

# DEFENDING HIS REIGN IN HILLSBOROUGH

suffered through some drastic rises in their tuition, and there seems to be a general trend to reduce the number of foreign students in Canada, but isn't part of the reason for a university to incorporate people of

proportion of non-nationals than almost any other country.

In 1976, the last year for which we have figures available, foreign faculty in many departments represented as much as 30% of the total. In other areas

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different backgrounds?

Mr. McMillan: That's right. It's an issue I feel very strongly about. Let me make this point. I think institutions of higher learning are by definition international. They shouldn't be circumscribed by cultural or geographical factors, and they should open their windows to the world. This is part of what universities are all about.

On the other hand, they are corporate citizens. They are part of the broader community and they, therefore owe allegiance to that community. They have obligations to the society that supports them so that they can't ignore the society's interests. When it comes down to the level of students and faculty, we in Canada have a greater

almost half were non-Canadian. The great international institutions like Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and Yale, have corresponding figures that rarely exceed 6 to 8%. Some people argue that we're a new country, that we've had to rely on other countries for our faculties because we haven't had developed graduate schools to produce Ph.D's. That might have been true in the 50's or even the early 60's, but we are continuing to hire non-Canadians in all kinds of

My experience is that young people don't want work programs tailor made for themselves. I think they see them as stop gap and ad hoc.

fields at the very time when we have a surplus of our own people.

I think it is a question of balance. We don't want

to erect a great wall of China around our universities as around our young people's minds, but at the same we have to realistically see our universities as obligated to our own society. The same applies to students as well as to professors. Our own students benefit from rubbing shoulders with people from other lands, but when young Canadians are being locked out of medical schools, law schools, or engineering programs because those faculties are accepting a disproportionate number of outside students, then our balance is out of wack.

Q: Would you tell us a bit about the thing that caused this Federal Election, your party's budget?

Mr. McMillan: I honestly don't think that the budget had much to do with the fall of the government. I think that was an excuse to force an election when Trudeau and his crowd and the NDP to a lesser extent,

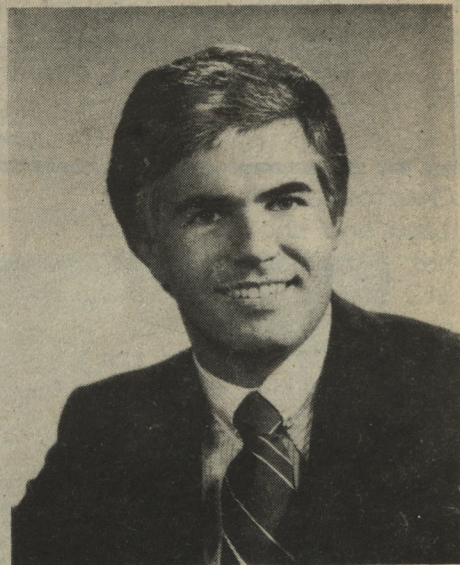
saw the Gallop Poll as favourable to them. I think Mr. Trudeau and his henchmen, Jim Coutts, his principal secretary, Keith Davey, his election strategist and Alan MacEachern, their house leader, who saw his own position threatened if Donald MacDonald took over the leadership of the Liberal Party, these people got together and with some collusion from the NDP, engineered a government defeat purely for narrow political reasons. There were no high principles at stake. There was no great opposition to the budget.

Q: Will Canada's next budget be much different from the last one?

Mr. McMillan: Basically, the country is near bankruptcy. We're spending 25% more than we're taking in. The Federal deficit is about eleven billion dollars in the current year, that's more than the total national budget was in 1968, the first year Mr. Trudeau was in power. Since 1968 inflation has doubled, unemployment has almost tripled, and the dollar has plunged. Trudeau and his successive governments badly mismanaged the economy.

This is the state of affairs the new Conservative

Government inherited. Canada needed tough measures to deal with a situation that was getting progressively worse, and no matter what government is elected on Feb. 18th, a budget like ours will have to be introduced again. We just cannot



afford the rampant, uncontrolled government spending that we have been wallowing in to the detriment of workers, of students and of senior citizens.

Q: Have you any final messages for our readers?

Mr. McMillan: Just one, and it relates to my outlook on P.E.I. I feel that we on the Island should be stressing policies aimed at making us less dependent on the Federal treasury and more self reliant than we have been. We've been too content to accept generous transfer payments that just increase our reliance on the Federal government and on other provinces. What I would like to see Islanders do is start looking gift horses in the mouth, looking at Federal government money and deciding, even if it is generous, if it is in our best interests or whether it just accelerates our dependency that has built up since Confederation. What I'm saying is that we should gear in on building up our economic base, for example, by the vet college, and by having a designated all weather deep water port. In this way, we're strengthening our economic base for other initiatives aimed at making us self-sufficient and less dependent on the Federal Government.



TOM McMILLAN SPEAKS TO HIS AUDIENCE DURING THE POLITICAL DEBATE ON CAMPUS LAST WEEK.

