

**imported toots
did what they could
to make of souls
and reshaped there;
thus it came clear
grew from despair
a total totem pole.**

**Who is the man
who placed it thus?
And, if you can,
explain to us
a total totem pole.
The power elite,
a complex clique,
is at a height
to make men weep
a total totem pole.**

**The middle class
is on the beam,
if they should clash
the troubles' stem?
a total totem pole.
It stands erect
and scrapes the sky.
Can you detect
the reason why
a total totem pole?**

**A bear, a goose,
a caribou,
a beaver, moose,
a buffalo—
a total totem pole.
Each face in place,
each fear in doubt;
the human race
is up (not out)
a total totem pole.**

used as a device for carrying telephone lines, microwave units, television antennae, radio towers, and advertising matter and let there be a neon sign on the top proclaiming anything so long as it sells.

Notice the Swiss Family Robinsonian idea that it should be made of a natural resource and the Government Travel Bureau saying it should be exploited as something different from anything the Americans have to offer (the same play they use with the French-Canadians). Watch out Watts Towers.

WHO IS THAT MAN YELLING "TIMBER!"? The one with the axe in one hand and the wallet in the other.

"If that damn thing were any higher it would be a hazard to aviation, cloud-shrouded as it is."

The sculptural intent is implicit in the entire construction of the edifice. It is an ascending deep frieze and contains, hence, suggestions of both our northern resources and the overtake of suburbia.

(Whatever happened to John Diefenbaker? The totem pole was beyond his ken; but, while he is not in the positional portion of the structure it would be rash to assume that he is not, indeed, in the negatotal (submerged) portion.)

Measured by geographers, calibrated by surveyors, photographed by visitors, used by aerialists, buzzed by airplanes, signified by social scientists, analyzed by literateurs, envied by Americans, the totoCanadian totem pole stands still in the forest of the north.

TOTAL POLEMATIC STATEMENT

By The Totem Builders

The totem is the vertical, ascending system, the cylinder of masks.

The totem is the symbol and there are no happy media about it.

The essential factor in the construction, erection and stability of the totem is its rigidity. No one can ascend from one point on it to another from the inside without changing a mask.

We have taken the concept of the Manhattan skyscraper and the John A. MacDonald highrise apartment and made it one hundred per cent Canadian.

Canada is the only nation which is entitled to a total totem pole because Canada is the only nation which affords totem poles of any sort in the first case.

Our totem pole shall last forever or a thousand years, whichever comes first.

There shall be no other totems before ours.

The alliance of the medieval (gryphons on buttresses, leering dragons beneath pews) and the modern (telepoles, etc.) is of the utmost significance, as are the American and British elements.

The sound of the beast shall be the clash of symbols in darkness, ringing the changes that we endure on.

Dry rot at any point of the totem necessarily involves the weakening of the entire structure. Hence it is necessary to protect the total pole from termites, lightning, woodpeckers, caterpillars, water seepage, souvenir collectors and the pulp and paper industry.

Jon Whyte

Bill Salter

