

Coates' policy questionable

Nova Scotia veteran MP Robert C. Coates is running for the presidency of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada.

Coates has defended the white minority government of South Africa at a time when its policies towards the majority population have become increasingly repressive. In an article published in the Halifax Chronicle Herald on April 21, 1977, he praised the "black homeland" programme of South Africa as it has been applied in the Transkei. This programme involves the forced deportation of six million persons to barren reservations.

Coates further defended South Africa's role in Namibia, despite the fact the South African occupation of the country has been declared illegal by the International Court of Justice.

He has visited the country more than once as a guest of the South Africa government, the most notoriously racist government in the world. In defence of his trips, Coates has said that they were necessary to help the Conservative Party formulate their policy towards South Africa.

He has publicly supported the immoral and illegal activities of a discriminatory government which has been frequently condemned by the United Nations, the World Council of Churches, and other forums of world opinion.

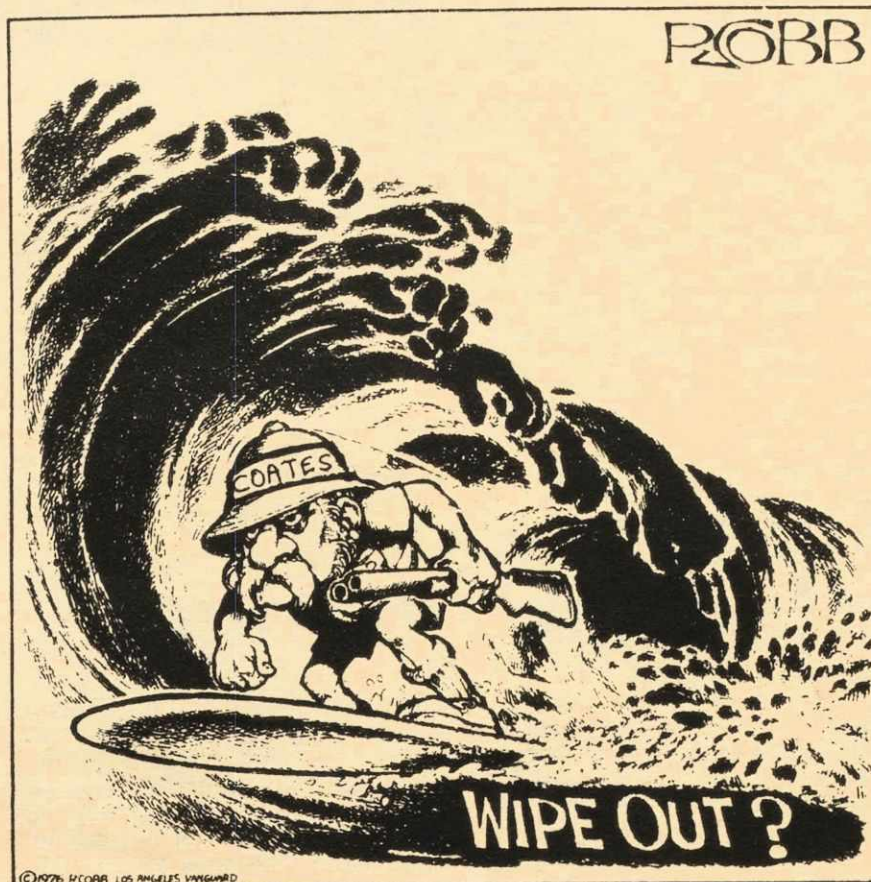
Within South Africa, blacks are deprived of the right to vote and other political rights. Their movement is restricted and regulated by a system of internal passports. The average income of black South Africans is only 5% of that of whites.

The Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students on Monday night by a vote of 11-1 agreed to support a campaign urging delegates to the National Conservative convention next month not to vote for Coates.

The Dalhousie Student council was approached also, but felt it was not up to them to tell delegates how to vote. Many felt that his feelings would not influence the party, and that his opinions should not concern them.

Coates' support of the government in South Africa certainly is not suitable for a leader of one of this country's main political parties.

by Valerie Mansour



the dalhousie
gazette

The Dalhousie Gazette is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union. The views expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editors, or staff. We reserve the right to edit material submitted for space or legal reasons.

The deadline for advertising is the Friday noon preceding publication. Articles and letters are due Monday noon. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity, if necessary, will be granted. Letters should not exceed 600 words, and must be typed if more than 100 words.

The Dalhousie Gazette, Canada's Oldest College Newspaper, is a founding member of Canadian University Press. Our office is on the third floor of the Student Union Building. Our mailing address is The Dalhousie Gazette, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4J2. Telephone 424-2507. The subscription price is \$7 per year (28 issues). ISSN 0011-5819.

Editor: Valerie Mansour
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This issue was brought to you by:

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For National Advertising, this paper is a member of

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More discos

To the Gazette:

What's wrong with the programming at the SUB? For two weeks in a row I've sat home on Friday nights drinking myself into a stupor. Why weren't there discos on those two nights where I could have drunk myself into a stupor?

Seriously though, since discos always sell out, why not schedule one on a free Friday night? It gives people something to do when there's nothing to do.

a bored student
Peter Hayes

Wallet returned

To the Gazette:

On Monday, October 24th, I absentmindedly left my wallet containing credit cards, membership cards and other important papers, including my Credit Union Cheque Book in the men's wash-room, second floor, Dalhousie Student Union Building.

When I realized that I had, I asked someone to check to see if they were still there, (I was unable to leave the meeting I was attending right then), they weren't. After a few moments, he checked at the main desk on the first floor, the wallet had been turned in intact by someone who did not leave his name.

May I use your paper, hoping the person who did this honest deed will read my letter of appreciation for the return of my wallet, cards, etc.

I cannot say my faith in man has been restored, because in all honesty I had never lost it. I am a firm believer that man has a basic

Letters

respect and love for each other, any conflict arises from the society in which we live and the competition for higher rewards it brings.

My sincere thanks.
Yours truly,
Leo F. McKay

Editorial challenged

Dear Sir,

In response to your editorial of October 13th, "CBC to Change Views?", I would point out that CBC policy on Public Service Announcements was tabled before the CRTC one year ago and a copy was forwarded to your office.

That however, is not the reason for my letter. In the same editorial, the writer states "last year after hearing about the boycott (on CBC advertising), CBC offered the Gazette an extremely large contract for the year." The insinuation that CBC was attempting to "buy" support is pure distortion of fact.

Advertising with Gazette and other university press is placed on a per occasion basis. This department is responsible for ad co-ordination, and to my knowledge, we did not offer Gazette or any university press a large contract, let alone a year's contract.

R. Gordon Smith
Regional Public Relations Manager

Editor's note:

The contents of your letter would indicate to us that you have not consulted with other members of your department regarding last year's Gazette contract.

Also, you should watch who you call "sir".

The Gazette stands by its editorial.