

# At odds with fools' dream

by Don Truckey

"An early Quebec referendum on separatism question is necessary to eliminate uncertainty in Canada and encourage investment in Quebec," Bryce MacKasey, former federal Liberal cabinet minister, said Saturday.

Speaking informally in French and English to a banquet sponsored by the Alberta Liberal Youth Commission, MacKasey warned that the Parti Quebecois wants to "separate from Canada and then negotiate their relationship with what remains of the country."

"It's a fool's dream to think we can appease the Parti Quebecois into staying in Canada," MacKasey said. He headed with English Canada to "get our heads out of the sand and recognize the rights of French Canadians — to respect their language and cultural rights."

Only through mutual respect, MacKasey stressed, can Canada remain united.

"My Toronto friends tell me not to worry about the referendum," he said. "They say only 18 per cent of Quebecers will vote for separatism. That scares the hell out of me. Not the 18 per cent — the fact that my friends in Toronto think so."

MacKasey reminded his audience that the Parti Quebecois is a legitimate political party, with 40 per cent of the vote in the recent election. However, he said that no Canadian premier, including Alberta's Lougheed, has the right to put provincial interests before those of the whole country.

"My honest belief," he said, "is that in the next five years we need a strong central government — not the decentralization Joe Clark calls for. Federalism simply means those who have must share with those who haven't.

I look for this country to stop the sterile argument over language and culture and get on with development."

MacKasey quit the federal Liberals over that "sterile argument" to successfully contest a provincial seat for the Quebec Liberal Party in the Nov. 15 election. He was one of the few prominent Quebec Liberals to survive the PQ sweep that toppled Robert Bourassa's government. He previously held federal Liberal cabinet portfolios in Labor, Manpower and Immigration and the Postmaster-General's office.

"I'm still a strong supporter of Pierre Trudeau," MacKasey said. "My reasons for leaving the Liberal Party were really nothing more than old Irish temper — or perhaps because my liberal tendencies were being trampled on. But this is no time to resort to simplistic solutions like getting rid of your leader. That's a Tory tradition."



Bryce MacKasey: singing the impossible dream

Falling "in love"...

## The Gateway

...is the only socially acceptable neurosis.

OL. LXVII, NO. 30. THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, EDMONTON, CANADA. TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1977.

TWELVE PAGES.

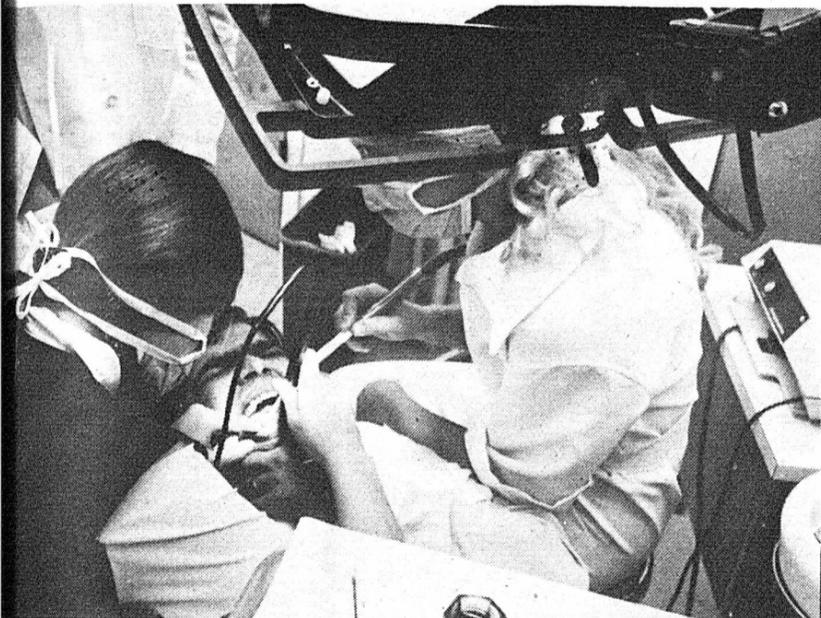


photo Grant Wurm

Open wide  
Dentistry students practice on a "volunteer" engineering student who is finding out what they really mean by building bridges.

## GFC considers tooth squad hassle

Dr. D.M. Collinson, acting dean of dentistry at U of A., will discuss a mid-term exam boycott of fourth year dentistry students at a regular meeting of the General Faculties Council today.

All 41 fourth year dentistry students refused to write their three mid-term exams last December.

General Faculties Council (GFC) interprets university exam regulations and Collinson said he wanted to find the council's position before deciding further action as a result of the boycotted exams.

"The students have been given a zero mark," he said, "But I don't want their action to really be a detriment to their futures."

The mid-term exam is worth ten per cent of the final mark in those courses.

Monty Audenart, president of the Dental Undergraduate Society, explained the students didn't write mid-terms because many of the students thought the mid-terms weren't going to be held and there was inadequate notice to study for them.

Adenart said the students were told one of their instructors there would

be no Christmas mid-term in his course if attendance was good. The attendance was excellent and the class felt there would be no exam, but the exam was posted in the schedule. There was also a hassle over another course regarding whether or not a mid-term was to be held.

The students met and decided not to write the mid-terms in Advanced  
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## Horowitz withdraws resignation

The university's academic vice-president, Dr. Meyer Horowitz, has withdrawn his resignation.

The Board of Governors enthusiastically accepted R. Horowitz's withdrawal of his letter of resignation Friday.

Horowitz, who has served as academic vp since July 1, 1975, earlier this fall submitted a letter to the Board stating his decision to resign as of June 30, 1977. He cited personal reasons for the decision but said Friday certain personal concerns had changed and allowed him to withdraw his resignation.

## No increase for practicum program

by Don Truckey

Faculties of education in provincial universities are up in arms over a unilateral provincial government decision to refuse an additional \$2.3 million per year for student teaching practicum programs.

The decision, by education minister Julian Koziak and advanced education minister Bert Hohol, ends plans by education faculties in the province to extend teacher practicum to one full semester (13 to 15 weeks).

## Prof pact ratified

QUEBEC CITY The professors' strike at Laval University, which had cancelled classes for 25,000 students for the last four months, is finally over.

After nearly 1½ years of bargaining and sixteen weeks of strike, the faculty union approved a university contract offer December 23 by 85 per cent.

The university, which had been closed during the strike, reopened last week. Students were back for registration Monday and will begin classes today.

Instead of the normal spring term ending in mid-April, they will be attending two thirteen-week terms, ending in early July, to make up for the time lost from the strike.

"I resigned as early as I did because I know how long it make take to form a committee and get another vp selected," Horowitz told the Gateway.

"But the personal concerns, some of which were personal health concerns, are not as pressing, or don't seem to me as pressing, as they were when I made my initial decision to resign," Horowitz continued.

"I've had a couple of weeks to think things over...I feel good about my decision."

Dr. Horowitz's term as academic vp runs until June 30, 1980.

"This puts us back where we were five years ago," said Dr. Walter Worth, U of A Dean of Education, at a Thursday press conference. "With no additional funds, we will have to limit our program to five or six weeks."

The Alberta Teachers Association (ATA) and the Alberta Schools Trustees Association (ASTA) have joined the universities in condemning the move.

"We're particularly upset to be told 'no' without being given any reasons," Worth said. "That seems to be the prerogative of government, but it's somewhat undemocratic."

A Dec. 15 letter from the ministers indicated they saw no need to meet for discussion of the funding cut-back. A second request for a meeting has been extended by the Board of Teacher Certification, which represents the universities, the ATA and the ASTA.

"If the ministers had no intention of support," said Howard Johnson, executive president of the ATA, "they should have said 'no' before such a considerable amount of time and effort had already gone into developing the extended practicum program."

In 1972 former minister of education, Lou Hyndman, established a ministerial order calling for the equivalent of one semester of practicum. "We have tried to implement this proposal," Worth said, "but our funds have been cut off."

"Present funds allow no room for expansion," Worth added. "Likely without additional funds we cannot even continue programs underway this year."

Past president of the ASTA, Dr. Griffiths, commented that the Board of  
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