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New Brunswick Groups March For Abortion

By Victor C. Paul-Elias

Several Provincial "Women's Liberation" groups, participating in a "National Day of Protest for free abortion on Demand", demonstrated in front of the New Brunswick Legislature recently. At the same time, marchers assembled in Ottawa for the same purpose.

The Fredericton protesters marched downtown to the Federal building for speeches then they dismissed to the Unitarian House on Charlotte Street for discussions.

The marchers, who numbered over 50 men and women

including representatives from Fredericton, Saint John, Moncton, Sackville and other areas assembled at 2 pm on Saturday afternoon. They chanted and marched some 40 minutes down Queen Street to York, then back down King to Regent and then to the Federal Building.

The woman carried a cardboard coffin symbolic of over "2000 sisters" who die annually from "botched up" illegal abortions in Canada. The coffin became a common symbol to the Women's Liberation demonstrations across the country. please turn to page 3



Above, the marchers on their way to the Legislature. Photo by De Freitas

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FREE

FRAP Regards War Measures Act As Invasion

by Jim Simons

"Since the invasion, I am far less optimistic about armed intervention," said Mme. Soulonge Vincent, a member of the Montreal Socialist Party, FRAP.

Mme. Vincent, speaking before 50 University of New Brunswick students last Friday, gave a short introduction, and then invited questions from the audience.

In her opening remarks, Mme. Vincent explained the political platform of FRAP. She said that although the party is socialist, she had supported the Parti Quebecois in the last elec-

tion. FRAP is a separatist organization, but denounces the action of the FLQ because FRAP believes that changes should come about democratically.

The main objective of the party is to inform the people of Montreal of what is happening in city hall she said.

Although the party failed to elect one member to the city council, the movement has not been destroyed, and continues to provide services such as a free health clinic in St. Jacques.

Professor Juhel of the Romance language department posed the first question "Do the people talk of independence or autonomy?"

Mme. Vincent replied that no country is truly independent, but that more self-determinism and co-operation are necessary.

Mr. David MacNaughton

asked the outspoken FRAP member, how she was able to reconcile her nationalism with her socialism. "Wouldn't it be better to have a socialist movement in Canada?"

Mme. Vincent claimed that Quebec is more ripe for socialistic reform because of cultural alienation in the country. She stated that it is the English speaking elite that is the problem because of exploitation.

Mr. MacNaughton contended that perhaps the French elite would be just as explosive as an English elite. However, Mme. Vincent felt that although that could be true, her party is working for a Utopia.

The defeated Socialist candidate for the presidency of the SRC, Ron Gaudet, explained his surprise that Mme. Vincent had not used the basic Socialist reasoning for freedom in Quebec. "According to Lenin, it is the right of a nation to self-determinism." He continued by asking how she could in good faith support the right of self-determinism and the Parti Quebecois which is known to be a pretty bourgeois party.

Mme Vincent replied that she is not an Orthodox socialist. She said that the socialism for Quebec has not as yet been invented.

Assuming the Parti Quebecois supports the right of self-determinism then the defense of the party was valid, she stated.

Mr. Dave McGaw asked the guest speaker what FRAP would have done had they been elected. Mme. Vincent admitted that the party had not aspired to control the council but to infiltrate it in order to tell the people exactly what is happening.



Above, left to right, Mrs. Michael Taylor, Mme. Soulonge Vincent, and Professor John Earle.

International Drug Laws Coming

OTTAWA (CUP) - Sixty-two members of the United Nations have been meeting in Vienna, Austria since Jan. 25 to draft a protocol which would outline an international law for drug abusers.

The Draft Protocol on Psychotropic Substances which, according to Le Dain are "those drugs which alter sensation, mood, consciousness or other psychological or behavioral functions," will take a more hard-line approach to the possession and trafficking of these substances than the Interim Report of the Le Dain Commission.

It is doubtful now whether

Canada will add her name to a convention which would force her to abide by specific provisions relating to the movement of drugs, inside and outside her own territories.

If Canada did sign the protocol, for example she might have to agree not to cultivate except under the circumstances outlined in the protocol. This might mean a limitation on studies in which Canadians are involved.

Health and Welfare Minister John Munro assured members of Parliament Jan. 27 that the Canadian delegation to the conference has not been empowered to sign the protocol.

"This House will have a full opportunity to review the agreement before consideration is given to its satisfaction," he said.

Dr. R.A. Chapman, General Director of the Food and Drug Directorate (FDD) and a member of the Canadian delegation to this conference, said a number of countries, including the US, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands have taken the position that the protocol should provide "maximum flexibility" to take into account the various national drug policies.

The United States passed a new, stringent drug law this

month which makes possession of marijuana a criminal offense. But the penalty for possession would be a six-month suspended sentence. If the person were not caught again, then at the end of the six month his record would be erased.

In Canada, the option still exists for the federal government to reclassify cannabis (marijuana, hashish and their related substances) moving it from the criminal code where the offender gets a criminal record for possessing the drug, to the Food and Drug Act where possession would be a non-indictable offence.

red rebels win second title

see page 16