

harbours, to create a profitable petro-chemical industry, a national research council, a national film-producing unit and a great passenger air service. It has been used to build and maintain the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which is not only the largest but also, in terms of its productions, one of the finest radio and television networks in the world. The Crown Corporation has been used, as in the Second World War when over seventy of them were created to meet the needs of war production, to undertake tasks which private capital would not or should not be responsible for, yet which are better handled outside the organization of government. In spite of the huge measure of state enterprise represented by these Crown corporations, such terms as "public control" or "government planning" still arouse suspicion in the minds of many Canadians. Hence these government bodies have grown in a typically Canadian manner - for practical rather than ideological reasons. And finally they illustrate the way in which the stark facts of geography and the bias of our history have shaped our thinking and our institutions.

The Canadian constitution, what little there is of it in written form, sets up the objectives of peace, order and good government, rather than those of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." As the historian William Morton has pointed out, we are a society which is founded on the principle of allegiance rather than of social contract, on the organic growth of tradition itself rather than by an explicit act of reason or will. One of the most fundamental but least obvious differences between our North American nation and its neighbour lies in this: that for Canadians the fact and principle of authority were established prior to the fact and