

Canadian University Press DATELINE

Levesque predicts takeover

MONTREAL—English Canadian businessmen who operate on a unilingual basis should "get out of their Rhodesian frame of mind before it is too late."

This was the advice of Quebec's Family and Social Welfare Minister Rene Levesque, at an open meeting of the McGill Liberal Club Jan. 24.

Mr. Levesque said he was in favor of preserving the two official languages of the province but French should be regarded as the "language with the priority."

By this, he said, he does not mean unilingualism, "the narrow uncivilized, collectively stupid policy as set up in the other provinces."

However, the English Canadians who have until now dominated the economic life of Quebec must learn to respect the language of "almost 80 per cent of the people."

"Our ultimate aim is to take over the economic life of Quebec. We must go slowly because of such things as nervous money markets. But we will use any legitimate means at our disposal and someday we shall succeed," he said.

"It is unreasonable to think that any people will remain servants in their home once they have the means to take over their economy."

Students protest parking fees

HAMILTON—McMaster University students have taken to the streets in the current parking fee crisis here.

A group of students early in the morning of Jan. 10 blocked parking lot entrances and attempted to disrupt their operation, although university president H. G. Thode had announced that student protests would not affect the administration's policy.

The "park-in" was organized by an ad hoc committee of the Students' Representative Assembly to protest parking conditions and the recent imposition of a parking fee.

Four students stalled their cars in the entrance to the lots but city police were already on the scene. One student had his driver's licence taken by an officer, and recovered it only by the efforts of his lawyer later in the day.

Other students picketed entrance booths or distracted parking officials by paying fees with pennies, cheques, and American bills.

A campus policeman was reported to have exhorted drivers to "run over" demonstrators blocking their entrance to the lots.

College may withdraw from CUS

WINNIPEG—The CUS chairman at United College presented a motion to student council Jan. 10, asking the body to drop out of CUS.

Following the council meeting, CUS chairman Jim Lightbody said in an interview: "We pay \$900 a year to be a member of CUS (60 cents per student), \$400 for travel to CUS conventions and seminars (to which we send four people) and this year we'll be spending \$600 on the National Debating Finals. That's a total of \$1,900 going to CUS this year."

"The University of Manitoba sends over \$8,000 to CUS. That's \$10,000 from Manitoba. For this money we get eight representatives in Ottawa, some of them second-rate fumbblers of whom two are part-time lobbyists. Since education is provincially orientated, the lobbying should be done at the provincial level, not in Ottawa. For the same amount of money, we could have a very effective lobby in Manitoba," he said.

Concluding that a provincial association could provide the same services as CUS now does, Mr. Lightbody said that Canadian University Press could keep students up to date on what students are doing across Canada.

Turning to the CUS international affairs program, he said: "CUS has no power in international affairs and is just wasting its time. Who cares if CUS is in favor of boycotting South Africa or not."

Students seek republic status

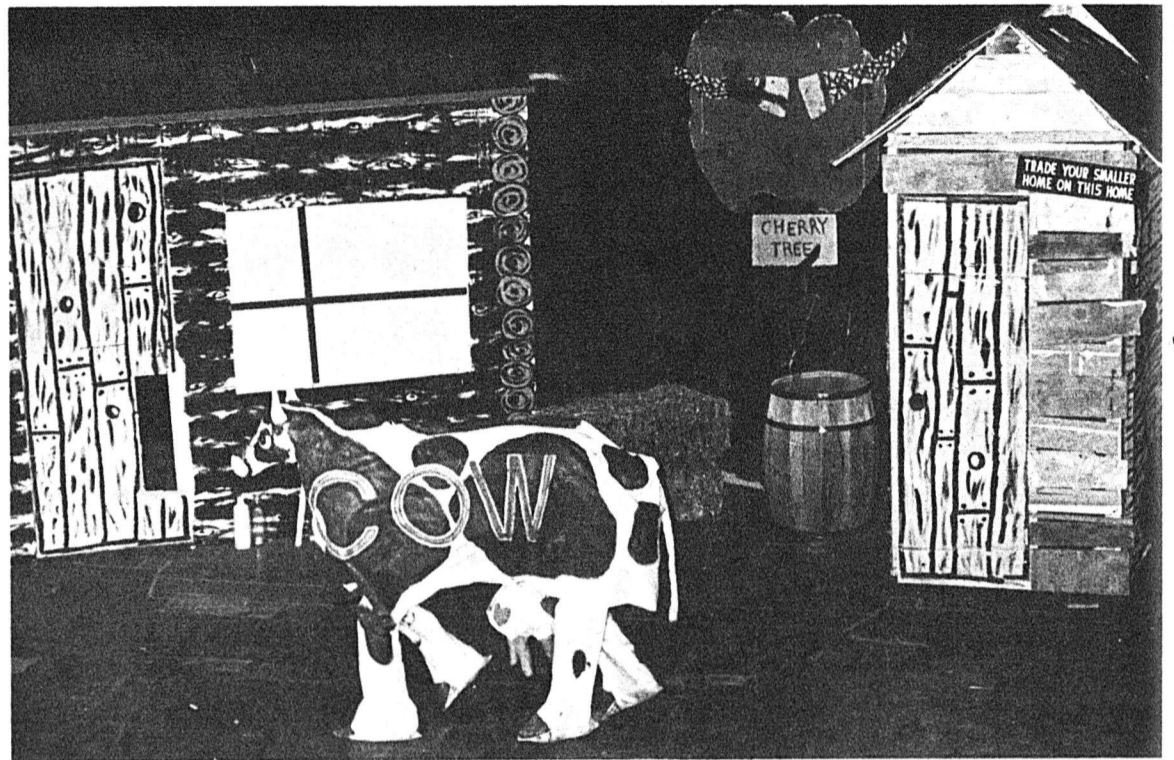
MONTREAL—The newly founded Quebec Union of Liberal Students has come out in favor of Canada abolishing its constitutional monarchy and declaring itself a republic.

The move came at the opening conference of the union whose membership is predominantly English speaking, Jan. 22. Delegates to the meeting also asked the federal government to call a constitutional conference in conjunction with the provinces to draw up a new constitution for Canada.

Such a measure has also been advocated by Opposition Leader John Diefenbaker and the Conservative Party.

The new federation of Quebec student Liberals will concern itself with both federal and provincial politics, unlike the adult party in the province which has separate federations for the two.

Elected president of the new union was Guy Wilson of the University of Montreal. Mr. Wilson said the group started recruiting members in August and now has about 700; 500 of whom are English-speaking, 200 French-speaking.



—John Westmore photo

A LEAF FROM THE FARMER'S BOOK—Labelling bovines to foil hunters is supposedly an old ag trick. However, the meds have a penchant for marking everything so this poor star of this year's Med Show was engraved too. The Med Show was held last Thursday and Friday nights in Studio Theatre, playing to its usual capacity crowd.

Fulton - Favreau formula draws mixed reactions from conference

By DAVID ESTRIN

WINNIPEG—The proposed Fulton-Favreau formula to amend Canada's constitution is "a dead duck."

As a result, 50 student delegates attending a conference this weekend at the University of Manitoba campus on "repatriation of the Canadian constitution" found the topic to be more of a practical nature than even the conference organizers had thought. This was a result of Quebec Premier Lesage's rejection Friday of the most agreeable formula ever proposed for the purpose.

But agreeable as it may have been to nine provincial legislatures and the federal government, a federal cabinet minister's lawyer agreed at Sunday's closing session of St. Paul's College second annual Canadian affairs conference that the Fulton-Favreau formula was both totally unnecessary and highly dangerous.

"Thank goodness it's dead," said R. D. Gibson, professor of constitutional law at the U of M Law School.

VARIABLE CONSTITUTION

"It's regrettable, but don't exaggerate the importance of Mr. Lesage's decision, because we shouldn't over-emphasize the place of formal amendment in making a

viable Canadian constitution," Hon. Jean-Luc Papin, minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, told the delegates.

It was "regrettable" for Mr. Papin because Quebec approval would have paved the way for the Liberal Government to have given Canadians a constitution made in Canada by Canadians as a one hundredth birthday present, one student delegate suggested.

However, the minister himself said, "like the new flag and the national anthem, a Canadian constitution amendable in Canada would have been a natural step in giving Canada the symbols of national maturity."

Delegates agreed that there are certainly many other ways of amending the constitution besides the formal method proposed in the Fulton-Favreau formula.

"Real constitutional change takes place by convention and by ordinary statutes," said Mr. Papin.

"The FFF, if adopted previously would have been so rigid that perhaps but two of the 15 amendments ever made to our constitution would have been passed."

ALLOW AMENDMENTS

As a result of both formal and informal methods of amending the constitution, Mr. Gibson claimed Canada "has one of the best com-

promises between flexibility and rigidity existing in any federal jurisdiction. The present system has allowed more amendments than either the American or Australian constitutions," he said.

Both agreed the idea of a written constitution for any state is becoming less feasible than ever before.

"The actual forces at work can't be put into a constitutional text," Mr. Papin said. "Too many French-Canadian politicians are suffering from legalitis."

But at the same time he warned that like French-Canada before the beginning of the quiet revolution, English-Canada is sitting on the constitution, after having been put on the defensive by Quebec.

"We should eventually rewrite the constitution, but it shouldn't be done now," Mr. Papin suggested. And if Mr. Diefenbaker's suggestion for a constitutional conference were followed up, it would be "the greatest circus this side of Hell."

POLITICAL UTILITY

Mr. Papin said he saw the Lesage rejection as an example of political utility.

He refused to get caught between those who claim the FFF would have been too rigid to prevent the federal government from increasing its powers, and those who on the other hand claimed it would be too rigid a framework within which Quebec could achieve its goal.

"If the present constitution is so bad, how did it allow the Quebec government to do all the things associated with its new powerful economic-social status?" Mr. Papin asked.

Although it may have been a politically wise move, it may lose Mr. Lesage more votes than he will gain in the next provincial election. "He will make more enemies than he will gain," said Mr. Papin.

"The real danger in the rejection of the FFF by Quebec is that through simple conservatism, lack of originality, or through fear, we are going to make it a subject of division in Canada. If Mr. Diefenbaker does this, it will add unnecessary venom to Canadian politics," he said.

"We definitely lack political maturity if we divide on the Fulton-Favreau Formula."

Project volunteers gain understanding of Indians

U of A students working in the Wauneita tutoring program are benefiting from a year-round exposure to the problem of understanding Indian students.

The program, which began in October, involves 17 Indian students who are living in residence in Jasper Place and 21 U of A students.

A tour of the campus in October aroused enthusiasm for study at the university. The greatest surprise for the visitors was the size of the campus and the amount of walking necessary between buildings.

Tutoring is a twice weekly project done Wednesday and Thursday nights. Wednesday nights a school

bus financed by a local group of women takes the students to and from the campus while on Thursday nights, some of the student tutors provide transportation for their pupils.

The tutoring program will continue until the end of February.

The Glenrose hospital project has not been as successful. Forty volunteers initiated the project, but now there are only 12 active workers.

Reason for the decrease in volunteers was given as lack of organization at the hospital.

"Many students have gone there and have not felt needed so they have dropped out," said Sheila Garrett, house ec 3, service coordinator.