



**Philip  
Preville**

## En anglais, in French, no one ever listens

English-French relations in Canada haven't been as bad as they are today since the October crisis of 1970.

Perhaps the latest round of bad energy began when Premier Don Getty said he was sick and tired having French forced down his throat. Then there was Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa's Bill 178, the controversial new sign law which alienated anglophones across Canada. Then, in a bold display of populist politics, Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon immediately revoked his support for the Meech Lake accord. As new questions arise about the future of Meech Lake, the saga continues to unfold.

I recently interviewed Clifford Lincoln, one of the anglophone cabinet ministers in Bourassa's government who resigned over Bill 178. Through his resignation, Lincoln has established himself as a man of principle and vision on the issue of official minority language rights. The fifteen-minute interview was broadcast on FM88 CJSR last Friday morning.

"I think we started to have a dialogue of the deaf," said Lincoln, referring to how the situation managed to get as bad as it is.

"I find it sad that it's happened at all," he continued. "We've got to make that special effort to start talking to each other again. We can't just live in the same country, where we've shared so much, and not unite ourselves again."

Part of the interview — about two and a half minutes — was conducted and broadcast in French. "We've got to depolarize the debate," said Lincoln in impeccable and deliberate Parisian French, "and we'll only manage that through young people. We won't get through to adults whose minds are filled with stereotypes. If I could, I'd resurrect programs such as Katimavik, which gave young people from both communities the chance to meet and understand one another. The 50 million dollars that was saved by abolishing these programs simply wasn't worth the good that it accomplished."

Lincoln then continued in English. "I think all minorities need a sense of fairness, equity, and special protection for their rights when their rights are being interfered with. I think that we've got to make sure that the cultural identity of these groups is protected and promoted. We owe them a duty — as a broadly based, prosperous society

— to make sure that we equalize their chances so that they can survive."

It had been a long time since I heard a man who was so positive about the issue. His straightforwardness was refreshing.

Moments after its broadcast, CJSR received a complaint telephone call about the interview. According to Amy Santoro, CJSR's news director, the caller was upset that a portion had been broadcast in French, and was equally upset that any Quebecois was getting airtime, and that we should let Quebec separate and be rid of them once and for all.

The Dialogue of the Deaf.

### Correction

The column entitled "The Green Revolution: Dollars and Sense?", which appeared in the October 12 edition of *The Gateway*, used a *Globe & Mail Report on Business Magazine* article as its sole primary source, without attribution.

*The Gateway* apologizes for this oversight.

### LETTERS continued

## Cyclists thoughtlessly flout the law

I can sympathize with Melanie Meardi's letter (Nuts to Motorists, Oct. 16) to an extent, but I think that the cycling issue must be put in context.

As a person who cycles to and from campus five or more days a week, I find the bicycle to be a wonderful, healthy, and environmentally friendly mode of transportation. But I also see many cyclists who are inconsiderate and take foolish risks. Common examples include: riding on sidewalks, lawns, etc.; failing to use hand signals; failing to yield to pedestrians; no light at night; failing to obey traffic signs (one way streets included); and worst of all, riding with headphones on.

With such flagrant violations of motor vehicle laws, which bicycles must obey, it's not surprising that motorists, among others, get upset. Cycling doesn't have to be a source of danger and irritation to others, but it seems that the actions of several people give all cyclists a bad name. I'd like to see the police give out more tickets to cyclists who disobey the law.

Tony Morris

Last week's letter by Melanie Meardi (Nuts to motorists) advocating bicyclists ignore one way restrictions and putting down motorists is not representative of the bicycling community as a whole. Many cyclists, commuters and recreational riders alike, are con-

vinced that adherence to traffic regulations by all parties maximizes safety and traffic flow.

I encourage all cyclists and motorists to realize they share the road, not own it, and act accordingly.

Dave Straube

In response to "Nuts to Motorists" in the October 12, 1989 *Gateway*, I would like to say: SHOVE IT! As much as I personally feel that pedal bikes are extremely annoying, I realize that they have as much right to use the road as anyone else. The main stipulation, of course, is that there are rules for the road. If you do not follow the rules of the road, which include stopping at red lights and riding the proper way on one way streets, then you are subject to fines and I believe do not deserve the privilege of using the road.

The best way for you to acquire a chrome plated ass from a city transit bus or from my front fender is to do stupid things on the road that other drivers are not expecting, like going the wrong way on a one way street. Think about it, the rules were made for you as well.

Ed Thompson  
Arts III

### Guts & gore

Violence, violence, violence.

Last year, Philip Screwdriver and Jake Griffen, along with the ever-pitied "Philosophy Man," took to the comics page to get trashed on a semi-regular (weekly) basis.

But now things have just gotten out of hand.

Bloody eyeballs savagely squished by barbells. Obnoxious punks have their chests blown open by double-barreled shotguns. Superheroes blast Bub-Slug look-alikes amidst calls of "eat this, scabhead!" University mascots terrifying pathetic first-year engineering students.

Violence, violence, violence.  
(I love it. Keep it coming!)

Tom E. Kalis  
Faculte Saint-Jean IV

## Friends are hard to find

Dear Student Body:

What does an intelligent, kind, sincere and pretty 25 year old girl have to do to get friends? And could someone explain to me why, when I smile at strangers I get looks of bewilderment? Yes, I've joined many clubs etc. but people are not interested in wanting to know a person who is a bit quiet. What do I have to do — be a bubblehead and drink to the point of intoxication? I'm sorry, but that's just not for me. So I guess until I can understand what people are looking for in friends, I'll just have to be content sitting on the outside and looking in.

Name Withheld  
Education IV

## Abortion not all that simple

Let us examine the abortion issue and its two opposing sides a little closer. We have the pro-life side and the pro-choice side. The first group feels life is the right at stake, the second group feels choice is the right at stake. Both are important rights. However, we are forgetting

one thing — without life, we have no choices.

Clear? Simple?

So why are there so many babies being killed that aren't being given the right to choose to live?

Rebecca Morcos  
Science I

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