

Dalhousie Gazette

Vol. 103 November 13, 1970 Halifax, N.S. Number 7

Le Chateau

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Halifax, N.S.

In the words of P. E. Trudeau



"Eighty-three years ago in the Mounted Police barracks in Regina, Louis Riel awaited execution as a convicted traitor. This afternoon we are assembled to unveil a monument in his honor.

"No man in Canadian history suffered as many reversals of fortune during his life. He was, in turn, unofficial leader of a provisional government, founder of the province of Manitoba, fugitive in exile, member of Parliament, outlaw, leader of another provisional government and prisoner.

"Yet it may be that none of the twists and turns in his tragic biography will be as important to the history of this country as the reversal of official and public opinion which this monument symbolizes.

"How many other Riels exist in Canada, beyond the fringe of accepted conduct, driven to believe that this country offers no answer to their needs and no solutions to their problems? How many of us understand the loneliness, the sense of futility of such a man? How many of us are willing to concede that

future historians, in chronicling the events of our lives, may choose to emphasize and applaud the activities, not of the privileged majority but of some little-known leader of an unpopular minority?

"A democratic society and system of government, while among the grandest of human concepts, are among the most difficult to implement. In a democracy it is all too easy for the majority to forget the rights of the minority, and for a remote and powerful government to ignore its protests.

"It is all too easy, should disturbances erupt, to crush them in the name of law and order. We must never forget that, in the long run, a democracy is judged by the way the majority treats the minority. Louis Riel's battle is not yet won."

— Quotes from Pierre Trudeau's speech as he unveiled a monument to Louis Riel, on October 2, 1968. (Taken from "The Canadian Far Eastern Newsletter", which reprinted them from the "Ukrainian Canadian".)

Teach In

Support for the Quebec people and resistance against the repression currently taking place in that province is the objective of a nationwide day of solidarity scheduled for

today, Friday, November 13.

Organized by student and citizen groups across the country, the movement stresses that no constructive social analysis or criticism can take place under the War Measures Act or under the Proposed Temporary Legislation introduced to replace it.

To provide the necessary information about the Quebec situation to Halifax students, the Dalhousie Students' Union will sponsor a teach-in on Friday at 12:30 in the McInnis Room. A member of the Quebec Committee for the Defense of Civil Liberties and Democratic Rights will speak.