

Goal — independent socialist Canada

Waffles quit Ontario NDP

OTTAWA (CUP) — The Ontario Waffle movement for an independent socialist Canada will wage its first independent political effort around issues it considers are being ignored by the established political parties during the federal election campaign.

The announcement of the Waffle campaign follows the Ontario New Democratic Party's refusal in June to allow the Waffle to remain a caucus in the NDP. A majority of Wafflers decided in August to stop acting as a movement within the NDP but to continue their activities outside the party, while remaining individual party members. A minority, mostly Trotskyites, opted to form a new left caucus in the Ontario NDP.

Waffle Spokesman, John Smart, said September 21 that meetings will be held across Ontario, including a rally in Toronto on Canadian independence and another meeting in Ottawa on the second anniversary of the invocation of the War Measures Act. The campaign will feature meetings in areas where the Waffle had never tried to organize, particularly in parts of Northern Ontario.

The Waffle will not run candidates in the election.

The movement claims that

none of the established parties are seriously dealing with the question of Canadian independence. They say the Liberal party will continue the development of Canada's resources by foreign corporations, those corporations that export raw materials to be processed. This kind of development produces fewer permanent jobs than if the raw material was processed in Canada.

The Waffle's stated goal is to build an independent socialist Canada based on decentralization of industrialized development in which the Canadian people own and control their own industries.

The Waffle statement scorned announcements that both the Liberals and Conservatives would consider wage and price controls. Wage and price controls would be used to maintain corporate profit while controls are viewed as a way of effectively outlawing strikes and thereby leaving workers with little bargaining position with management.

The statement also attacked the Trudeau brand of federalism. The Waffle believes that only by recognizing the right of self-determination for Quebec can there be built "a new alliance between English and French to deal with our

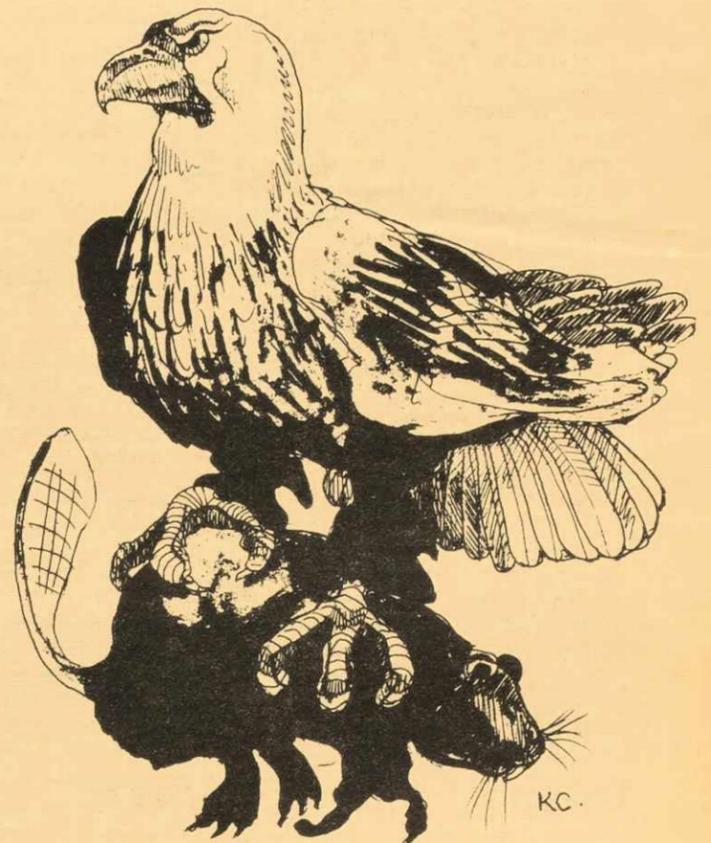
common problems." The Waffle will also raise the question of the status of women in Canada. They want the federal government to eliminate all discrimination against women in all jobs and provide funds to set up low cost day-care centers. The movement advocates free birth control information, devices and free abortions.

The Ontario group plans to distribute an eight-page newspaper across the province for the election. The paper will contain detailed explanations of Waffle policies. Distribution is expected to start in two weeks.

The Saskatchewan Waffle group had earlier withdrawn from regular party activities to support the Ontario group's dispute with the provincial NDP led by Stephen Lewis. But it appears that the Saskatchewan wafflers are actively working for NDP candidates with whom they can agree.

George Taylor, a Saskatoon lawyer, is challenging Justice Minister Otto Lang in Saskatoon-Humbolt. Waffle members are reported to be working hard for Taylor.

Ironically, national NDP leader, David Lewis, Stephen's father, said in Regina September 20 that "the Waffle question in Ontario is yesterday's news. It's finished. It's done with. It's settled."



Provinces toughen student loan laws

OTTAWA (CUP) — The provinces have established tough new regulations for the Canada Student Loan plan which could further restrict access to post-secondary education.

The regulations include a requirement for photostated copies of T-1 income tax forms of students and their parents to be included in loan applications. The forms are supposed to be private information for the Department of National Revenue, but the law protects a citizen from misuse of that information only by that department and no other. If copies of the T-1 form are not provided, the loan will not be granted.

Some western Canadian student unions are reportedly considering legal action on the clause as a breach of privacy. But they may not know that the regulations were made by the provinces, not by the federal government.

Some of the changes benefit students. The maximum annual loan was increased to \$1400 from \$1,000, while the total borrowing limit was raised from \$5,000 to \$7,500.

But the most controversial new regulation requires students to save a certain amount of money from summer work. The exact amount is determined by a chart based on a student summer employment survey conducted in 1971 by the

Department of Manpower and Immigration.

The provinces all agreed to this change and to the use of the chart.

However, British Columbia government officials appear to be backing away after student protests over the rule began.

Seymour Archibold, provincial student affairs department superintendent in Victoria, claimed that his department eased the regulations despite opposition from Ottawa. He said that expected earnings had been cut by \$100 across the board.

Federal officials told CUP that British Columbia is now using the chart prepared for Alberta. British Columbia had

earlier agreed to use its own chart which called for students to save an average of \$875 over the summer.

The expected savings vary according to sex and the number of years of study completed. All student loan applications will be processed on the assumption that everyone worked during the summer. Students wishing to appeal the decision must do so through the appropriate provincial authority.

Ontario students may have the hardest time getting appeals processed because of their large numbers. About 80 per cent of Canada's university students attend institutions in Ontario.

The Canada Student Loans Act was passed by the federal

government in 1964 to allow more young people to attend post-secondary institutions. The act outlines certain minimum regulations the federal government felt were necessary. Because the act is administered by the provinces, the ten provincial educational representatives meet and decide under which regulations they will administer the act. Unanimous agreement must be reached before changes can be made. A federal Department of Finance representative chairs two meetings.

The new regulations were effective July 1, the beginning of the plan's fiscal year.

The provinces will meet again in November to discuss the British Columbia decision not to use the previously agreed upon tables.

Student opposition to the new regulations may be able to force the government's retreat. The British Columbia example indicates that it can be done.

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