

# the Chief...

**J. G. Diefenbaker,  
P.C., Q.C., M.P., M.A., F.R.S.C., LL.D.,  
D.C.L., LIT.D., D.S.L.  
receives honorary degree.**

The Rt. Hon. John George Diefenbaker, one of Canada's greatest statesmen visited campus last weekend and delivered the major address at the Fall Convocation. But far from being simply an excellent orator, he is still highly active politically, his views still respected in Ottawa, and throughout Canada.

At a press conference held after the conferral of an honorary Doctorate of Law degree on Mr. Diefenbaker at the Convocation Exercises, he stated his views on some of the major issues facing Canada today:

by Mary MacDonald

Photos by Ray Popikaitis

## Oil

He stated his hope that action against the injustices of taxation on certain natural resources (i.e.) oil would take place. However, he expressed the fear that changes would not be forthcoming.

The former prime minister believed that the federal government "fails to recognize the rights of the province. The provinces should be treated as the constitution intended and there should be no discrimination against any one resource product."

Mr. Diefenbaker said there was no discrimination against other resources such as nickel so he questioned why oil and gas should be taxed so harshly.

## P.C. Leadership

He refused to comment on this but stressed the need for an early leadership convention to "prevent internal cliques and disintegration from forming." There was a possibility he said of having a leader elected from the west as the PC's had three western Prime Ministers but the Liberals none.

"The leader should be accepted on the consensus of his stands", he cautioned. "He should not tailor his policies to gain votes."



... during press conference



# DIEN !

## The North

The cost of a pipeline, he stated would be very great and detrimental to the environment. "The heat of the pipeline must be kept at certain temperatures which will thaw the permafrost." He expressed fears that this would harm the environment in ways that

we are not quite sure of yet. Instead, he put forth his New Frontier Policy which would consist of "A railway to the north to haul all the gas and oil by rail."

In northern Russia cities grew up because of the railway. It would employ 7500 people continuously and open up the north, which, he said, was always his dream. This would be a way of getting at the resources and suggested another policy, that of establishing an arctic port.

"This," he said, "would give us a new sense of what the north means. It would be a challenge to young Canadians. Failure to act is detrimental."

## Gas Export

"Canada should be first." He felt that the needs of Canadians should be first satisfied, then any excess could be exported but not at the cost of our needs.

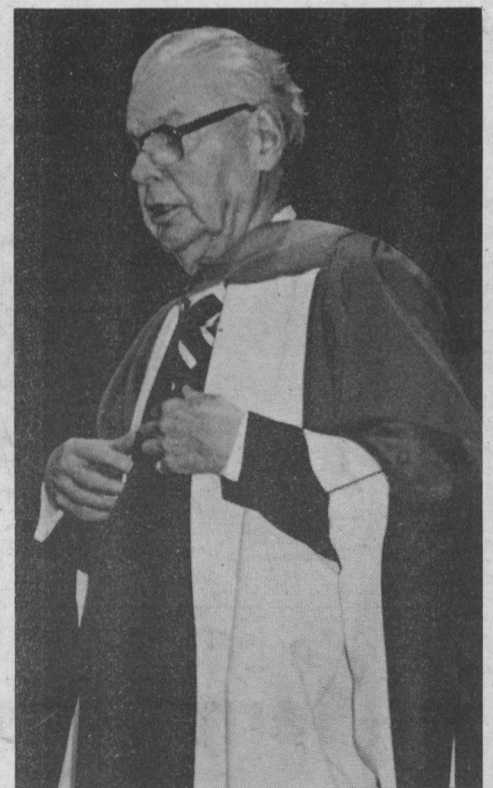
## Agriculture

Prices are not equal to the cost of production, he said. He felt the beef policy was not realistic but "I condemn the calf killing." There was no consultation on the Canadian embargo on the import of US beef but he said, "It would be a death blow if an embargo were put on Canadian cattle."

The solution? "A guarantee of a fair price in co-operation with the provinces. The farmer should not pay for all."

## Canada's Survival

"I do not know what will happen; our heritage is being cast aside." He was in opposition to the language bill on grounds it would divide Canada and now "we see the fruits of the Liberal family tree. The Quebec unilingual bill," he said, "was not fair under the constitution and should not be allowed." If he were PM, the bill would have been defeated.



... addressing convocation

Although physically slowing down and hard of hearing, Mr. Diefenbaker, still manages to thrill audiences with his speeches and can give authoritative views on Canadian and world issues with wit, frankness, and great honesty.

## Inflation

"There is an open season on inflation," he said. "There should be an increase in penalties for those guilty under the Combines Investigation Act." He likened the penalties now to that of a thief who steals a million dollars and is fined only five hundred thousand. He is still making a profit and will do it again.