



the ottawa view

by don sellar, cup national president

OTTAWA—When the national Progressive Conservative convention opened here Monday, Tory chief John Diefenbaker joined battle with his greatest critics.

Among those who would topple The Man from Prince Albert is the face of youth typified by one Michael Vineberg.

Vineberg, 22, is national president of the Progressive Conservative Student Federation, representing some 2,500 student Tories in 53 campus clubs across the country.

Silent ever since the unsuccessful attempt to banish Mr. Diefenbaker from the corridors of power two years ago, Vineberg has finally pledged his full support—and that of his federation—against the Diefenbaker legend.

"A leader can't be a leader forever," he said during a recent visit to Ottawa. "Mr. Diefenbaker was valid in 1957—but he isn't today. What we have to decide is whether he is relevant to the present day."

In threatening Mr. Diefenbaker's position atop the Tory totempole, Vineberg now speaks with what he calls "virtually unanimous" support from student Conservative associations across Canada.

A referendum conducted recently among student Tories urged the party's national federation to become involved in the leadership issue, to support Dalton Camp's campaign against Mr. Diefenbaker's leadership and to lobby for a leadership convention before another federal election is called.

"What this country needs is a new generation of leadership," Vineberg says. "It's not so much their age as it is their outlook . . ."

The PCSF leader, who spends his time these days finishing off a master's degree in political science at McGill University, studying

first-year law at the same institution and barnstorming around the country for the PCSF, says student discontent with "scandal-mongering and constant use of invective in House" is growing into a concerted drive for a leadership convention in 1967.

"At a leadership convention, I would doubt that many students would support Mr. Diefenbaker."

The student leader contrasts the old generation of politicians represented by men like Gordon Churchill and John Diefenbaker with a vibrant, tuned-in group exemplified by Dalton Camp and George Hees.

Speaking of Camp's motives for campaigning the length and breadth of Canada in an attempt to unseat Mr. Diefenbaker, Vineberg says:

"He (Camp) really feels that the young people are terribly alienated from the Conservative Party. And scandal-mongering doesn't do much to get young people interested in government."

The dark-haired Montrealer has some evidence to indicate that student Tories are ready to do something about the current Parliamentary situation.

Students at Waterloo Lutheran University recently voted 49 per cent Conservative in a Model Parliament election there, with Liberals and New Democrats mustering only 28 and 23 per cent of the popular vote respectively. This represented a 12 per cent gain for the Conservatives over last year's performance, Vineberg says, being careful to note the Waterloo election was fought on a pro-Camp platform.

But what will happen when about 100 student Tories, with only 65 votes out of 1,150 distributed among convention delegates, attempt to stage their own revolution in the party? What will they concentrate

their energies on in addition to an attack on the Old Guard.

Vineberg is looking for internal party reform in long-range planning areas, for one thing.

"We feel that a caucus deals with only what you're going to say in the House next week. Right now, there is no coherent Conservative statement on many important issues," he says.

"There is no long-range planning going on right now." With this in mind, the PCSF will try to lobby for establishment of a policy commission in the party.

Also on Vineberg's agenda for the week's meetings are a discussion of PCSF Model Parliament tactics and introduction of numerous resolutions such as a policy stand on Rhodesia.

There is one place where student Tories won't be treading education. Although he predicts one or two "unofficial" education resolutions will be introduced, Vineberg explains "there just wasn't enough time" to prepare any PCSF legislation on the subject.

"Frankly, I personally don't really know what to say about education. I don't understand all the economic arguments (in favor of free education)," Vineberg says.

"While he favors more support to post-graduate education in Canada, Vineberg suggests he is not a willing supporter of educare: "Nothing should be free," he says. "I can't make a public stand out of a private position."

One leadership matter which won't come up for debate next week is his own job as PCSF head. "We have a periodic review of leadership, but no leader receives his mandate from God—not even in the Conservative Party. Apathy, not the Liberals, is our greatest enemy these days," he says.

Foreign policy seminar

eign aid, where policy is timid and non-original, foreign aid will follow suit.

The seminar's most lively discussion followed this delivery. Delegates formulated recommendations that more aid should be given through multi-lateral organizations like the UN, the amount of aid should be at least 2 per cent of the donor's GNP, and that more countries should follow Sweden's fundamental foreign aid principle: "Stop the girls that are being born today from giving birth to what will be the world's 6th and 7th billion people."

The topic of birth control drew enthusiastic discussion. Contraceptives? Ghandian abstinence? Tax on children? Urbanization and industrialization? Later marrying age? Abortions?

The seminar included sessions on Communist China, the Commonwealth, the Common Market, NATO, the UN, Russia, and the final summarizing topic: Can Canada have an independent foreign policy?

"No", said a University of Manitoba delegate. Canada's American century is going to be more difficult than her British one, because Canada's overseas interests are beginning to diverge from those of the U.S. and our special world position is that of a middle power—a peacemaker, not a powdermonkey. Therefore, he said, if Canada continues on her path of timid foreign policy her attempt at world influence will rapidly become a more futile gesture than it now is.

I interpreted the American attitude as benevolent to Canada. However the United States will do what is expedient for the United States and exert pressure on Canada if Canadian actions interfere with American objectives.

A student ventured that Canada could develop independence in foreign policy if she had quality foreign diplomats and if Canadians were willing to suffer a cut in their living standard. He said that Canadians, unused to sacrifice, would certainly not consent to lowering the living standard for such an elusive concept as independence of decision in foreign policy.

A faculty member, representing the Graduate Studies Committee, from the University of British Columbia will be available for campus interviews with senior students interested in graduate study leading to a Master of Business Administration on

NOVEMBER 23 & 24

between the hours of
9 to 5

Requirements for admission to the M.B.A. Program include a college degree in any field as well as an overall average of at least 72 percent.

The M.B.A. program requires one winter session of study and research following the completion of all necessary prerequisites. The total time required will vary with the number of prerequisites to be completed, but in no case will it exceed two winter sessions of course work.

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Detailed information as to the admission requirements, nature of the program, and financial assistance will be offered.

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STUDENT PLACEMENT OFFICE
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CAMPUS INTERVIEWS

November 21, 22, 23

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an appointment.