

# Canada holds key to racial problems

By GINGER BRADLEY

Canada, an inconveniently extended, irrationally constructed, and indigestibly composed nation, is a potential laboratory for the solution of world problems, says a noted political commentator.

Over 2,000 university students and interested citizens at the Dr. Henry Marshall Tory lectures in the Jubilee Auditorium Oct. 12 listened intently as Blair Fraser, Ottawa editor of Maclean's Magazine, explained how Canada, through experimentation, could help solve two universal problems of nations.

Mr. Fraser says the two problems are loyalty and apartheid.

In speaking of the first obstacle to national cohesion, he said Canadians often talk as if the problem of inducing an effective sense of nationhood among citizens . . . who have grown up in different ways of life, different habits of thought expressed in different languages, is peculiar to Canada alone.

We fail to realize the problem is very nearly universal, and we have it in a mild form, in such diluted intensity, that it looks, by comparison with other countries, relatively easy, he said.

"Biculturalism is one problem which, we know is not insoluble . . . because it has already been solved right here in Canada . . . on a scale which could and should, and in my opinion, will become national," he said.

Mr. Fraser referred to Quebec where the English-speaking minority form about 15 per cent of the total population and enjoys and always has enjoyed full control of its own affairs as a lingual community.

"The English don't suffer from a minority neurosis," he said.

"But the Frenchman who receives the opportunity to move to an English-speaking community in another province is faced with a moral decision of the first magnitude.

"His children will grow up illiterate in his own and their own language, and they will become members of an alien culture," he said.

Thus mobility is a minimum requirement of nationhood.

"We may already form a general principle from our own experience. In a bilingual or multi-lingual nation the majority must always resist the temptation to use the lan-

guage as an instrument of coercion," he said.

The second problem, apartheid, is a name not for the problem but for what South Africa claims to be the solution for it. The problem is to bring into the twentieth century primitive peoples whose own culture is approximately that of the New Stone Age.

"We do know we have no solution, and that it's a matter of gravest urgency to find one," said Mr. Fraser.

"Failure will mean chaos, and a bloody chaos, certainly in Africa and probably in several other continents," he said.

We must realize some cultures are better than others, he said.

We must learn how to help our Eskimos and forest Indians, not by spending millions on what we think they should learn but by researching what to teach them and giving them the right kind of support.

We must teach them in such a way that the individual maintains his self-respect and preserves cohesion in the community to which he belongs, he said.

He urged Canada to try to solve these problems.

"There are few countries in which this unsolved problem, so desperately urgent for so many other nations, can be found in such manageable dimensions—physically and financially.

"We can afford to try things and see if they work.

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The following positions of students' union are open:

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Applications for the above positions should be made to WUS president by 5 p.m. Oct. 25 in the students' union office.

## LIBRARY CARDS

Library cards have been mailed to students in the faculties of dentistry, medicine, nursing, law, remedial medicine, and dental hygiene. Anyone in these faculties not receiving a card or receiving an incorrect card apply to main circulation desk, Cameron Library.

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### CULTURE 500

Irving Layton, Canadian poet, will visit U of A Nov. 5, sponsored by Culture 500. There will be a recital in MP 126 from 12 noon to 12:30 p.m. He will also be appearing at the Yardbird Suite and on radio and television.

### LIFESAVING SOCIETY

The Royal Lifesaving Society (Alberta) will hold a Provincial Examiners Clinic at the U of A Oct. 30-31. It is important that all examiners attend. For further information contact E. Abell at 469-7824.

### BADMINTON CLUB

The Badminton Club started playing Monday at 7 p.m. in the ed gym. Additional playing times will be: Tuesdays 7 to 10 p.m. in the ed gym and Fridays 9 to 11 p.m. in the west gym. There is no membership fee and any student may join, regardless of ability. The players must bring a racquet and a bird (nylon birds will be sold at a nominal fee). For information call Dave Felstad at 439-0448.

### FIGURE SKATING

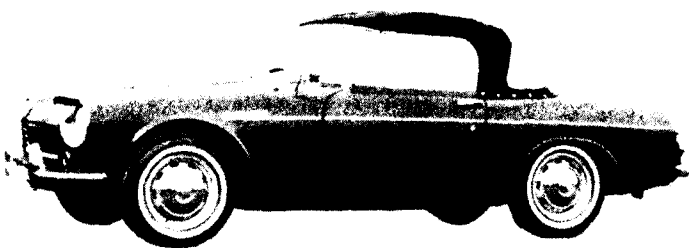
Go figure skating tonight! The Figure Skating Club and Team meets at the rink Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 to 8 p.m., and Sundays from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Instructions are free. The team will compete in Saskatoon February 11, 12, and 13.

### INDIAN AFFAIRS

U of A will be host for an Indian affairs seminar Jan. 28-30. The seminar will involve students from all Western post-secondary institutions. The main theme of the seminar would be Indian Community Development, and involve a study of all aspects of this plan.

### WAUNEITA CHARM SCHOOL

Wauneita Charm School will be held Oct. 26, 27 and 28 in Wauneita Lounge from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Tuesday: a skit and a talk on formal etiquette. Wednesday: a fashion show of formal gowns from The Bay. Thursday: a demonstration of hair styles by a Nels Todd representative plus talks on hair care, nail care and cosmetics.



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