

Panelists debate future of Canada as a nation

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Hatfield said there should be "more talk about the forces that hold us together" and not those "that tend to pull us apart."

He said Canadians should "rediscover Canada" by making all Canadians feel "at home" in all parts of the country, and that Canadians should abandon the concept of making just Quebec feel at home in Canada.

To give special privileges to one province would be dangerous, said Hatfield, because the other provinces would demand similar concessions and this would seriously weaken the federal

government. If this were the case, he said, Canada would be seriously impaired in its ability to legislate for all parts of the country.

Hatfield cited the transcontinental railways, the "unique" parliamentary system, the settling of the western provinces, and the attainment of a single price for petroleum across Canada as accomplishments of the past made possible by confederation.

I think we have lost sight of the original concept of Canada," Hatfield said. "I think we have got to rediscover Canada."

The Premier said Canada needed a strong central govern-

ment to deal with problems presently faced by the country, whether they be of a cultural, linguistic, or economic nature.

Hatfield later claimed he would not vote for the Parti Quebecois if he had the opportunity due to his great antipathy to separatism although he admitted the greater competency of them compared to the Liberals led by Henri Bourassa. He said he would probably have voted for the Union Nationale.

Allen noted that Hatfield warned against giving Quebec special powers at the expense of the central government and said Levesque himself claimed this would lead to the "balkanization"

of the province.

Levesque's argument is that Quebec is not a province like the others...and Quebec will not be treated like a province like the others," he said.

Allen claimed Levesque's hardcore separatist support came from young professionals and semi-professionals with university education and — they won the last provincial election by campaigning as an alternative government to the Bourassa Liberals, downplaying their separatist policy.

The job of the Parti Quebecois leadership is now to win this peripheral support in the last election over the separatist cause.

In the meantime, the professor said, Levesque "is not prepared to play the balkanization game" and will either separate totally or else "play the game straight."

Allen said support for the separatist cause would probably increase by the time the Quebec referendum is held, particularly in the Montreal area. He noted that approximately 40 percent of hardcore Parti Quebecois support comes from professionals or semi-professionals with a working class background, giving them a "pipeline" to the labour vote. The rest of Canada would probably have to sit back and watch Quebec do what it would, Allen maintained.

Bosnitch said Canada was based on "pluralism based on inequality." He said there was a dominant nationality.

In this dominant nationality (English Canada), there is social stratification. Therefore, those at the end of the social scale take out their frustrations by looking down on the "inferior nationality" (French Canadians), said Bosnitch. Bosnitch said the upper strata of the "dominant strata" probably favours this situation as it helps them maintain their superior position, he said.

Therefore, Bosnitch maintained separatism was caused by Anglophone attitudes.

Any student of nationalism would expect these developments to be normal and expected," he said.

Although he expressed hopes that Quebec would not separate, he claimed separatism was "possible, feasible, and, I fear, probably."

He claimed unrest created by separation would probably be used by communists to establish themselves in Canada. He also said it would seriously damage Canada's reputation in other countries.

Grondin said the Parti Quebecois election created a sense of "freedom", similar to when the Liberals led by Jean Lesage defeated the Union Nationale.

Recently defeated premier Robert Bourassa reverted to Union Nationale style politics, and Levesque, a former minister in the Lesage government, made use of this politically, Grondin claimed.

Grondin said the Parti Quebecois election "brought a breath of fresh air to Quebec," and their first problem will be to form a strong administration which will confront social and economic problems faced by the province.

Grondin said Quebec, for years in the forefront for the fight to have provincial rights, will want more powers for the province and will not bargain these rights away like some others for economic concessions.

Grondin said Levesque does not consider himself the spokesperson for the non-Quebec Canadian Francophones, and does not want to deal with them.

However, he said the separation of Quebec would probably precipitate the separation of other provinces. "If this were to happen, we would basically have a Canada no more," Grondin said.

Grondin said the greatest problem facing Levesque was to implement the program of his party with the help of a civil service which had worked for years under the Liberal regime.

Pobihushchy said the problem of polarization of English and French Canadians was a result of the single member plurality electoral system, and that until Canadians change political systems which have proven to be inadequate, "we will continue to grope in the dark."

In the 1973 Quebec election, he claimed the Parti Quebecois received about five percent of the National Assembly seats with 30 percent of the vote. In only two of the last 17 federal elections have a majority of the voters elected a government, he said.

"Canadians like to think they are ruled by majorities...but this is not the case," Pobihushchy maintained.

Pobihushchy noted that there were large numbers of Liberal and Social Credit voters in Alberta and large numbers of Conservative votes in Quebec, but this is not reflected in the make-up of the House of Commons. This, he said, makes the Liberals look like a French party and the Conservatives an English party.

Pobihushchy said these "artificial" majorities were tearing this country apart, whereas it (the House of Commons) should be pulling it together.

Pobihushchy claimed an electoral system which penalizes diffuse support for a party is not well adapted to a heterogeneous country and Canadian political parties should "pay attention seriously" to changing it.

He later said he doubted any Canadian party, particularly the Liberals or Conservatives, would take on this task.

Allen said during the question period following the debate that the Conservatives, if elected, would probably give more power to the provinces while the Liberals would try to increase federal power in return for more protection of minority rights.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

WOMEN'S B/ KETBALL: UNB at UPEI, 6 p.m.

HOCKEY: Dalhousie at UNB, 7 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: UNB at UPEI, 8 p.m.

SRC CHRISTMAS FORMAL: SUB Ballroom, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

IVCF: Annual Christmas Banquet to be held at Grace Memorial Church Gym from 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Tickets: \$3.50 each, available from executive and members. Speaker is Steve Davidson, IVCF staff member from Moncton.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1976

BRUNSWICKAN/CHSR CHRISTMAS PARTY: Off-Campus Women's Lounge, 8:00 p.m. til the wee hours of the morning. Dress - Semi-formal. BYOB.

COMPUTER SCIENCE DAYS: Head Hall, Rm. D-6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: UNB at U de M, 1 p.m.

RABAEY ASSOCIATES BUSINESS SEMINAR: MacLaggan Hall, Rm. 105, 2 p.m. - 12 midnight.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: UNB at U de M, 3 p.m.

HOCKEY: St. F.X. at UNB, 7 p.m.

HUMAN RELATIONS MEETING: Marshall d'Avray Hall, Rm. 228 & 230, 8:30 a.m. - 12 midnight.

CELEBRATION OF LOVE: A musical presentation of The Sounds of The Christmas Season. Come and Enjoy the true meaning of Christmas as performed by Sure Life. Grace Memorial United Baptist Church (corner of Connaught St. and Northumberland St. at 7:00 p.m. Also on December 5th.

CHRISTMAS SALE: sponsored by the UNB Home Economics Club from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. at King's Place. Featuring: baked goods, handicrafts, white elephant.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

UNB PC'S MEETING: SUB, Rm. 102, 12 noon.

ART CENTRE SINGERS IN CONCERT: Mem. Hall, 3:30 p.m.

ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH CHOIR IN CONCERT: Playhouse, 8:30 p.m.

SUB STAFF PARTY: SUB Ballroom, 9 p.m.

ART CENTRE SINGERS SINGERS OF FREDERICTON will present a free 60-minute program consisting of The Christmas Story and the oratorio Jephthe by Giacomo Carissimi. UNB Memorial Hall, 3:30 p.m.

UNB STUDENT WIVES CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Tartan Room.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

HOPE: start your day with prayer and conversation. Rm. (116) SUB (T.V. Lounge) from 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.

UNB SRC MEETING: SUB, Rm. 103, 6:30 p.m.

CHESS CLUB MEETING: SUB, Rm. 6, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

UNB STUDENT WIVES MEETING: Program will be a Christmas Craft. Refreshment will be served. 7:30 p.m. in Tartan Room.



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