

take five

CANADA AND THE U.S. NO PLACE FOR BLACKS

by Paul Perlove

Paul Boutelle, Socialist Workers Party candidate for the U.S. vice-presidency, thinks 'Canada is just as racist and reactionary as the United States.'

Boutelle, a thin, bearded, well-spoken Negro is a 'transportation executive' who drives a cab in New York city. He addressed 150 unusually attentive York students Monday, in Vanier common room.

Boutelle told his audience that 'In Canada, racism doesn't show up as much because there aren't as many negroes here. There is no place in Canada or the U.S. where the black man is a citizen.'

Boutelle is on a cross-continent tour with the Socialist party presidential candidate, whose platform is centered around an immediate withdrawal from Vietnam, and support for freedom, justice and equality through Black Power.

Boutelle claims the basis for racism is lodged in capitalism. Thus, he is both a socialist and a Black Power supporter.

He termed the Socialist Workers Party as 'not only leading the Negro struggle, but a socialist organization fighting against capitalism.'

Black Power, as defined by Boutelle, is still at best a nebulous force.

Not all the Negro leaders have the same idea of what Black Power is, he said. 'Most agree that black people should have control over their own political, economic and social life. Some believe the whites should be destroyed. Some are pacifists, some religious, some atheists.'

The best explanation of Black Power came later in his address. 'Whites should be made afraid to come into the black community--then there would not be so much exploitation of the blacks by whites.'

Throughout history, whites have controlled the destinies of black peoples 'through economics, wars, the draft, and lynchings,' said Boutelle.

He cited the variations in the black coloring as an example of white power - over black women. He advanced his case against the whites with a rapid course in history.

He refuted the existence of the 'praised white civilization' by looking at examples of slavery in the Athenian 'democracy', barbarism in the Roman empire, the exploitation of the worker in modern day industrial Britain, Germany's crimes against the Jew, and the horrors of the Spanish Inquisition.

Boutelle and the Socialist Workers Party are running for election in only 25 states because of a difference in election laws from state to state.

Vietnam - the view from Pearl Harbor

by Howard A. Doughty and E. Carlyle Smith

While Canadian University students are carrying signs complaining of campus complicity and the inhumanity of war, we tend to forget that there are other students closer to Vietnam. The following article is from two former Glendon students now doing post grad work in Hawaii.

Hawaii's reputation as one of the most beautiful areas in the world is by and large justified. However, its political climate is anything but delightful. As two recent graduates of York University doing graduate work at the University of Hawaii, we have quickly learned to emascuate our radicalism in the interests of survival. To use Bob Dylan's phrase, everyone in Hawaii is 'very paranoid'. It is a result of Hawaii's position as a major staging area for the war in Vietnam.

The people do not perceive the war in terms of Vietnam itself. As the war has escalated, so has the justification of it. When 18,000 men were in Vietnam, the aim was to protect a tottering regime. When 250,000 men were committed, it was to stop North Vietnamese aggression. With half a million men, it is nothing less than the prevention of communist domination of the entire Pacific. The exorbitant cost must be made worthwhile.

Protest was neutralised in the early stages by apathy. However, a more militant stance has evolved. This is evident in the hawkish diatribes of the local media. With the exception of the Honolulu Star Bulletin, all media are regurgitating the myths fostered by the US administration.

The results are rather unsettling. A case in point is that of Dr. Oliver Lee, a political science professor (while he lasts). Dr. Lee holds the minority position against the war, and has been of much assistance to the anti war groups on campus. He is an innocuous, affable man, whose political views echo his appearance. He has no political powers or aspirations. Yet he has become a scapegoat for jingoist attacks of such groups as the Waikiki Lions Club and their puppet, the university administration. Dr. Lee has recently been denied tenure despite the unanimous recommendation of the faculty. His case is being reviewed by the senate. The hearing is prejudged--not only has the Lions Club pressured the University president into shafting Lee, but the local media have dealt with him in a manner that would have made the late senator McCarthy proud.

The sight of Dr. Lee leading 300 protesters in a march to Pearl Harbor is pitiful enough. But this exercise in futility resulted in dangerous invectives against Dr. Lee. He was called a 'communist' by all the local radio stations and these stations urged the local citizenry to show its disapproval in any way it saw fit i.e. by spitting on him. They urged a headlight campaign in support of the war the same day, and many Hawaiians responded.

A second and more intimate indication of the massive propaganda campaign's effect is the attitudes of the students.

Between the two of us we teach about 120 students. They could be roughly divided into three groups: a large right wing that has swallowed the myths whole, even advocates U.S. domination of the whole world, and believes the U.S. should use its 'muscle'. At least 20% take this stand. The second group, about 50%, quietly acquiesces to the U.S. position, and retreats into apathy though they do not support the administrations goals entirely. Finally there are those who are overtly opposed to the U.S. policy. Their plight is pathetic. They are afraid to express their views and are frustrated by their fear enforced silence.

The only thing our students appear clear on is a doubt about the rationale behind the war. Our own view is that the U.S. is blatantly imperialistic.

It is senseless to go on considering U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam. Newspaper ads call daily for civilians to fill BUSINESS POSTS in Vietnam for 18 months at high pay and hardship rates. These ads are places by U.S. business interests.

There are a number of high ranking U.S. officers in graduate school who list their speciality, curiously enough, as 'Thailand'. There are 60,000 US troops in Thailand, at the behest of a compliant Thai government.

Large corporations are continuously announcing plans for expansion into various south-east Asian countries.

The U.S. administration's application of the Monroe Doctrine to the Pacific area describes mainland Asia as the first line of defense of America's western borders; the entire Pacific is described as an American sphere of influence.

The statements of highly regarded commentators hold that the U.S. cannot withdraw, that they have too many economic investments in the area, and that these investments are to help develop Asian nations (not to make profits for American businessmen).

In conclusion, the dagger of the administration's justification for the war is that both they and the public seem to believe it. Hyper-patriotism and jingoism reflect an intolerance of dissent, an irrational pre-occupation with the 'communist menace', neurosis and an apotheosis of a man in uniform.

This jingoism is seen not only in the official voices of local media, but in popular songs, comic strips, and literature, so that it is not entirely irrelevant to note the analogy that the climate of opinion here is not unlike that in Great Britain during its age of Imperialism.

Students Say

by Sam Pinkas

What do you think will make York an ideal university, or something as close as possible to it?



The courses are not described well enough in the calendar. You really don't know what the course is about until you are in the middle of it - and then it is too late.

Jackie Arseneault (VII)

There could be more communication and rapport between professors and students but because of the number of students it's an almost impossible hope.

Jeannie Faber (FI)



Cut out classes, exams, separate residences, and bran muffins. Have more seminars and professors. Put wall paper in the cubicles. More use of audio-visual equipment in lectures. A course in pornography for Soc Sci 105.

Phil Schreiberman (WI)

The removal of all dons from residences and the institution of a bus service from the parking lots to the colleges.

Ted Collis (WIV)



There should be an even greater striving towards inter student-teacher contact. Tutorials are the most valuable media for learning in University. In some courses York has failed to use this system of learning.

Robert Pinch (VII)

...as long as you follow directions

by Mannie Zeller

'Sex is dead!', says Sidney Katz, Features editor of the Toronto Daily Star.

He was speaking to a crowded meeting of York Hillel Wednesday.

Katz pointed out that in the university crowd of his day, sex reigned supreme in the minds, hearts and discussions of both male and female students.

Today we are concerned with student power and Vietnam. Sex rates a poor second or third.

He observed that outside of the professors, none of the males at university are noticing the 'creeping nudity'. Never have such well-turned thighs attracted so little attention.

Katz paralleled Hugh Hefner's endeavor to keep sex alive with the religious crusades of Billy Graham.

'Hefner is shouting over the rooftops so loudly 'Sex is alive' that he seems to

doubt it himself.'

Katz added that ironically more people are buying Playboy for its excellent intelligent 'padding' than for its foldout and 'central message.'

Katz gave a qualified no to the question 'Is this the last married generation?'

'This generation will marry later, for different reasons, and the style of married life will be different,' he said.

He claims the chief factor in this change is the lack of need. Women need not marry for security, or seek vicarious career satisfaction through successful husbands. They can achieve the satisfaction of success themselves, through worthwhile careers. Nor is marriage a necessary prerequisite for sexual relations--

as long as you follow directions.

As for the bringing up of children, Katz cited numerous examples from the U.S. where single individuals are being allowed to adopt children. He described changing social conditions in Sweden, where it is becoming increasingly common for unwed mothers to bring up their children instead of giving them up for adoption. He confided that both developments will likely come to Canada soon.

Katz said the commitment of future generations to marriage will come later in life. We will take the time to develop ourselves more fully.

Katz said statistics showed an increase in common-law marriages, indicating a growing attitude of looking upon civil and church regulations as unnecessary intrusions into our private affairs.