

# POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

With RICHARD HUTCHINS

In today's perspectives I would like to take a look at what Canadians perceive to be their national identity and the fallacies many of us hold when defining a Canadian.

The first thing to look at is our historical evolution into a federal system. Many people view Canada as a country united under common interests, a melting pot of patriotic citizens proud of their heritage and united in ideology. This initial point can be disputed.

Canada as we know it today was joined together in confederation by businessmen from Toronto, Halifax and Montreal whose interests in unity were financial. They foresaw the west as a new market for eastern goods and a vast supply of cheap labour and raw materials. Today there still exists west of Thunder Bay a feeling of alienation and resentment toward eastern bureaucrats.

Canadians still perceive themselves as a neutralist, passive nation safe in our policies of middle power diplomacy. This is hogwash! We are totally reliant on the United States for military defense and technically one of the most strongly aligned nations in the free world.

Canadians hold the view of being a world leader in human rights and ethnic representation. This view of course does not include native peoples and people of non-caucasian background, treated as second class citizens and social outcasts.

We prefer ABC to CBC and Olivia-Newton John to Anne Murray. Monday night football (while it was on) rated higher than the national news. So with all these contradictions and dissimilarities what keeps us patriotic and happy? What separates the heroes and the rogues of Canada's past and the leaders and patriots of the present?

Canada is united under conservatism and an accustomed perception of ourselves handed down from generation to generation, reinforced by a positive view of our future and faith in our righteousness.

If we are to remain a strong nation we should address some of the fallacies I have pointed out and truly strengthen our national character and identity.

As Canadians one of our major realizations is regional disparity. Do we perceive ourselves primarily as maritimers or Canadians and does this perception affect our national character?

I feel this regional affiliation is historically based and has been perpetuated by decades of weak federal government.

I hope we all take a minute to address our national identity and decide what makes up proud Canadians or proud maritimers.

## THE SEARCH LITE

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

This scripture is so familiar there is a possibility it could become a commonplace. There are only twenty-five words, but they cover a complete survey of God's redeeming love.

In one sweeping statement we are made aware of the intensity of God's love. Jesus consented to leave heaven's glory and came to earth to seek those who were lost. He took upon himself human limitations and died to give his life a ransom for many. This tragedy is that so many are lost while salvation is so near.

A woman was asked, "Are you a christian?" She answered "sure, I was born a christian." To this the Bible says, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me." (Ps. 51:5)

Too many people believe they are saved or heaven bound because they were born into a christian home. Some have the mistaken idea that to be lost, man must go on a rampage of immorality, and be guilty of a gross sin.

The truth is, you can be lost by doing absolutely nothing. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). We are sinners by nature.

Think it over.

Agapé Fellowship. . . Bible Believing Students welcome you to view the Film "Nite Song" Sat., Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Dineen Auditorium Head Hall. All welcome. Free admission. Come and meet some friends you've never met before. Info. ask for Jim at 454-5626.

## The Endangered 'I'

GREGORY BETTS

Most people are other people, sleep-walking at snail pace through Tom, Dick or Harry's life, muttering hand-me-down values - automatic as reflex and just as dull. One begins to see E. Poing as having been charitable when he remarked upon those soul-less folk who "think one less thought each year." Are we not yet tired of these ubiquitous still - lives: young women perpetually posing for an unseen camera, uttering soap-opera maxims of love and relationships" (O hideous word), visages transfixed into moon-gaze by the lines of Edward Guest - or young men, proud of puking, chattering like stoned apes (the "yeah, really" set), voting conservative til death due them part? Well? If T. Elliot's notions of "wasteland" and "hollow men" branded an earlier generation as derelict un-doers, then what is this age's cultural ICON? -perhaps G. Romero's *Dawn of the Dead*. Extrapolating: maybe no one dies now - they just nod into sleep eternal and nobody notices.

Most commit steadfast and quickly to "isms", assuming at an early age a protective col-

oration (pallor) of opinion as buttress against thought and feeling - against self-ness. They move so naturally from A to B that existence and all its attendant mysteries become, if not irrelevant, at best reducable to a clutch of blind beliefs, a collective myth-kitty. At present, bad movies, bad books, television, fashions, are the primary shapers of personality; that unique and illimitable being, the individual (the Real), must fight to survive. Plato's cave is alive and well and living in the modern mind.

A.M. radio, the Moral Majority, censorship, "prime-time" elections, etc. ad infinitum - these are our complacencies, our tranquilizers, the creeping oblivion hucksters who preach static uniformity, categorization, and collectivity. The authentic individual (that intensely intricate verb, not the pigeon-holed noun), near-submerged by such proliferate "inhuman unfeelingness," is now compelled to stake his free-taken breath solely on personal creative resources. Freedom is thus a first no-saying (to passivity, sterile non-thought, apathetic unvalues; in short,

the phantom - life), then a construction - of self, the multitudinous "I".

"Freedom" has been the rallying toxin of so many disparate tyrants and moral-degenerates that unqualified, its use is meaningless. To clarify what is here meant by freedom I turn to its oft - ignored home ground - the personal, the I (that is, man-alive not the somnambulists). Man-alive is a curious beast, resisting definition on principle, but some points can be surmised concerning its nature:

He knows that to stand still is psychic suicide, and so always shifts masks; a changeling. He knows that elitism is not snobbery but necessity.

He is a free force in a world of clubs, memberships, and unions.

He accepts the necessity of suffering and his own impending absolute death, con bric.

He realizes that all political and religious creeds are anesthetics or decorations.

He knows finally, that the many crave a conjurer, an Apollo with all answers, and so becomes the hope-for destiny of man himself, his own magician.

## 243 attend Third World dinner

By KATHY O'BRIEN  
Brunswickan Staff

Last Friday at noon, 243 UNB students and faculty members participated in the Third World Dinner held at the Lady Dunn/Tibbits Cafeteria. Beaver Foods Ltd. is donating \$1 for every person who attended.

The \$243 cheque will be presented to the Canadian Hunger Foundation via the University.

Phil Bonin, Director of Beaver Foods Services on the UNB campus felt the dinner was relatively successful. G. Barry Thompson, Dean of Students, was also pleased. "Given the amount of time we had to prepare and become involved, I was personally very satisfied with the response the students made," he said.

Bonin received many positive comments, and a few negative ones, about the dinner. The complaints were mainly from students who stumbled into the cafeteria, expecting the regular fare.

The University and Beaver Foods Ltd. did not have much advance warning. Bonin noted the decision to hold the dinner was "sprung on them," only two weeks before World Food Day.

The advertising for the Dinner was not the best. The signs around campus were not brightly coloured and many students did not see them. Furthermore, although the *Brunswickan* and CHSR advertised World Food Day, the other Fredericton news media did not.

Monday night a lecture con-

cerning World Food Day was held at UNB. About 40 people showed up. Again there were problems with the advertising.

This is the first year UNB has held a Third World Dinner. It is expected to become an annual event. Thompson mentioned the University is planning to establish a committee to organize a bigger and better World Food Day program next year.

Bonin gave his thanks to Thompson, Roy Brostowski, the Director of Housing and Food Services on UNB, and the Beaver Foods staff for contributing to the success of this year's Dinner. Thompson also thanked the *Brunswickan* and CHSR for publicizing the event. At Lady Dunn there is a list of all the people who participated at the Dinner.

## Orientation congratulated

By DAVID MOGILEVSKY  
Brunswickan Staff

The SRC extended its congratulations to the Freshmen and the Orientation Committee last Monday. They raised the second largest amount of money in Canada for Shinerama. The people of Fredericton donated \$9000.10 to this worthy cause.

The SRC also heard a presen-

tation from Larry Finkelman, from Counselling Services, at the meeting. Finkelman told the SRC that Career Week will be from November 1st to 8th. This week will focus on a variety of career topics such as hunting for jobs and the possibility of getting a job.

After this the SRC dealt with the issue of changing a by-law. The by-law in question states that the flipping of a coin

decides the winner in a tie election. Council decided that in the event of a tie and run-off election be called to pick the winner instead of the toss of a coin.

The SRC then tried to resolve the problem they have with the band Teenage Head. Reports received by the SRC indicate that Teenage Head did not fulfill its contract when they