



Political Perspectives

By R. HUTCHINS

My body is made up of ten parts
 My feet have waded in pacific waters
 My legs carried me up to Rocky heights,
 My eyes gazed upon eternal wheat fields
 And my back has been warmed by prairie grace fires,
 I strained both my arms working hard Ontario clay.
 Je pense quelquefois que je suis Quebecois,
 Mais, pas toujours.
 Now, I breathe New Brunswick air and
 Rich it nourishes my appetite,
 Cupping my hands I took a draught from a Scotian spring,
 And buried in a warm Island beach,
 I soothed my soul.
 Only Newfoundland has yet to carress my senses,
 Perhaps it is there I may find the struggling
 Desire of my heart.
 Or maybe the North would fulfill me,
 If I could endure it.
 My body has matured a provincial man;

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Senior Report Conference next week

Every year at this time, the UNB Council Civil Engineering Department holds its Senior Report Conference. Senior Civil Engineers give a presentation on a topic related to their interest and course material. This report is a required course for Civil Engineers and a lot of time is spent to make them as interesting and relevant as possible. This year, forty-one presentations will be

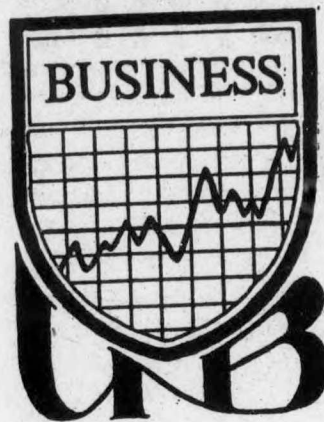
given over a span of two days. With such a wide range of topics there will certainly be something of interest for everyone.

The conference will be held in Dineen Auditorium, Head Hall on Wednesday, April 4 from 11:00 a.m. to

9:00 p.m. and on Thursday, April 5 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.. Schedules will be posted at Head Hall, Harriet Irving Library, the Student Union Building and other places on campus. Admission is free and everyone is invited.

Legs, torso, head; But my heart
 Belongs to the whole, and I'd have it
 No other way.

(Brunswickan 1981)



The newly elected executive of the Business Society is looking for new ideas. If you have any suggestions, drop by the business office T304. Speak to any of the following people:

President
 Catherine Moore
Vice-President
 Prince Varma

Secretary
 Kim Sabean
Treasurer
 Brian Fearon

Promotions
 Mike Arseneault

Special Events
 Kim Antworth

This prose in its simplicity yet comprehensive form always elicits strong feelings of "unity" with the rest of Canada. The coaxing mystique of "the whole," is the testament of an enamored troubadour, one who offers his/her experience to enhance our national identity and open the heart to envision the whole country as accessible to the free spirit.

I think the author is attempting to reverse the paralyzing sentimentality of "provincialism" and replace it with a community of interest that knows no boundaries of ideology or status but thrives on mutual respect.

I know when I first came to New Brunswick a "provincial" Quebecker my ability to identify with this new home was strongly affected by a transient attitude. I perceived my maritime experience to be a "limbo" period leading up to an inevitable exodus west once more.

Although my home is now in Fredericton I know the "whole" is still there for me if I choose to go. What makes us Canadians is knowing all the different communities, cities, provinces of the nation are accessible to the individual and within our realm of mobility.

I abhor the over zealous politicians who feel that can centralize Canada into a narrow, limited, selfish and bigoted whole, ignoring the obstinate defiance of citizens to such a unity.

"Provincialism" exists to counterveil the inequitable nature of our federal bureaucracy and protect interests of specific, regional areas. It seems that if our federal administrators were to look for a unifying factor in Canada they would find it in the citizens contempt for the arrogance and untutored haughtiness of our central government.

Too often, our federal politicians fail to implement policy for all Canadians, with the consent of all Canadians. Instead they enforce the will of majority on Canada's less influential and majority on Canada's less influential and minority interests.

A federation is a voluntary association of interests, bound together for the common good and security of all parties. If Canada is to become more unified, it will have to acknowledge the presence of the "provincial man" and accept his equal status.

The "provincial man" will find in his travels across Canada that all Canadians share a common pursuit of identity within their communities and immediate world. He will soon realize that there is an intangible something about each and every area of this country that gives it character and interior spirit. These specific features are what make up the mosaic of "Canadians", not the irreconcilable parting of those interests by our central government but the recognition of different "communities" unified by the desire to be part of the "whole".

I can say with conviction that I love my New Brunswick home and feel that here I've found something good for my soul. I know, however, that if my free spirit moves me I will travel, conscious that I cannot take New Brunswick with me and knowing that it cannot be replaced. That is the beauty of Canada, to know that all other places are different and will offer experience without replacing or rejecting the previous "home".

A "provincial man" exists in his home happy, content and at peace with his environment. A home can be awfully isolated without a community, this is where the vastness of Canada lends ample opportunity.

I think I will send a copy of this poem to Ottawa in hope that our leaders will unify us into a community of interests instead of a close-minded whole.

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