

Canadian University Press DATELINE

Pearson Advocates Free Education

Special to The Gateway

OTTAWA—Prime Minister Pearson said Tuesday night he believes in free education for qualified students.

Admitting that this policy is one which cannot be implemented overnight, the Prime Minister said he had no hesitation in asserting his personal belief that education at all levels should be free to all those qualified to take advantage of it.

He added, however, that at the moment there may be other greater priorities in the field of education and that it is possible that there may never be perfect equality of opportunity.

Although there will always be impediments of one kind or another, Mr. Pearson said, "The financial barriers to education which now exist cannot be tolerated indefinitely."

Mr. Pearson was speaking at a dinner of the annual meeting of the National Conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges (NCUC).

He said if existing talent is to be appreciated, "No young man or woman ought to be shut off from university by the gap between what he or she can earn in the summer and what it costs to live and study for a year."

Quebec Loan Plan Awaited

LENNOXVILLE (CUP)—Presidents of six English-speaking universities in Quebec are still awaiting word from Premier Jean Lesage on the Quebec government's plans for revenue allotments to the province under the Canada Student Loan Act.

Earlier this year, the six universities agreed to support the Quebec premier's decision to contract out of the federal government's student loan plan.

Under an agreement with the federal government, Quebec will receive 2 per cent corporation tax rebate equal to the amount of money the province would receive under the Canada Student Loan Act. French-speaking universities in Quebec opposed the loan plan from the outset claiming it infringed on the authority of the provinces in the field of education.

The six English-speaking universities, in a statement released to the press during the summer, said they expected the tax rebate would be used in the field of education in Quebec.

Premier Lesage has said he is satisfied with the Quebec student loan plan and does not intend to spend the federal rebate on education.

Student Financial Relief Urged

OTTAWA (CUP)—The Canadian Union of Students (CUS) and the Students' Administrative Council of the University of Toronto have called for a halt to the increasing financial burden of Canadian students.

A report said Canadian universities must be financed so they will not be forced to raise fees again in order to meet increasing costs. Ultimately, it concluded, they must reduce or eliminate student fees.

A recent CUS survey indicates that 20 Canadian universities have increased fees an average of \$60 this year.

The authors of the report note that while parental income has risen faster than the cost of living, parents account for only 19 per cent of all student financing. They add that the economics of education reveal gross inequalities. A student whose family's income is above \$15,000 a year has about a thirty times greater chance of attending university than a student of equal ability whose family's yearly earnings are less than \$4,000.

Trimesters Introduced At Ryerson

TORONTO (CUP)—Ryerson Polytechnical Institute is to become the first Canadian technological school to operate on a year-round trimester system.

An administration spokesman said 250 to 300 first year engineering technology and business administration students will initiate the system beginning next summer. An exact date will be announced by the Ontario Department of Education.

The Ryerson move comes at a time when the question of year-round operation of Canadian universities, colleges and technological schools is being given considerable study. Earlier this month, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) published the results of a study which was generally unfavorable to the plan.

The year-round operation will shoot Ryerson's day school enrolment over the 4,000 mark. First year Ryerson courses in engineering technology, business administration and architectural technology will be offered at a number of Ontario high schools to handle the overflow.

Will Quebec Separate?

TORONTO (CUP)—A sociologist at the University of Toronto says the economic disadvantages will likely not prevent the separation of Quebec from Canada.

W. D. Johnson, a lecturer in sociology who has just returned from studies in Quebec, said the last stumbling block confronting the separatist movement are the French-Canadian communities outside the province of Quebec.

He added, however, that opinion is gathering on the side of those who want to leave them as they are on the grounds that they are already on the road to assimilation.

One striking feature of the separatist movement is that French-Canadians are taking over the labor and farming movements, he said some unions are pressing for nationalist goals rather than more money and shorter working hours.

Separatism is the aim of most of Quebec's young intellectuals and is catching on among the more mature intelligentsia too.

A contemporary French-Canadian joke translates "A stranger in Paradise" as "an English-Canadian in Quebec", which shows how French-Canadians look upon English-Canadians—as foreigners.

But separation is not something that will happen tomorrow. Recent polls show that only 13 per cent of the Quebec population is actually in favour of separating now.

Council And The UAB Disagree About Representation Policy

By Larry Krywaniuk

Students' Council and the University Athletic Board are not in complete agreement over student representation on the UAB.

There are two positions taken in this conflict, the idealistic one taken by SU President Francis Saville and the practical taken by UAB President Dave Cragg.

The policies, although resting on a different basis, have many similar aims.

The idealistic side represents a system of thought in which student control is the primary consideration.

"We have," says Saville, "two reasons for having self-government as students. One is to provide essential services to clubs and organizations of student membership, such as money for functions and space for meetings."

"The other," he continues, "is to give students a chance to shoulder the responsibility of decision making, controlling public funds and running large operations in an efficient and optimal manner."

Saville feels this could be done by a hierarchy of power but we in a democracy have chosen a "slower and perhaps more 'bumbling' way of doing it," for the reasons mentioned above.

UAB President Cragg argues from a more pragmatic standpoint.

He feels we have an efficient, well-run organization which is the envy of most universities across the country.

"Men like Dr. Van Vliet," Cragg says, "have actually helped develop the system in the last 30 years and the students are benefiting from this work and foresight."

"Virtually," he continued, "the students have control of UAB—if they want it."

In the present organization, there are seven student representatives including one from student council, and five faculty representatives acting in an advisory capacity, but with the power to vote.

There was a move by council to provide an exchange by which two more council members would sit on the UAB in exchange for the re-institution of the presidents of Men's and Women's Athletics on council with full voting privileges.

"This," says Saville, "would give a total of five members sitting on both councils and would foster better communication and relations between UAB and SC."

This matter was taken to a vote by the UAB and was passed on the first reading.

Being a constitutional change, however, it required two readings. On the second reading the proposal was amended to exchange two council representatives for the presidents of Men's and Women's Athletics being reinstated as full voting members.

Cragg says: "We've amended this so it is a two for two exchange (one council member incumbent and one proposed). This gives a ratio of eight to five in favor of the student, which is as favorable as one could expect. Dr. Van Vliet is a faculty member, but as chairman has never exercised his vote."

"There is a seat on UAB reserved for an Alumni representative, but no one has represented them for some time. Virtually then student to faculty ratio is 7-3."

Saville says "If our resolution had been taken, the ratio would have

been 9-5. Council approved this but since was not effected, the proposals have not been carried out."

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The problem of communication has been brought out by Saville and he believes this is one of the causes of the differences in opinion.

"My position at first," says Saville, "was to try and effect a 'stop-gap' solution—one which would help bridge the gap, but then I became concerned with the whole situation."

"We are willing to try and solve the communication problem and improve relations."

Cragg suggested we examine the consequences of student control of UAB.

"The overall function is so pertinent not only within the university but is also an integral part of the Western Intercollegiate Conference. Any student error in athletic administration would have consequences also in the Western Conference."

"The UBC Athletic Board had students' control. It voted to withdraw from inter-collegiate activities and then came on bended knee to be readmitted. They must now wait two years."

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"This has affected the function of the Western Intercollegiate Athletic Association."

"We have reached the stage," he continues, "where we have a responsibility not only to ourselves but to the Canadian Intercollegiate Union by virtue of increasing national championships."

"We feel that only by having such men as Dr. Van Vliet advise us, can we have and retain a strong and efficient athletic organization."

"Their purpose is not to dictate or control but to guide."

"There is concern" he added, "that the administration of UAB is not

functioning in the best interests of the students—but this is definitely so."

The whole question erupted violently this year with respect to a proposed concrete grandstand to replace the temporary ones now in use.

A UAB reserve fund of approximately \$40,000 was to be used in the construction.

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"I opposed this move" says Saville, "because I felt that it could be better put to use in intramural sports. The grandstand is a luxury we use perhaps 3 times a year and I feel the administration should provide it if it feels that it is necessary."

Cragg says, "The feeling of the UAB on the grandstand issue was that this could be a gesture to thank the university for all it had contributed to athletics at the university."

"As this was an un-academic aspect of athletics, the UAB thought that unless they initiated action to facilitate student accommodation, that nothing would have been done, concerning the arising problem. Renting condemned bleachers from the city year after year, was not conducive to encouraging student attendance—to cheer on one of Canada's finest university football teams."

The grandstand proposal is now up for study and further action is expected in the new few weeks.

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Saville feels that if the students had control, the situation would not be much different.

He says, "The only difference is that we might get an outside grant instead of the indirect payment which we now receive."

"There is some merit in what Francis is doing," Cragg commented, "but I think he is going too far in his idealism."

Sex And Marriage Topic At Anglican Conference

Marriage and sex were given a thorough going-over at last weekend's Anglican university students' western regional conference in the Jubilee Auditorium.

One hundred students from the prairie provinces and British Columbia gathered for the one-day session, Saturday.

Conference leader was Rev. Charles Fielding, professor of moral theology at the University of Toronto's Trinity College.

Mr. Fielding gave the conference's keynote address an analysis of different ways of looking at marriage and family life.

A panel of experts discussed questions put forth by the student delegates, who met earlier in the day to discuss obstacles to the establishment of marriage and ways of strengthening family life.

PANELISTS NAMED

Panelists included Mr. Fielding; city psychiatrist Dr. Harold Baker; Dr. Gwynn Nettler, professor of sociology at the University of Alberta; city obstetrician Dr. T. R. Nelson; city pediatrician Dr. Jean Nelson; lawyer William Angus; Mrs. J. Grant Sparling, dean of women at U of A; and city social worker Jackson Willis.

Among the general conclusions reached by the panel was the thought that marriage is not a 50-50 partner-

ship, but needs 100 per cent giving on both sides, with nothing expected in return, to be successful.

Panel moderator was Ian Sowton of the U of A English department. Object of the conference, held annually, is to cover a topic close to the student world with the help of trained experts.

Blitz Day Magic May Create \$10,000

Blitz day was magic—it turned philosophy into money.

Bruce Shields, Blitz Committee chairman, commenting on last Thursday's campaign, said "canvassers had a more philosophical attitude this year—they took a personal satisfaction in working for a good cause."

Their personal satisfaction has amounted to \$6,200 so far.

Counting pledges and late contributions the total collection is expected to total between \$9,000 and \$10,000.

The average team was small, but several teams turned in more than \$200 in cash and pledges.

Emily, a six-foot rag doll, was won by an education team, captained by Ron Fishburn. The team collected \$284, the largest team total.