



— FEATURES —



The McGill Conference on World Affairs

CANADA, THE COMMONWEALTH . . .

by STEPHEN FAY

Canada has important ties with both the Commonwealth and the U.S.; the former sentimental and the latter largely political and economic. The way in which two important commitments are to be resolved to the satisfaction of the Canadian Government and people was a main topic of discussion at the McGill Conference on World Affairs.

The main difficulty, when beginning to discuss the commonwealth, is the attempt to determine what the thing actually is. Delegates had varied opinions; an economic alliance (the Diefenbaker ideal); a group of nations held together by social and ethnic ties and lastly, a frame of mind. The second was perhaps the most popular interpretation. The fact that commonwealth countries share the same parliamentary backgrounds and that there are ties with Great Britain seemed to be the most acceptable solution to a difficult question. However it is important to point out that the ethnic ties are becoming a good deal less secure. The most important developments within the commonwealth since the second world war have been the emergence of the coloured people within the group of nations.

The fact that Guana and Malaya are full members of the commonwealth has necessitated a reorientation of many ideas about the group. It is no longer a white man's club. The administrators will no longer be able to reminisce about their days at Oxford. The next question is obviously what effect will these new developments have in the existing organization? There was little doubt that the commonwealth will continue to exist. It is a unique body, and its political institutions seem to provide it with a nebulous solidarity. Whether the commonwealth could stand another crisis of the gravity of Suez provided the round table with a point of contention.

Canada's position seems to be a positive one. If Diefenbaker follows up his suggestions for a free trade area, we will find ourselves leading a movement

within the commonwealth — a movement which seems to be headed for failure. It must be remembered that Canada can, and does, often interpret the actions of their southern neighbour to fellow commonwealth members.

This leads naturally into a discussion of Canada's position in relation to the United States. It need hardly be said that the proximity of the two countries make co-operation essential. The position of the States as leader of the western alliance, economically as well as politically makes co-operation doubly essential. When we criticise the Americans we must take into account the differences between the two countries. The differences in outlook and in government are important; and when they are understood the relationships between individual members of the two countries should improve.

Questions such as "Are we too dependant, economically, on the United States?" "Will American economic superiority continue indefinitely?" were prominent. The only answer which could be found was "Maybe, but we hope not." There seems to be little that can be done, if we are to continue the development of Canada, to prevent the entry of American capital into the country. Whether Canada will develop to the extent that we can overshadow the States is also doubtful. Nevertheless many delegates remained optimistic, and believed that such a state of affairs could materialise.

I think that this note of optimism is a good one with which to finish this series of three articles on the McGill Conference on World Affairs. I realise that it is impossible to cover sufficiently many of the topics under discussion at a conference of this nature. I have attempted to describe what I consider the most important questions which were discussed. If there are any points which I have not made clear or which I have left out I would be very pleased to discuss them personally or through the columns of this paper.



Sigma Lambda Beta Rho

By the "Jones Boys"

Canada's Oddest Student Publication

Oh the Jones Boys
Snowed up still
On the cold cold hill
They find many uses for this paper so solemn (*senseless but it rhymes*)
Though they never read it except for one column.

Talking of dustbins, it struck us that the Brunswickan is an indispensable necessity on this campus. Think (yes, it's hard, but try)—could you exist without your oldest publication? Ever since 1867 the Brunswickan has served its as (and in) a public convenience. Carpets and tableclothes in a neighbouring semi-Grecian abode would be non-

existent. The noble art of X's and O's would never be practiced over Student Centred coffee without a suitable board. Fish and chips could never be carried up from downtown. Senior Foresters would never be able to endure their Psychology course at Friday midday. Residence fires would never get lighted. Other university newspaper offices would never learn that UNB had the oddest (and incidentally, the oldest) student publication in Canada.

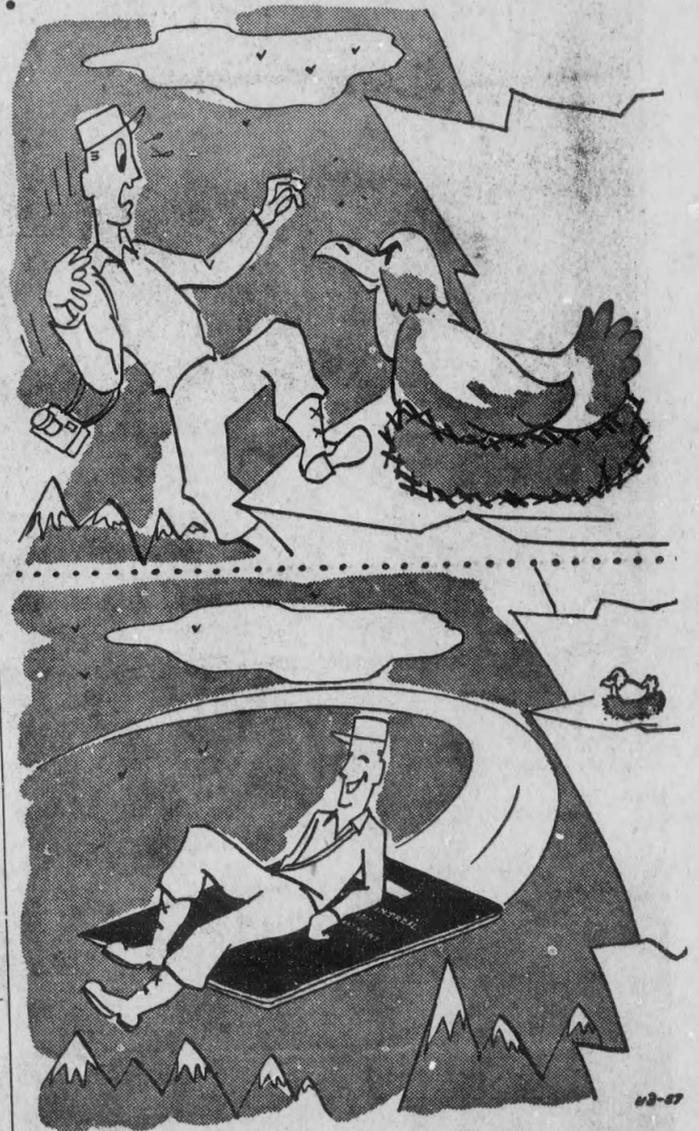
And, we've heard, there are even a few misguided eccentrics who derive pleasure from reading it . . . *rectino occupat nomen beati qui deorum numeribus sapienter uti.*

"Blessed are they who run around in circles, for they shall be known as wheels." (St. Matthew 5).

MARRIAGE MISCHIEF

The Student Wives and their husbands didn't do the dishes the other night, instead, they met at the Student Centre for a get-together. To get things underway, everyone was sent off on a Scavenger Hunt. It must have taken some ingenuity on the part of Mrs. John Strickland, the organizer, to come up with such a variety of articles to be scavenged. Herb and Anne Fillmore had no trouble however (even getting the dead fly!) and they captured the prizes.

Good food, (what were they, pinwheels?) good music and good company went together very nicely to round out the rest of the evening and everyone went home, their spirits refreshed; eager to get at those dishes and to relieve the sleepy babysitter.



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