

Robertson denies mould

by Helen King

"Some of my best friends are women!" Lloyd Robertson assured a woman dominated crowd Friday afternoon at the Canadian Women's Club meeting.

Lloyd Robertson or the "male counterpart of Raquel Welch" as he was described, is CBC's daily major newscaster, and was a guest speaker at the meeting.

"The CBC is a mirror image of this country," he continued. "Yet what are we? How do we reflect ourselves as individuals?" he stressed, in attempting to explain the difficulties in broadcasting to a widely diversified audience. "T.V. is an indispensable instrument and only through nationwide broadcasts will we be able to identify and realize ourselves as one united nation." He further explained that the news raises one's consciousness and awareness.

However, there is a limitation of time in a newscast and therefore stories of greater importance to Canadians will be given preference. Speaking on behalf of the CBC he said their objective is to remain unbiased and this entails the breaking down of stories into sections for western and eastern Canada. Both are included on every newscast. He mentioned that often when they appear biased, it is due to the fact that other persons biases are projected on the news people because they are emotionally involved. He mused that you probably have never heard anyone say, "Hang on, you're giving too much of

my side of the story!"

Then there are the people that say "give us more good news" which he pointed out means "don't give us as much bad news." He was saying a new phenomenon has arisen. The extra coverage given to President Ford's assassination attempts, has created a dichotomy within reporters. The reason being that the public wants to hear about it and yet it was done for attention.

The advantage of a nationwide newscast is that it hands people the opportunity to observe people in other parts of the country. Robertson stressed.

The newsman must remain faithful to his craft, he reminded us. There must be no slanders or the release of military secrets! The news must be interesting

and entertaining, without being controversial. Of course, digging behind a story is bound to receive some feedback. This cannot be helped, he said.

It is up to the reader to sift the material. Robertson informed the group. Where you are from, he realises, will make a vast difference on how you interpret the news.

"You cannot cast a mold for a typical Canadian!" he stated. It is only recently that Canada's sovereignty is being expressed. Along with this, he feels that ideas must flow from east to west and west to east, if the country is to survive.

In closing, he reminded us that this country is a part of us, our roots are here! It's not much different from being born in Seattle, but just as personal.

Local debators planning for England tournament

Plans are in the works to send four debators from the U of A to London, England for an international debating tournament. The Canadian University Society for International Debate (CUSID) has been working for the last year to get financing to send twenty-eight debators from Canada to the international event. The U of A has been chosen to send four of these delegates.

To determine who will go, the U of A Debating Society will hold a debating tournament on

campus in early November. The four debators coming out on top of that tournament will be delegated to go to London.

The style of debate planned for this tournament will be parliamentary. In this particular debate individuals will enter and teams will be chosen randomly from entrants.

Anyone interested in entering or in helping with the organisation of the tournament is asked to call either Kevan Warner at 452-3646, or John Ferris at 435-4024.

John Locke on human understanding

Scholars from Canada, Great Britain, and the U.S. will gather at the U of A late next week to discuss the philosophy of John Locke.

Approximately 40 people will take part in the workshop scheduled for October 3 to 5. Discussions will focus on the Essay Concerning Human Understanding, written by Locke in 1690. The workshop is being supported by grants from the Canada Council and the U of A.

The conference organizer is Dr. Peter A. Schuls, who some time ago was approached by others who had an interest in

the writer and asked to arrange for a sharing of ideas on the subject - the result is this conference at which previously unpublished research papers will be presented.

The workshop organization was given added impetus by the recent publishing of a collection of Locke's work. "Previously there had never been an authoritative collection," says Dr. Schuls. "The work by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, which includes An Essay Concerning Human Understanding is such a work."

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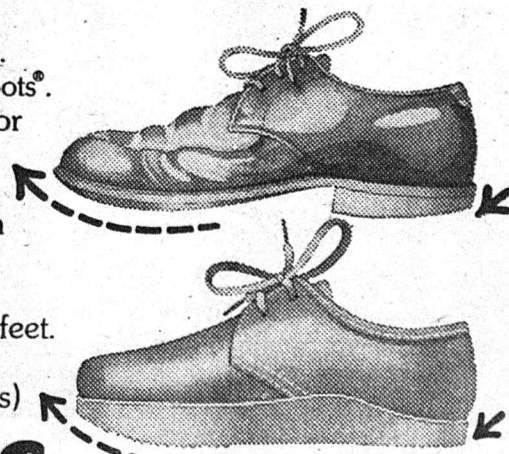
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