

# Stability or Democracy

by David MacNaughton

"Freedom only for the supporters of the government, only for the members of one party-however numerous they may be-is no freedom at all. Freedom is always and exclusively freedom for the one who thinks differently."

-Rosa Luxemburg

Many people in Canada, upon learning of the imposition of the War Measures Act and later the Public Order Act were obviously not upset by the loss of political freedoms and basic democratic rights that this entailed. The obvious reason for their lack of concern was that in fact very few people did lose their rights.

The Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of Quebec had, after all, made it quite clear that the abrogation of civil liberties was really a means of preserving our democratic right, not destroying them. The so-called threat of insurrection and activities of various front organizations and plotters combined to convince the vast majority of Canadians that their way of life was indeed in danger. One must still be prevalent considering the Prime Minister's insistence on the continued use of the Public Order Act.

The question that must be raised in assessing the Prime Minister's justification of the use of these extraordinary powers is simply this: Did the imposition of these Acts increase or erode our democratic freedoms.

Last year a well-known Quebecer spoke about this very subject. "The role of government," he said, "is not merely to react but to anticipate. If a government, in dealing with terrorists if forced to use repression by the police it has obviously failed. The government must alter the social problems which cause terrorism rather than rely on repression which can never cure it."

This perceptive analysis aided the speaker to go on victory in a leadership campaign in the Province of Quebec. His name is of course Robert Bourassa. One of his opponents - Pierre Laporte.

On Premier Bourassa's own terms his government has failed. The Quebec government had information last spring that political kidnappings were being planned. Detailed plans for the capture of the American ambassador had been captured along with other.

Yet the government's failure to recognize and anticipate the danger of terrorism was followed by a much greater folly. The suspension of civil liberties does nothing for the preservation of democracy. The Prime Minister has cleverly substituted the word democracy for the word stability, for it is in the name of stability that these actions are being taken and stability in no way assures democracy. We say we believe in freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the right to bail and the assumption that a man is innocent until proven guilty. Do we really believe in these or are we more concerned about maintaining the status quo? Do we not have laws to deal with kidnapping, murder and sedition without resorting to political repression?

It is time the Prime Minister and the people of Canada decided whether they are really interested in developing a more democratic state or if their intentions are merely to keep the boat from rocking. The choice is not an either, or one. Stability and democracy can go hand in hand. If we are interested in a more democratic state however, we must remember that "freedom is always and exclusively freedom for the one who thinks differently."

## \$100. Fines Proposed

The Campus Police recently forwarded a proposal to automatically fine anyone who strikes a C.P. \$100.00.

In a written news release, given to the Brunswickan the Chief C.P., Ken Lewis said, "Since other amendments were being made to the Campus Police Constitution. I figured it would be advantageous at the same time to have this amendment made."

"This type of regulation is in effect at other Maritime Universities and has proven quite acceptable." Mr. Lewis failed to give the names of those universities, however.

"Fortunately here at UNB there have been no incidents where a C.P. has been struck. However, if such a situation were to occur a fine of this nature would help to dissuade anyone from striking a C.P.", he concluded.

# U.S. Campus Papers Harassed

NEW YORK (CUP-CPS)

The United States Student Press Association reports that 25 campus papers have been censored and two campus radio stations have been shut down since September.

The repression being faced by college papers has taken the form of editors fired, evictions and lock-outs from offices, freezing of funds, suppression of articles about women's oppression and prohibition of publication.

The USSPA survey of its membership reported that 40 per cent of the papers replying report that they have been censored or harassed because they express radical politics.

Ads for abortions referrals and articles about the myth of the vaginal orgasm have been banned by school administrations and state governments at Concordia College in Minnesota, Metropolitan State College in Pueblo, Colorado, the State University of New York at Buffalo, University of Connecticut, and colleges in Massachusetts, Ohio, South Dakota, and Georgia.

The staffs of the Perdue Exponent, in Indiana and the University of Illinois campus in Chicago, the Illini, have been locked out of their offices because they didn't adhere to the conservative university guidelines for publication. And at the

University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo the managing editor of the Arrow was fired when she refused to change an editorial about student parking.

The administrations of Dillard University and Norfolk State College, both Black schools, have had their presses shut down. Dillard's newspaper staff refused to submit copy to an advisor for censorship; and Norfolk's paper supported student actions against the invasion of Cambodia this past spring.

When a "God is Dead" editorial appeared in the Reflector of Mississippi State University the state government set up censors for all campus papers and yearbooks.

Due to the response from last weeks ad (remember the one about getting into our pants and stuff) we thought it would be better to try this approach



The Red Hanger  
York St.

(P.S. we still have some left)