

Majority favor unilingualism

English in Quebec on decline, Gray says



Excalibur - Bob Waller

Stan Gray wants to end Anglo-American domination of Quebec.

Stanley Gray, an English-speaking member of Le Front de Liberation Populaire, a Quebec independentist group, Feb. 12 predicted the decline of English-speaking Quebecers as "one of the most privileged ethnic minorities in all history."

He told an audience of about 200 in the Winters junior common room that an opinion poll taken last October by some students and faculty members at the Universite de Montreal proved that most Quebecers favored French unilingualism in the province.

Fired from his lectureship in political science at McGill University in Montreal for leading the disruption of a board of governors meeting a year ago, Gray is using the one-year's salary awarded him by an arbitration board to tour universities in English Canada to explain his group's efforts "to end Anglo-American and class domination of Quebec."

He told the audience that while English-speaking Quebecers made up only 17 per cent of the provincial population, they enjoyed 42 per cent of the university student places and 30 per cent of provincial government grants to students.

He charged that Quebec's education system "systematically discriminates" against French-speaking students and that the province's economic system, dominated by large corporations controlled by English Canadians

and Americans, had a "systematic, racist structure in all the upper echelons." He cited as evidence the latest report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism.

The report shows that English unilingualists in Quebec earn higher salaries on the average than bilingual French Canadians. About 80 per cent of all persons earning more than \$10,000 are English-speaking, the report shows.

French Canadians "have to assimilate (themselves) into the English culture" before they have any chance of getting a position in the upper echelons of Quebec industry, Gray said.

He said it was "economically profitable" to speak English in Quebec, and consequently the majority of immigrants in Quebec choose to learn the English language. He charged that this represented "a gradual disappearance of the French language and a cultural genocide for French-Canadians."

"There are two kinds of oppression from which the French Canadians suffer," Gray said.

The first form of oppression, he said, is class oppression. English-

speaking Quebecers have controlled the capital in Quebec and dominated the managerial positions in all areas of the Quebec economy since the British conquered the French in 1763, Gray said.

The second form of oppression, Gray charged, is colonial oppression. "Quebec is a colony of English Canada... controlled politically, economically and culturally from outside," he said.

Gray charged that one form of colonial oppression of the Quebec people was the economic control the federal government has over the Quebec provincial government.

Another form of colonial oppression, he said, is the English language, which, he said, "is imposed upon the French people historically."

He said two types of independentist movements exist in Quebec. Both would end the colonial control of the province by the English-speaking minority, but the Parti-Quebecois, led by Rene Levesque, would encourage, not replace, U.S. investment. The FLQ, Gray said, would eliminate capitalism in the province.

Gray said information from the English mass media about the Quebec independence struggle was "distorted."

CYSF may research Americanization

The possibility of support for three to five full-time summer researchers on the subject of campus Americanization was to be considered by the Council of the York Student Federation last night.

It was expected the council would decide to provide part of the \$2,000 a small group of students are requesting to use in research into the extent and effects of Americanization at York. The group hopes to report sometime next September.

The council was also scheduled to hear reports from investigation committees on Versafood, the bookstore and parking, and to consider action.

CYSF president Paul Axelrod said Tuesday the investigations have been stalled in some cases by an administration reluctance to reveal the university budgets in certain areas.

Axelrod also said he hoped the council would consider what to do with the present Laskin report on rights and responsibilities which has been partially adopted in a few subject areas and remains undebated in most other areas.

Axelrod said consideration would be given by CYSF to withdrawing the CYSF delegate to the Laskin-approved court system on campus.

The council was also expected to appoint commissioners of finance, external affairs, academics and communications, hear a request for support from the Spadina Expressway opponents and to consider the plight of the day care centre, which lacks a future home.

Smokestack found unpolluted after provincial safety check

The newly-elected Council of the York Student Federation has already cleared the air on the first election issue with which it has dealt — pollution from York's new smokestack.

Gordon S. Trivett, chief of Ontario's Air Management Branch of the Department of Energy and Resources Management said last Wednesday that appreciably little pollution is being produced by York's physical plant, and that if all large operations were as efficient as he has found York's to be, Ontario's pollution problem would be significantly less alarming.

The provincial government acted quickly on a letter written Feb. 13 by CYSF councillor Tim Delaney, and initiated a study of York's smokestack Feb. 16 by junior engineer John Kawasaki.

He found that the principal air contaminant produced at York is sulphur dioxide, but the concentration figure is only 0.016 parts sulphur dioxide per one million parts air by volume, an average reading over 30 minutes.

Compared to the maximum pollution level allowed by legislation of 0.3 parts per million, or the danger level of 0.4 parts, as spelled out in the Air Pollution Control Act of 1967, the university's figure is minuscule.

The computer, whose results were checked long-hand by

Kawasaki, found that the smoke produced at York returns to earth approximately three miles from the smokestack and here is where the measurement was made.

Trivett reported that York is using bunker C grade oil, the lowest grade of fuel available. This is the same fuel which the sunken tanker Arrow has left smeared over Nova Scotia's beaches.

This fuel has the highest sulphur content of all commercially available fuels, including higher grade oils, natural gas, and electricity, but because of the efficiency of the burning operation and the height of the stack, the amount of sulphur dioxide is kept to a minimum.

According to Trivett, using a lower sulphur content fuel could conceivably reduce the sulphur dioxide reading from 0.016 to 0.013, an insignificant difference which he deemed a waste of money.

Electric heating, according to engineer Harry Belyea, a member of Trivett's staff, would necessitate re-insulating every building on campus, and is still more expensive. Natural gas would be uneconomical because of the expense of building the required network of delivery pipes and converting the present system to burn gas.

York's physical plant is

presently working at one-third of its projected capacity, which will likely be reached in 1985. Even then the sulphur content would reach only 0.02 parts per million, still safely below even the more stringent government regulations which are being considered.

Trivett also promised that the government would insure that the industrial developments to be built north of Steeles Avenue around Keele Street would be carefully inspected and supervised, to prevent any polluting of the air in the neighborhood.

Thumbs out!

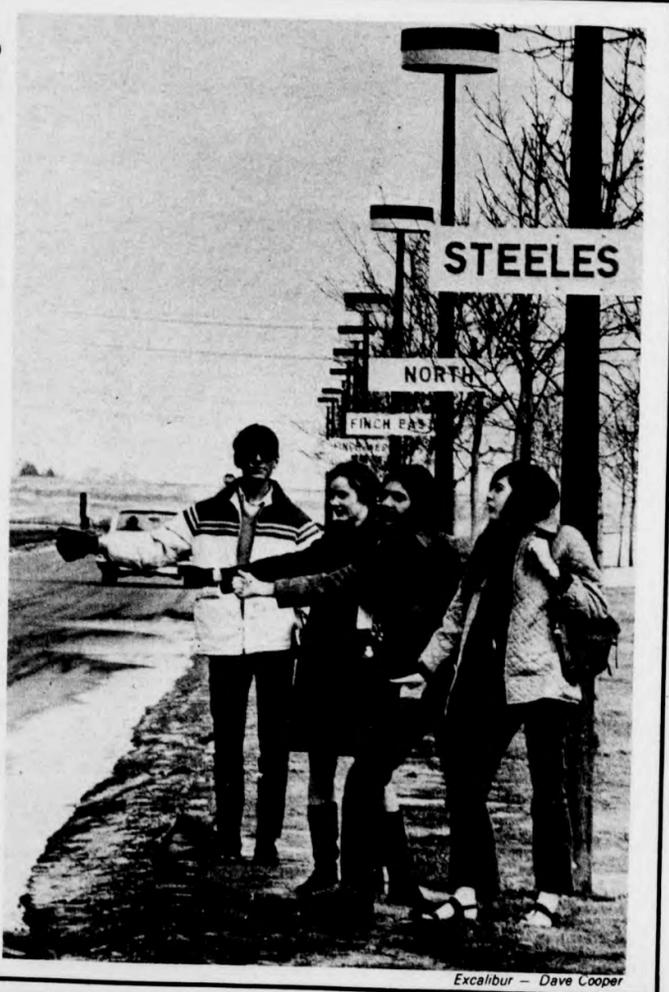
Those nine red florescent signs Winters CYSF rep Carolyn Fowler promised at the last CYSF meeting are now up at the main entrance to the university and reaction to them seems good.

Hitchhikers stand under the signs — marked to show nine major areas in Toronto — and drivers offering rides simply stop by the sign pointing to the general area of their destination.

Hitchhiking is a necessary mode of transportation for many York students, but before the signs were put up there were problems.

"Often, up to five or six cars may stop to offer a hitchhiker a lift," Miss Fowler said last week, "only to find the two were heading in opposite directions. "This way we feel the signs will be an asset to everyone."

Signs are marked to show nine general areas: 401 East, 401 West, Finch East, Finch West, Lawrence, Steeles East, Downtown, North and Other.



Excalibur - Dave Cooper

Start pollution centre

Osgoode Hall law students involved in the Community Legal Aid Services Program are looking into a new field — pollution.

Dubbed Pollution Project (80), the new organization hopes first to organize an information bank, gathering all available resource material and general information on the problem of environmental pollution — air, water, land and noise.

From that base the group plans to engage in more specific action to fight the pollution problem, by writing briefs and articles for government hearings. They especially want to look into the

legal aspects of pollution, a field that has largely been left alone by anti-pollution groups up to now.

Next year the students hope to start up seminars dealing with current pollution problems, working with papers presented by the participants.

But for the present, their main interest is to gather all the information they can for their files, and they have launched an appeal for any background material people might have. Term papers and seminar reports on pollution problems are especially welcome.

The CLASP and Pollution Project (80) office is room 118 in Osgoode Hall.