Yvette

Jim Neubacher writes a column from Toronto for the **Detroit Free Press**.

On May 19 he speculated that if the No voters prevailed, the reason might be a girl named Yvette.

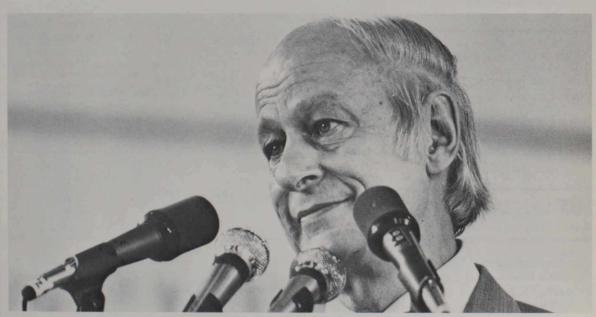
Yvette is a character in Quebec grade-school readers, somewhat akin to Dick and Jane in the U.S. of the fifties. She is timid and submissive and leaves adventures to her brother.

In April Lise Payette, a member of René Lévesque's cabinet, referred scornfully to women who intended to vote No in the referendum as *Yvettes*.

As Mr. Neubacher noted, The women in Quebec City decided to organize a breakfast at the Chateau Frontenac as a morale booster for several hundred no supporters. But word spread and hundreds more showed up. . . . The women wore their no buttons and . . . proudly called themselves Yvettes. There were soon similar rallies being held all over the province.



Dusko Doder is an assistant foreign editor of **The Washington Post** who frequently writes about Canada. In a long Sunday piece before the referendum, he quoted a Vancouver humorist, Eric Nicol, who used to say that the Canadian federation was like a mail-order bra—"intended to contain and uplift, but instead draws attention to the cleavage."





Premier René Lévesque concedes defeat on referendum night, while Quebec Liberal leader Claude Ryan celebrates the victory of the No forces.