

## Trudeau speaks to Edmonton Liberals

# We need strong federal voice

by Robin Wortman

"A nation cannot be strong if it cannot speak with a united voice or...if it does not have a mechanism within it for reconciling apparently irreconcilable differences," Liberal opposition leader Pierre Trudeau told an annual Liberal Party fundraising dinner Friday night.

Almost 500 Liberal Party supporters attending the \$150-a-plate dinner heard Trudeau, speaking quietly, tell them a strong federal voice is necessary in Canada.

"Basically, we know what is wrong with our societies and it doesn't have to do with economics. We do not need another John Maynard Keynes. It has essentially to do with our inability to conduct ourselves as one community in conformity with our economic knowledge."

He cited Germany and Japan as countries with strong national wills and economics.

Trudeau seemed relaxed as he addressed the people of Alberta in his speech. "Albertans will have to feel part of the history which is made by our central government whether good or bad", he said, because Albertans are partly responsible for electing the present government. He urged Albertans to

watch closely what the Conservative government does.

The former Prime Minister expressed a deep concern for the increasing Balkanization of the provinces and said the federal government is failing to deal with the situation. It seems to believe that "the best government is no government," he said.

"This is the spirit of confederation today. We are turned one against the other, the separatist against the rest of Canada, Ontario against Alberta, the center against the West."

And the country has a federal government that believes peace can be achieved with a "smiling handshake" and decreasing federal jurisdiction, he said.

Trudeau emphasized the need for Canadians to pull together as a nation. "We need a willingness on the part of the Canadian nation to make sure that all its parts act keeping in mind the good of the whole, the common good."

Before the dinner, a shirt-sleeved Trudeau met privately with twenty young Liberals for an hour.

"The evening was a huge success," said Branny Shepanovich, Liberal federal campaign chairman. "A

few organizers had to give up their seats so everyone could be seated." He said the occasion gave the party a chance to regroup, "to rekindle old relationships and strengthen old ties."

Jim Coutts, Trudeau's key political advisor, said the Liberal leader was in Alberta because he was invited to speak at the dinner. "Trudeau does not have a conscious strategy at the moment for re-building the party in the West. He is here to speak to the people at their invitation. He is here to learn as much as he can and will be back again."

Trudeau and Coutts both acknowledged the shift in economic power to the West to the nation. However, they expressed concern that unless all Canadians are made to feel they have a stake in each other's prosperity, divisions will continue to pull the nation apart.



Liberal opposition leader Pierre Trudeau.

photo Brad Keith

## NDP out of order

The election of Julian Koziak in Edmonton Strathcona in the March provincial election was not "an undue return or election."

That was the ruling of the Honourable Mr. Justice A.M. Dechene, in response to the petition of Gordon Wright, the NDP candidate in Strathcona, and Wendy Danson and Paul Sanborn, of the NDP constituency association executive.

Wright, Danson, and Sanborn contended that violations of the Elections Act had invalidated the election. These violations included not

enumerating students and not putting polls in places most convenient to the electors, according to the petitioners.

In his ruling last Thursday, Dechene held that "respondent Albrecht (Strathcona returning officer) was correct in his decision not to enumerate students in residence."

He also said that while the matter was not before him, it seemed likely that a number of students who had voted after being sworn in at the polls were not qualified electors.

Dechene further found that no elector was prevented from voting by unreasonable delays at

the polls as maintained by Wright's witnesses.

One of the petitioners' witnesses had testified that a poll officer had remarked on the delays saying, "It doesn't matter — they are only students, mostly NDP." Dechene said he found that "no poll officer uttered those words or any words which might indicate a lack of impartiality."

Dechene concluded by saying "Mr. Wright and his witnesses gave their evidence objectively and fairly and with an obviously honest belief in the truth of their testimony... I must dismiss the case..."

## Students change

OTTAWA (CUP) — Despite numerous claims that students today are more conservative than their radical predecessors of the turbulent 1960s, a recent survey shows that most students believe our society needs fundamental changes.

Major oil companies, major corporations, political parties and the current economic system all need fundamental reform according to more than 70 per cent of the university and college students polled in one of the most comprehensive surveys of student attitudes ever conducted.

J. Richard Finlay, who supervised the study, says the major difference between students of the 1960s and those of today is that now students are more able to manage and cope with their frustration internally.

"At the heart of today's student mood is a deep and abiding skepticism for our principal economic and political institutions, and especially for

their leaders," Finlay wrote in *Saturday Night* magazine.

An amazing 87 per cent support the nationalization of Canada's major oil companies, Finlay reports, and 91 per cent feel that "we are a democracy in name only, that special interests

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## Students need reps

The Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) decided at a weekend executive meeting in Calgary to try to ensure student representation on the recently formed national task force on student aid.

The formation of the task force was announced at a meeting between the Federal Secretary of State David MacDonald and the Council of Ministers of Education in Toronto last week.

Acting FAS executive of-

ficer Punam Khosla says FAS decided that student input into the task force should include representation from provincial student organizations, the National Union of Students as well as financial awards officers.

They will try to have some input to the November 28 national meeting of the deputy ministers of education. Khosla will meet with Alberta deputy minister of education Henry Kolizar before that meeting.

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## Stack the anti-cutback deck

If the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) has any say in the matter, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower Jim Horsman will soon be swamped with postcards. But they won't say "Having a good time, wish you were here."

The FAS card campaign is

under way here at the University of Alberta, as part of their anti-cutbacks and tuition increases program.

The Students' Union (SU) Cutbacks Committee is circulating postcard-size letters that will be collected and sent to Horsman. Four points of student

concern are listed on the card, including a call for funding to match inflation, and a stop to tuition increases.

On the bottom of the cards is room for students' signatures as well as their addresses. Students are asked to return the signed cards to the SU as soon as possible.

Cards may be picked up from the executive offices or from envelopes on campaign posters throughout campus. Drop-off boxes for completed cards can be found in SUB, HUB, CAB, Education, and Lister Hall.

About 2000 cards have been circulated on our campus so far, according to SU vp external Tema Frank. The committee hopes to have all the cards returned by November 15, in time for the FAS conference scheduled that weekend.

## Bart Evanski

*A column for the old farts*

Old C.P. #362636, a steam engine, was finally put to rest yesterday. Why I remember when she was one of the most beautiful ladies on the tracks.

Yessir, she was special. She was a masterpiece of design: long, sleek, dark and mysterious. I used to love caressing her curved, smooth belly, er, I mean, boiler.

I remember waiting for hours for her to finish her run and pull into the cathouse for servicing... god damn, I can't understand what's with me today. I mean the round house, of course.

She was a marvel. Why, there wasn't anything she was unable to do. During her time she conquered so much elevation, that the boys used to call her the Iron Lady of the West. She certainly had it in her.

When she got going there was nothing that could outstrip her staying power. She had it and knew what to do with it. And it certainly got her places. Why she travelled from one end of the country to the other and never once did she not satisfy.

At full steam and flat out she was enough to excite any man. With her fire-box blazing and her steam-piston pumping faster than can be imagined, she blew her way into the hearts of many a desperate engineer with a heavy load to carry.

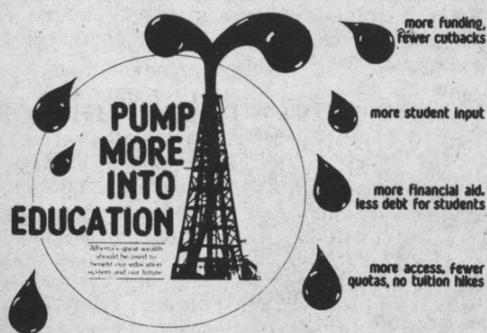
She seemed to love the engineers and they loved her. There was this one engineer who, when old #362636 neared the climactic peak of her power, just loved to reach up and pull her whistle: "Wooo, Wooo," it used to say.

There wasn't an engineer stronger than her. With her subtle ways and famous endurance, she was able to break the will of even the most obstinate of engineers and convince them of her many abilities. No man could last longer than her. Why, on a long run she would usually go through several teams of engineers before she reached her destination.

Probably her most prominent feature was her smoke stack. Boy, did she have a stack. And when she got going full out, and as the engine huffed and puffed, that stack just seemed to take on a life of its own.

Golly, it was sure sad to see #362636 retired yesterday. But you know how it is, things change. She was replaced by a tractor-sounding diesel, an effeminate brute trying hard to be an old steamer. But they just aren't the same. For one thing, they're not stacked.

Yup, an era came to an end yesterday, but the fond memories will live on. The Iron Lady of the West will never be forgotten by those fortunate enough to have experienced her, for she was an experience indeed.



Drop your government a line.