

EDITORIAL

Take my Prime Minister, please

John Buchanan and Brian Mulroney, what do these two have in common? Apparently everything.

When it became evident that there was no future in elected office for Buchanan, Mulroney appointed him to the highest make-work project in the land. Buchanan then showed his gratitude by helping Mulroney pass some difficult legislation.

Now the most unpopular politician in Canadian history finds that even beating up on unions won't get him re-elected in a country where more than 50 per cent of the population is controlled by NDP governments. Enter: George Bush.

The United Nations should be a buffer between Nations

In exchange for backing his war, and his imminent takeover of the Canadian economy, Bush is prepared to raise Mulroney to a higher level of service.

In spite of his recent protestations that he doesn't want the job, Brian Mulroney has made the short list of candidates for Secretary

General of the United Nations. In light of the fact that James Baker must have pushed very hard to get him there, it seems the Prime Minister doth protest too much. And since he also appears to have Britain's backing, it is more than likely he will get the job. So what does this mean to us?

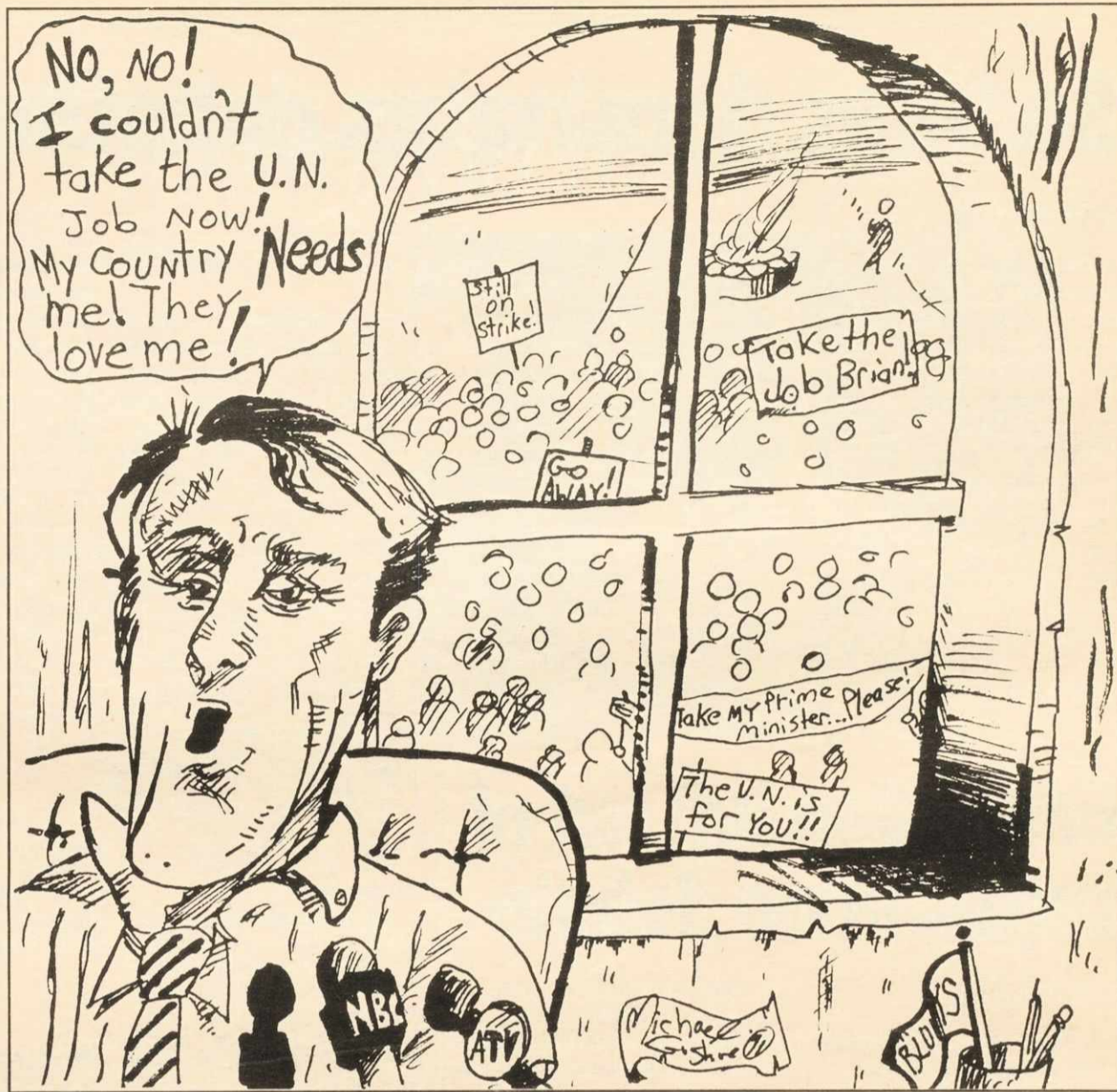
As well as our national image continuing to be linked to the politician that we, collectively, most dislike, we also face enormous international repercussions. Mulroney has continually echoed American foreign policy regardless of the people he represents, what are the chances he will change his habits after George Bush gets him a patronage appointment? About as great as the chances of Buchanan opposing the GST.

The United Nations should be a buffer between the major powers and the lesser ones. Without the threat of international condemnation there is nothing to stop those with the power to do whatever they want from doing so.

Can anyone imagine Mulroney, the indentured vassal, ever opposing American foreign policy? What legitimacy would he have as an arbitrator any time that American interests were involved? Gone will be any semblance of balance in the world arena.

If this one flies we'd all better duck.

Jerry West



OPINION

Opinions expressed in **The Gazette** are not necessarily those of the staff or editorial collective of the paper. We welcome opinion pieces; they should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 500 words.

Making it count at Dalhousie

During the week of October 28, Dalhousie University will hold its first ever Employment Equity Workforce Profile (Census). The census is a demonstration of Dalhousie's commitment to equitable representation of women, visible minorities, aboriginals, and disabled persons within its workforce. The census is part and parcel of the university's Employment Equity Program which was established formally in August 1990 with the appointment of Mayann Francis as the university's Employment Equity Officer. Dalhousie began exploring employment equity issues in 1981, establishing affirmative action for women academics in 1984. In 1987, the university signed a commitment to employment equity under the Federal Contractor's Program, further demonstrating Dalhousie's support of workforce equity. Dalhousie is firmly committed to the objectives implied in its employ-

ment equity policy, which was approved by the Board of Governors in 1989. The census is one more example of that commitment.

The census, and the overall Employment Equity Program at Dalhousie, have a direct impact on the student body of this institution. Not only does a provision for equity within the Dal workplace immediately affect the persons with whom we as students will deal with on an everyday basis, it will also affect the employment futures of all of us in a positive way. Employment equity, as mandated by Dalhousie and the federal government, will ensure that the mistakes of the past that have prevented women, visible minorities, aboriginals and disabled persons from moving into the mainstream of the Canadian workforce will not be repeated. Never again will a Canadian be locked out of

gainful employment because of their race or sex. In the world of employment equity, we are all free to compete on an equal footing. Opportunity for all is advanced and the process of building a more prosperous and sensitive nation is enhanced.

In order to establish equality of opportunity for all, the present inequality of the workforce must be ameliorated. Currently, women make up 17.6 per cent of university faculties in Canada. Between 1960 and 1990 their share of faculty positions only increased by a little more than six per cent; this despite the fact that women now outnumber men in the area of undergraduate study at universities in Canada. With women now making up an estimated 52 per cent of the population of Canada, these facts are unacceptable. Employment equity through affirmative action will redress

these inequalities, providing a level playing field not only for women, but for natives, visible minorities, disabled persons, and men as well.

We all have a stake in employment equity, and a responsibility to assure its success. An equitable workforce in the future will ensure a place for all of us in the Canadian economy of future decades. Dalhousie's Employment Equity Workforce Profile will provide the university and the federal government with the information they need to set goals for the future. The census and employment at Dal will cost no one their job, and personal privacy will not be violated. The census and employment equity will guarantee access to opportunity for all qualified individuals and provide a brighter future for us all. I support Dalhousie's Employment Equity as a positive action for my future. I hope you will also.

Michael Noonan

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