

our comment

Larry Green

What has been called the biggest test for the unity of Canada since conscription took place this Monday. It was, of course, the Quebec Provincial Election. The Liberal Government of Robert Bourassa that held 96 seats of the possible 110 was defeated by the Parti Quebecois headed by Rene Lesveques.

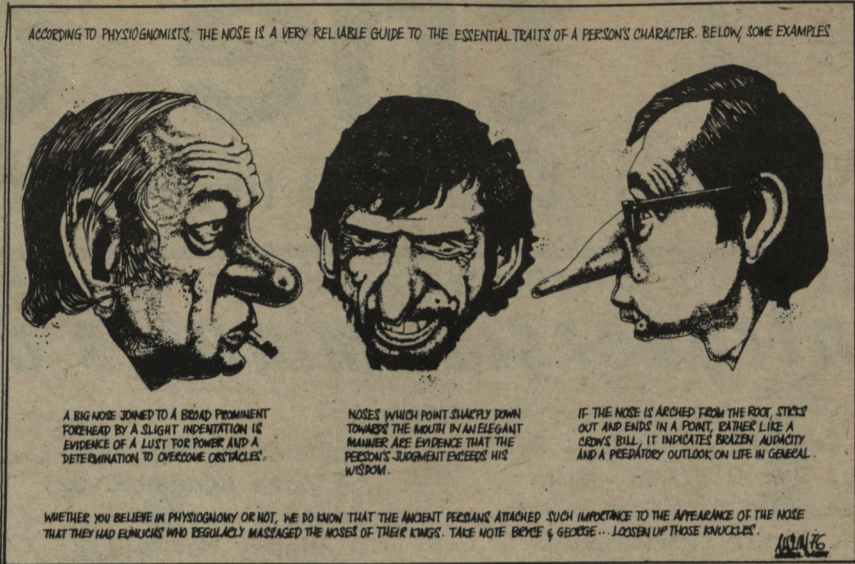
The "upset" of the P.Q.'s victory surprised some people but the knowledgeable were not in the least surprised. In the last three years the Liberals have done little to please the working force of Quebec. They promised to keep the labour unions in control and that's about what happened, the labour unions kept control. Strikes have become almost a permanent part of the political scene in Quebec. Island students who worked for the Quebec government this summer were even involved with walkouts staged by the union of the Quebec civil servants.

The majority of the french people have no more desire to separate than Kings County, but they voted for the P.Q. anyway. This is the first election that the party was able to keep M Lesveque in control, concentrate on other issues and playdown the separation policy. They also promised a referendum before a separation bill will be introduced in the Quebec provincial Assembly. These actions were reassuring enough to have finally won Rene

Lesveques a seat in the assembly, the first he has held in his eight years as leader of the P.Q.

As for the fear of separation it shouldn't exist. The people of Quebec will surely vote down any bill advancing such a proposal. Moreover, even if the referendum wasn't presented to the people I doubt that enough members of the P.Q. party in the Assemble would vote with the bill to have it passed. But if all this happened and such a bill were passed Quebec still wouldn't be able to separate legally. All of the provinces of Canada must be unanimous with Quebec for separation to occur. For this Quebec would have to make some concessions especially to the Atlantic provinces since we would be separated physically from the rest of Canada in such a case. The governments of the Atlantic provinces would demand access roads to the rest of Canada without the bother of customs. A problem would also arise out of the use of the St. Lawrence seaway and the division of federal property within Quebec.

Whose fault is all this. I wouldn't place the blame on the Parti Quebecois, Rene Lesveques or the voters of Quebec. It should rest with the ineptitude of the Liberal government and perhaps rest solely on the person who is said to be the most hated man in Quebec, Robert Bourassa.



|from The Fourth Estate

UPEI the cadre

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'Covers the Island Like the Tourists'



This week's tired crew: Gerald, Margot, George, Kathy, Larry, Ruth, Tony, Jackie, Ron, Aggie, Caroline, Meriella.

Contents are the responsibility of the Editorial Staff, opinions are those of the persons expressing them. All letters and articles must be signed, even if the name is to be withheld. Deadline for all submissions is Monday noon. Layout is from Tuesday at 2 pm to Wednesday at 8 pm with periodic breaks. Staff meeting every Friday at 12:20

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Dear Cadre

Is there something you do or don't like on campus? This is the place to complain or encourage. All submissions very much welcomed.

Dear Cadre,

It is always so easy to set back and condemn someone who cannot possibly defend herself. I am referring to the incident where, when it was known and stated that the Communications Officer was out of the province, she was

asked to phone Radio CIMN to face insinuations that she was not doing her job.

Significantly some members of the open-line show, Tuesday nite at 6 pm may not have been totally unbiased in their comments. I am all for "constructive" criticism but if we are going to get involved in personalities shouldn't we let these personalities speak for themselves?

Signed Concerned for Free but EQUAL Speech

Dear Cadre,

Sunday night's Council meeting had to be one of the most frustrating, childish, irresponsible, meetings ever to have been held on the campus.

Over 4 weeks ago P.B. brought the names of these

nominees: to handle Winter Carnival to Council. The suggestions were approved. At the conclusion of the meeting Elisabeth Burke moved they be rejected. Her motion was approved.

At the next council meeting the council members decided that "they" would decide who was going to handle Winter Carnival. It was suggested and approved that both groups that had applied appear before council.

At Sunday's meeting Pat O'Brian and Caroline Hill decided that rather than exercise their right of abstention, they would simply "pack up" and force the meeting to close.

Caroline returned after it was explained what the consequences of this walk out incurred. Pat O'Brian refused to return to the meeting. The council was

forced, because of this irresponsible attitude, to pass the decision-making task on to the Executive.

What is council here for? If all council is willing to do is complain about what other councillor's are doing then they are "terrible" examples of the student population.

It isn't any wonder there is a decision to remain uninvolved when those who are involved in the decision-making process refuse to use their powers usefully?

We grant that our executive has not been perfect; we've made mistakes... at least we are willing to try... even if no one gives a damn.

Derek Key
Paul Currie
Gerald McKenna

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