to the Quebec people, according to a young Quebecois psychologist attending the National Voice of Women conference held in Banff October 1 to 3.

Louise Walker, a psychology teacher at McGill University, said that action for self-determination and justice is far more important than work for peace in the Voice of Women.

Quebec has been colonized economically, politically and culturally ever since the arrival of the French, she said. After taking all the wealth from the Indian people, the fur trade the fisheries and the land of Quebec, the moneyed feudal aristocracy abandoned the "Canadiens" (the descendants of poorer colonists from France) to the authority of the English merchants.

Walker said that from then until the present, the Durham policy of assimilation was applied by massive immigration of English to overwhelm the

Quebecois. Thus the "inferior" status of the Quebecois could only be "cured" by their exclusive adoption of the dominant English culture. The results, psychological, economic, and social, on the Quebec elite are common to most colonized people (as studied by Albert Hemmi in "Portrait of a Colonized People," and by Fran Fanon in "The Wretched of the Earth").

"You (the Quebecois) speak French at home. You can expect an income 35 percent lower than any of your non-French speaking neighbours. You want the good life of the big American car and the color TV and so you go to McGill - and still get less pay than the others. You adopt the Anglo-American way of life: your kids learn in English about the salvation of the poor French-Canadians by General Wolfe and your wife buys in English, because to get your elite job you had to be willing to move.

"But you still haven't supplanted the American corpor-

ation capitalist control of Quebec industry and you feel guilty because you have betrayed your people. And you damn well should! This assimilated, economically privileged minority who 'represent' the Quebec people are more dangerous than the enemy whose foreignness is obvious by his language," said Walker.

"And the church, upheld by the lawyers, businessmen and their friends, emphasized that the Quebec privileged class should concentrate on the other world."

Walker said that because of the economic situation in the country today, members of the Quebec elite have "arrived at a point where you have no job, you are humiliated, you have no reason to hope for any change but for the worse. You have nothing to lose in fighting and everything to gain.

Solanges Vincent, another French-Canadian delegate to the Banff Conference, outlined this contemporary fight through its historical developments:

"The political affirmation

of Quebec, already brewing under the Duplessis regime, started to make itself known during the first few years of the Quiet Revolution, launched in 1960. But the slogan 'maitre chez nous' had angered too many powerful interests on St. James Street and, as these people are the backers of the electoral fund, they stopped the Liberal government from pursuing the reforms long overdue," said Vincent.

After that, Vincent explained, the forces of federalism combined with the corporate elite to try to put Quebec back to sleep for another 100 years. This project, however, met with two other forces that also joined to liberate the Quebecois. One of these forces, according to Vincent, emphasized the cultural and linguistic aspects of the struggle, and the other involved the socio-economic scene in trying to bring more justice to the working class and the underprivileged.

Vincent said a process of decolonization has begun in

Quebec to free the Quebecois, particularly the younger generation, which makes them refuse to integrate themselves into the present North American society managed in Canada by the well-contented valets in Ottawa. "These Quebecois hope to make history by not repeating it, and want to replace the present structure of society with one in which not the camouflage of civil rights (so easily discarded), but the full rights of man would be the goal to achieve."

Vincent said that socialism was a "vital necessity" to the Quebecois. "The progress of the Quebecois will have to be a collective enterprise as individually they are not rich or powerful."

Vincent said that democracy also has to be built in English Canada. "When will we notice some concern and action to give power to the working class. And I mean radical action that will deliver blows to the establishment to bring about more justice."

Nixon doesn't like Canadian nationalism

OTTAWA (CUP) - American President Richard Nixon, it seems, does not like the winds of economic nationalism currently circulating in this country, and would like to be guaranteed a greater Canadian financial dependency on the

United States.

When Nixon introduced his 10 percent import surcharge as phase one of his new economic policies last month, many observers forecast a trade war between the US and Canada, each of whom is the other's

largest international trading partner.

The first shot of that trade war may have been fired Monday when The Chicago Tribune carried a story quoting a memorandum from "a very high source" in the American gov-

ernment.

The memorandum contained a list of trade grievances the US holds against Canada, and was leaked partially in retaliation against a Canadian government statement last Thursday saying that Ottawa will not accept changes in the American-Canadian auto pact as a condition to removal of the import-surcharge.

The overall grievance contained in the memorandum is the American gripe that Canada is doing better proportionally than the States under existing trade agreements, and that too much capital is being pooled in the Canadian governmental and industrial coffers as a result.

The Canadian government, on the other hand, does not want to pay the cost of repairing the economic recession that America is now undergoing.

The list of grievances are as follows:

* The first priority grievance is the auto pact. US officials want American cars allowed into Canada duty free, and they want the snowmobile trade removed from the auto industry agreement. This would guarantee the American auto business over \$100 million more annually, and would allow American snowmobiles to compete on their own terms for the market that Canadian-owned Bombardier Skidoo has created in the states.

* Another major grievance is with government subsidies being given to the new Michelin

tire plant being built in Nova Scotia. About 85 percent of the plant's output will be marketed in the northeastern US, at prices that could undercut the American tire industry in that area.

* American administrators feel that Canada is doing too well under the Defence Production Sharing Agreement and that to put trade in military goods in more balance, Canada should replace its present anti-submarine aircraft - the Argus - with the US made Lockheed Orion. Canada is also considering a British-made plane as a replacement.

* For about two thirds of industrial trade Canadian tariffs average about 11 percent as compared with 8 percent for the United States. "Canada's tariffs are higher than those of Japan, the European Economic Community, the United Kingdom and the United States," the report says.

* Washington also resents the 15 percent Canadian tariff level on machinery from the United States which competes with Canadian-made alternatives.

* The memo also complained that the Canadian tourist allowance is lower than the US allowance; that is, a Canadian must be in the United States for twelve days to bring back \$100 worth of US-goods duty-free and he can only do it once a year, while an American can bring back \$100 worth of Canadian goods every month if he is in Canada for 48 hours.

Youth employment down in September

OTTAWA (CUP) - Youth employment, and Canadian employment in general, took another new dive during September and the Trudeau government is now faced with the worst unemployment record since 1961.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for the total work force during September was 7.1 percent, the highest for any month in ten years. The seasonally-adjusted rate for workers under 25 years of age

was an astronomical 12.2 percent.

There were about 208,000 people between the ages of 14 and 24 who could not find work last month. The job market, in view of American president Richard Nixon's new economic policies, is expected to worsen in the months ahead.

Opposition leader Robert Stanfield, who prefers to argue by polemics rather than by analysis, attacked the government Thursday (Oct. 14) by quoting

from last spring's Hansard's parliamentary record.

His gem, a statement made by finance minister Edgar Benson in January of this year, read as follows: "I would feel very unhappy with my position as Minister of Finance if there was not an upturn in the economy in 1971 and if unemployment did not trend downward on a seasonally-adjusted basis."

Ah, poor unhappy Mr. Benson!

American Coast Guard fined for sending message to Greenpeace

VANCOUVER (CUP) - The crew of the Greenpeace confirmed this weekend that 18 members of the US Coast Guard cutter Confidence have been fined \$15 each or punished in other ways for handing a message of support to the Vancouver ship.

The message was handed to members of the Greenpeace when the captain of the American cutter boarded the ship on September 30. The Greenpeace is the Canadian fishing dragger that was sailing to Amchitka to protest the proposed five-megaton nuclear blast now

postponed until an undisclosed date.

In a radio message to Vancouver, the Greenpeace crew said the report was confirmed in the Anchorage News, an Alaskan paper, on Friday (October 9).