

# Excalibur

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**Trudeau visits today at 11:00**

## Peckford pummels Pierre



Peckford auditions for Canada's Wonderland a day early.

**Neil Wiberg**

Newfoundland Premier Brian Peckford unleashed a vicious attack on Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, tracing Canada's problems to Trudeau's career before a large and appreciative audience at Moot Court yesterday.

Peckford was angered by Trudeau's joint resolution dealing with the constitution. "Two aspects in particular shine out as heretical—the imposition of a charter of rights on the provinces, and the interjection of a federally controlled referendum into an amending formula."

The Newfoundland Premier put the blame squarely on the Prime Minister. "Mr. Trudeau, by resorting to a legal catch 22 of sophomoric proportions, attempts nothing less than a constitutional coup d'etat."

Peckford traced the bad blood between the federal government and the provinces to Trudeau's appointment as Justice Minister in 1966. The Tory Premier claimed that Trudeau changed the "tone of moderation, accommodation and balance," which was present during the early Pearson days.

This difference in tone developed into "radical initiatives," according to Peckford. This transformation from tone to initiative has left Peckford baffled. "I can think of no blinding revelations or sudden insights which could have come to our Prime Minister in his September Arctic walks which could rationally explain such a sudden transformation of purpose."

Peckford argued that Trudeau's

radical proposals were most inappropriate. He claimed that the basis of revolution is not here today, but that Trudeau might unwittingly "sow the seeds for a far different, future revolution."

The young Premier pledged that his government would return to the constitutional bargaining table in good faith to write a truly Canadian constitution. He urged the federal government to adopt a similar attitude.

Peckford stated that Canadians could expect significant constitutional agreement if the parties negotiated in good faith.

He argued that the leaked memo outlining federal strategy at the last Constitutional Conference demonstrated bad faith.

Peckford considers the constitutional problems to be primarily legal problems and not political ones. On this issue he is supporting a position directly opposite to that espoused by New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield at Osgoode last week.

The Newfoundland Premier is confident of success in the Supreme Court of Canada. However if that court supports Trudeau's proposals, Peckford will be left with a difficult task explaining the court decision to Newfoundlanders. He claims that he would have to tell them that the 1949 agreement to join Canada was "a sham".

The majority of questions asked by York students were sympathetic to Peckford's position. The only time that Peckford ran into serious problems was during an exchange about the referendum.

## Auditions to be held today

**Abbe Edelson**

Looking for a summer job that offers fame and fortune? Auditions for Canada's Wonderland, the new multi-million dollar national theme park of Canada, will be taking place at Burton Auditorium today.

"We need musicians, acrobats, ventriloquists, accordians, narrator-storytellers, and singer-dancers," according to Karen Mckillen of Canada's Wonderland's personnel department, to take part in a wide range of productions geared for family entertainment.

The park's Canterbury Theatre will feature musical shows, with a special "salute to Hollywood". Other attractions will include an open-air theatre featuring musical groups and other acts.

According to public relations employee Sid Priddle, "150 performers in total will be hired to fill the different live entertainment positions." Auditions for these positions are being held all over Ontario campuses, and in the eastern United States, to accommodate Canadian students studying in American universities.

The park is scheduled to open on weekends commencing May 2, 1981, and then daily from May 30 to September 7.

In addition to entertainers, Canada's Wonderland plans to employ an estimated 2,500 people in seasonal service jobs. The average salary for these will be \$3.50 per hour according to Mckillen, while the 500 supervisory and specialized staff will take home between \$4.25 and \$6.00 per hour. At present, only 180 full time staff are required for the preparation for the park's opening season.

Elizabeth Hannan, a York dance major, participated in a course offered to train people to

work as performers at Canada's Wonderland theatres. Participants auditioned in the early fall for the six week course, which was designed to train them for a final set of auditions held this month. Only 20 people were enrolled in this specialized course.

"The whole course was designed to teach us to combine singing and dancing together," said Hannan. "They wanted to convince the dancers they could sing, and the singers they could dance."

One of the major thrusts of the course was assisting the students in developing their self-image.

"Whatever you do, you have to sell it, be right on top of it, project and give of yourself to your audience," Hannan explained. "They were constantly reminding us to think positive."

"If I'm dancing four shows a day, it's going to help my performance skills and practice while relating to an audience," said Hannan.

## Gov't report falls short

**John Molendyk**

As far as Ontario's students are concerned, the slogan 'preserve it, conserve it' does not seem to apply to education.

This was just one of the reactions to the long-awaited government report on student aid at a Queen's Park press conference last Friday by the Ontario Federation of Students and the National Union of Students.

Some of the recommendations contained in the 229 page report include:

- arbitrary aid ceilings should be dropped to accommodate regional and institutional cost differences.
- the introduction of student aid for part-time students.
- wider introduction, on an experimental basis, of work-study programs.
- a review of student living standards.

The task force concluded that the existing programs were largely adequate, and that "there was no need for special provisions directed to the specific needs of students in different types of post-secondary education."

According to OFS Chairperson Karen Dubinsky, the report "provides little relief to needy Ontario college and university students who are burdened by growing educational costs."

The report, which took a year to produce, was prepared by the Federal-Provincial Task Force on Student Aid. It was to examine and recommend alternatives to current student aid programs in Canada in order to ensure the financial accessibility of students to higher education.

In the view of OFS and NUS the report does not make any suggestions for substantial improvements, and instead recommends that "the programs should continue to exist within the fiscal and economic realities of the day."

In assessing the adequacy of the Ontario Student Assistance Program, Dubinsky said that "unless we see new changes in OSAP, we really question the government's commitment to higher education." She said present OSAP money does not adequately cover periodic

Heather Whyte

## Memorial service

A memorial service to honour the memory of Theodore Allen Heinrich will be held today at the Scott Chapel at 2 p.m.

Dr. Heinrich was a professor of visual arts at York from 1965 until his death on January 27. He was a Fellow of Winters College.

During his distinguished career, Dr. Heinrich held the post of associate curator of New

York's Metropolitan Museum of Art until 1955. He then took on the directorship of the Royal Ontario Museum until 1962, and it credited with changing it from a home of tired artifacts into a popular attraction.

After leaving the ROM, Dr. Heinrich embarked on a series of tours throughout Europe. Eventually he settled down in Toronto as a professor at York.

Minister of Education Bette Stephenson's assurances that the task force would make real improvements have not been realized.

NUS Executive Officer John Doherty said that "this report makes a mockery of student input and hides the real concerns with existing programs." NUS feels that the opinion polls commissioned by the report's authors "mask real criticisms of the present programs."