

Forum participants "mud-slingers"?

by Ric Darichuk

The Foreign Ownership Forum attracted about 240 to SUB Theatre last Thursday, but I feel most expectations were soon destroyed. Shadows of doubt were cast when it was noted that the only speakers present were five opponents in the Strathcona constituency. Was this to be a Forum concerned with Foreign Ownership, or merely a slinging contest in the name of Provincial Elections?

First to speak was the incumbent Julian Koziak of the 'Lougheed Team'. The majority of his time was spent giving facts and figures on foreign ownership, and stating Alberta has the highest degree of foreign owned corporations in Canada (56% according to corporate tax statistics as quoted by Koziak). Mr. Koziak did admit he approves of foreign ownership in Alberta because he feels the government is ultimately in control.

"The largest single issue in this campaign will be foreign ownership in Alberta," states Gordon Wright of the NDP. He feels "we are tenants in our own house"; not only are our natural resources being exploited, but also those of Alberta's working people. His reference to the Schultz Report of 1970 made a

strong point in opposition to foreign investment. This report was presented to the President of the U.S. and declared for every dollar invested, seventy-five cents was recouped within the first year, according to Mr. Wright.

Arthur Yates, the Liberal representative, was "not too concerned with the amounts of foreign capital in Alberta" because he feels "we need to be developed." He stated Albertans should be motivated to invest in "renewable resources" and leave speculation of our irreplaceable ones to foreigners.

"Elect a government that would TELL these monopolies to get out of Alberta" was the unique solution to foreign ownership presented by Kimball Cariou of the Communist Party. He spoke sketchily on this, then his speech degenerated into a statement of Party policies until his time elapsed.

The liveliest event, and most humorous, was the spontaneity objectively displayed by the moderator, Dr. Bruce Wilkinson of the Department of Economics. At the conclusion of the speeches, he proceeded to voice valuable corrections. Dr. Wilkinson produced solid

denouncements to specific statements of the candidates present.

Dr. Harry Garfinkle of the Constitutional Socialist Party (which promotes an 'Independent Democratic Socialist Canada') was the last speaker of the afternoon. "As long as we have a capitalist economy, our government leaders will remain as branch-plant managers operating without initiative", stated Dr. Garfinkle. He feels the 'Elite' (the Liberals and Conservatives in Canada) are basically continuing sell-out procedures.

The implication in all the speeches tended to project full governmental control by the power to create legislation regarding foreign ownership.

Chaw gets boost from economy

(ENS) - The popularity of chewing tobacco is on the rise - and industry sources say it has a lot to do with young, ecology-minded folks who disdain smoking tobacco because it pollutes the atmosphere.

The Smokeless Tobacco Council in Peekskill, New York reports that sales of snuff and chaw were up seven percent last year - the biggest sales gain

Women fight skin searches

(ENS) - Two women, one in New York, and one in Oregon, are involved in court cases which they hope will abolish forced skin searches in minor arrest cases.

Donna Micallef of New York this week filed a \$1-million class action suit because she was subjected by police to a vaginal and rectal search after being booked for non-payment of a traffic fine. The suit seeks a restraining order to prevent similar searches in cases in-

volving such minor offenses.

Micallef charged that the search constituted cruel and unusual punishment and deprivation of her constitutional rights. Five policemen and the jail matron - who said that such a search is "normal procedure" - were named in the suit.

The second case is that of Cynthia Barrett of Portland, Oregon. She has just been awarded \$1,500 in an out-of-court settlement of her \$25,000 suit against County Commissioners and police. Police forced her to submit to a vaginal smear and blood test after she was arrested for jaywalking.

Barrett, who also was awarded an official apology from County Commissioners,

charged authorities with "offensive touching, amounting to battery." Barrett had been booked on the jaywalking charge - as in the New York case - because she couldn't afford to pay the fine.

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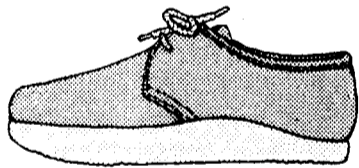
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