

Premier speaks at Osgoode

Davis says return constitution, aid unity

By IAN KELLOGG

Premier William Davis delivered a speech at Osgoode Hall Tuesday afternoon on what he admitted "is not the most stimulating topic", patriation of the Canadian Constitution.

But, as the full hall of students was reminded, patriation is an important issue, especially since the final provincial conference on this matter is being held next month. Davis said "an inter-provincial consensus on patriating

the constitution would be a critical statement of Canadian unity and purpose".

Patriating the constitution means taking the British North America Act out of British control, where it has been since 1867, and writing a new document to be under Canadian control.

Davis outlined Ontario's position. He supports the "Victoria" amending formula which narrowly missed unanimous acceptance in 1971. This formula gives veto power

on constitutional amendments to a group of three or more provinces representing at least twenty per cent of the Canadian population.

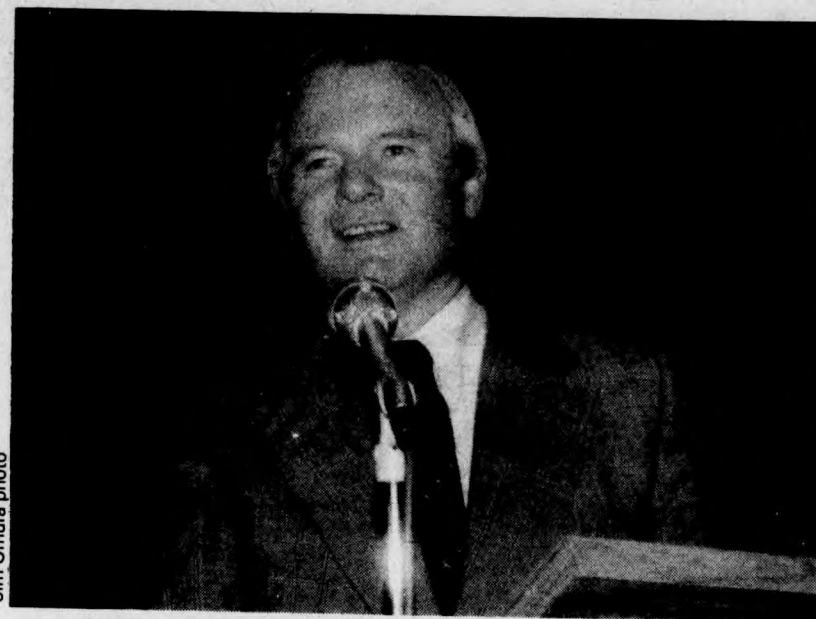
Davis said he recognizes the legitimacy of some provinces' desire for control over culture and natural resources while pointing out the federal government's right to have national control over these matters as well. This national control is necessary in a federation of such diverse regions and interests as Canada.

He rejects any amending formula that would require unanimity of all the provincial governments as being too rigid and too suited to narrow interests. In general he urges that "compromise and accommodation" be used in reaching an agreement.

The speech was mildly received by the audience. However, a lack of interest was evident in the question period that followed: of the eight questions asked only one was about the constitution.

HECKLERS

The other questions were mainly about social issues. Murray Miskin, Ontario Federation of Students chairperson, asked if the new Ontario Student Assistance Program policy had been decided upon. Davis said it was yet to be decided but he stated the present program was the most generous in



Premier Bill Davis makes a point at Osgoode Hall, and enjoys it.

Canada and the other provinces wish Ontario would drop the grant portion of the program.

Paul Trollop, a gay activist at York, challenged the government's legislative record on protecting gay rights. Davis said while more could always be done to protect rights, he felt the present legislation was doing an adequate job.

Another student asked the Premier about university fee increases for next year. Davis said no policy had been decided upon.

Hecklers in the crowd also brought forward the issues of cutbacks and the National Day of Protest but Davis did not have a chance to discuss them.

The most conspicuous group in attendance was a CBC television crew showing that perhaps somebody out there really does care about the constitution.

The speech was 10 minutes late in starting as Davis was detained by his former deputy treasurer, H. Ian MacDonald, the president of York University.

FSA takes off, election Monday

By JAMES BRENNAN

York's new Film Student's Association (FSA) is currently getting off the ground and heading for its first full year of operations. An executive will be elected next Monday at S137 Ross and a early registration with the Course Union Administrative Council is in the works, hopefully with funding to follow shortly.

The FSA was informally initiated around February 1976. At that time some third year film students, unhappy with the reports from their friends in fourth year, began moves to replace Terry Filgate, a fourth year lecturer. According to film student James Orr, they approached Bill Fruet, director of "Wedding in White", and Doug Leiterman, both considered giants in Canadian Film, who separately agreed to teach fourth year courses. The students then consulted with the Film Department which subsequently negotiated contracts with the two directors and allowed Filgate's contract to expire.

The initiative taken by the film students gave them the spirit de corps with which to build a more lasting association. By the end of last year, the FSA were sufficiently organized to carry out course evaluations, and according to James Orr, a leading member of the FSA, "some of the results were very poor".

Orr termed the formation of the FSA as a move towards greater community and communication among film students, and a means through which students can alter the "inherent inertia" in the

department. As an example he pointed out that at present there exist no mechanisms whereby a second year student can crew for a third year production. Asked if last year's unexpected demise of PEAK, the graduate programme in theatre, was in any way connected with the emergence of the FSA, Orr replied "No, but we could conceivably have some problems ourselves."

At present Orr and other members of the FSA are negotiating with Cine Books for a 10 per cent discount for FSA members. They also plan to publish an FSA newsletter, make the Film Student's Lounge more of a gathering place, have input into the scheduling student film showings, and possibly even arrange discounts at some of the repertory movie theatres.

LOGICAL STEP

Stan Fox, acting chairperson of the Film Department thinks the development of the FSA is "great. It's a logical step. Film students should definitely have an association."

However, Faculty of Fine Arts Joe Green, when called, had never heard of the FSA's intentions to build a course union. In fact he wasn't sure what a course union is: "Film students have every right to voice their opinions, and I encourage it, but they have no right to make demands."

It is also interesting to note that Dean Green also refused to accept that students were responsible for inviting Fruet and Leiterman to teach at York.

SCR's cutback, losing money

By IAN MULGREW

The University's 15 Senior Common Rooms (SCR) have ceased to exist as private clubs and have become amalgamated under the University's Canteen Licence as of August 31, 1976, yet they will still be available for private bookings.

Norm Crandles, of Arcillary Services said: "They (SCR Board

of Directors) asked us to change it for practical reasons." "There were only two clubs operating last year and they felt that there wasn't a need any more for a faculty lounge."

The SCR have been in existence at York since 1965 and were established so faculty members could enjoy the privilege of a

private club. In recent years though, with the lowering of the drinking age and the large number of pubs that have appeared on campus, the SCR's have been losing money.

"In fact quite a considerable sum of money," said D.E.S. Maxwell, master of Winters College.

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