

# The Gateway

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1965

## Information, Not Solutions

French Canada Week is upon us.

This ambitious project has been the result of many hours work by many enthusiastic students. As Dr. Johns has said, it "deserves the interest and support of a large segment of the University of Alberta." We hope the students, the faculty, the citizens of Alberta, will take advantage of this unique opportunity to discover just what Quebec wants from Confederation.

But let us not fool ourselves. French Canada Week itself won't solve Canada's problems. Merely understanding the French Canadian aspirations, merely achieving communication, dialogue, with French Canada, will solve few of Canada's ills.

However, it is a start, and we in the West may never get a better chance to meet the spokesmen of the "quiet revolution." The emphasis this week is on information, not solutions. And so it should be.

Before we "pass judgment" on the French Canadians, as we so often do, we must ascertain the facts about the "quiet revolution." We must listen to the responsible leaders of this economic, political, and cultural revolution. In short, we must know what French Canada wants.

Some English Canadians have suggested that perhaps even the French Canadians are really not aware of what they want. We have a chance this week to find out. Let us listen carefully to what the "independent thinkers" of Quebec, the students, have to say.

Hopefully, this week will help eliminate the prejudice and ignorance which have guided much of Western Canadian thinking towards Quebec. For the most part we have been the victims of a French Canadian myth. It is time we replaced myth with fact.

At the same time we must guard against mis-information. If all we derive from the week is an impression of Quebec as a lover of pea soup, modern art, wood carvings, and handicraft; as a hotbed of passionate nationalism or separatism; as an excellent source of folksingers and films; we will have wasted our time.

More important, we will have failed to grasp the significance of, and basis for, the Quebec disquiet.

Also, we must not look upon French Canada Week as an "end", but as a "jumping off point", a stimulant to further discussion, further thought. While no solutions are sought this week, in the years to come we will be expected to make the decisions which will decide Canada's fate—let us do so on the basis of mutual understanding and not mutual distrust.

By all means, let us attend as much of the French Canada Week program as possible. Let us participate in the discussions. Let us think about what we see and hear. Perhaps, then, we will realize, as many others have already, that English and French Canadian aspirations are not at all incompatible.

## To the memory of Sir Winston Churchill

No statement or proclamation can enrich him now. Sir Winston Churchill is already legend.

These words spoken by the late United States president John F. Kennedy in 1963 have never been more apt. There is nothing we can say of the history that is Churchill that has not been said already.

But the value of this man should not end with his death. As people around the world acclaim his greatness, and well they should, war is still being waged on behalf of the principles for which he fought. The individual freedom and dignity of man is being threatened and subverted in many lands, of which the so-called powers of western democracy are no exception. The battles may be different but indeed the war remains unchanged. The man, whose very life was and bred inspiration, did no more than preserve the right of many people to fight. Respect for him becomes meaningless unless it instills or renews in the hearts of men everywhere the desire to wage the war which can never end, without defeat for everything two stubby fingers raised high stood for.

"What," he once said, "can be the purpose of living unless it be to make the world a better place for the next generation to live in?" What, we ask, can be a better slogan for those of us who inherit the fruits of his labor? While apathy and lack of national purpose reign supreme in Canada, while civil rights remains an issue in the United States, while new nations strive for stability and identity, while communism continues to expand the bounds of its influence, what better goal exists for the new demands of blood, toil, tears and sweat?

War leader, recorder of history, master of a language and artist of note, the name of Sir Winston Churchill will never disappear from the annals of man. But neither will the name of Adolf Hitler. While the opportunity to influence is ours, it remains for us to determine how the name of Churchill will be remembered. It remains for us to show the man we now so enthusiastically acclaim, has not fought in vain.

It was his ambition upon reaching Heaven, he said, to spend most of his first million years painting—experimenting and deriving concepts from celestial colours. We wish him well. Never have so many, owed so much, to one man.

## Ann Laundry

### Tells What To Do When Raped By Neighbor

With Help From Bruce Ferrier

DEAR ANN LAUNDRY:

My job is getting me down.

Everyday I have to push this big rock up a hill—and just when I get it to the top, it rolls back down. I have to go back to the bottom and start all over again.

I have written to the Workmen's Compensation Board, because it is too hot to work down here and the rock keeps rolling over my toe. But they say my five million year contract would be too hard to break. Besides, their lawyer, Orpheus, is on vacation in Thrace.

What should I do?

Sisyphus

Dear Sis:

Grin and bear it. Lots of people have trouble in their office with poor working conditions. Maybe an air conditioner would help.

DEAR ANN LAUNDRY:

Last Tuesday my next-door-neighbor ran screaming into my house with a bowl of oatmeal on his head. He threw the baby into the Dresden

china, tore a leg off my Louis XIV coffee table, and began beating me with it. Then he tore off all my clothes and raped me. This has happened three times this week.

Can you suggest a solution to my problem?

Chicago  
Housewife

Dear Housewife:

Try to understand him.

DEAR ANN LAUNDRY:

I am having a little trouble here at university because my dean says my marks are too low.

Although I only got 27 per cent on my last set of exams, I have been working extremely hard. I spend at least ten hours a week in class, and study every evening from the time I get home to the end of the seven o'clock news. My professors like me — one said my notes were the most abstruse he had ever seen.

My question is, does my dean have it in for me?

Herman

Dear Herman:

It is sometimes difficult to adjust successfully to the university community. Are you going for coffee enough? Do you waste enough time at your fraternity house? Is your free time put to good use playing basketball or checkers?

Ask yourself these questions, then see your dean again. If things don't improve, report him to the RCMP.

DEAR ANN LAUNDRY:

My parents have disowned me, I'm an alcoholic, my dog has rabies, the TV set is on the blink, and my girlfriend is wearing some other guy's pin.

Help me.

Black and Blue

Dear Black:

Tough luck, buddy. Some guys have it, some don't.

Confidential to Zelda:

Don't give up. Send twenty cents in coin and a stamped, self-addressed envelope for my booklet, "One Sure Way to Catch A Husband."