

One nation or two nations "a success"

by CLYDE McELMAN
(A Second In A Two Part Series)

Une nation — Reunion d'hommes habitant une meme terroire, ayant une origine, des traditions communes, des moeurs semblables et le plus souvent une meme langue.

— Larousse

If only we good English-speaking Anglo-Saxons understood . . . but, we don't! Most can't, some won't and the few who do are unable to spread this understanding. All that may be said is that the Quebec "nation" believes in itself and has a vitality hitherto unknown to the Canadian scene. Quebec today has fallen into the hands of a new, daring generation . . . young people with the courage to "get involved" and shoulder, even demand, responsibility. They have a program of definite objectives for the immediate future, with provincial control of fiscal and monetary policy (Maitre chez nous) as the basis of this program. It is at this point that the conflict begins.

"Maitre chez nous" means and requires a degree of autonomy incompatible with the spirit and practise of the present federation. It is, however the heart and soul of the present aspirations of Quebec, and no amount of English-Canadian debate or protest (short of military force) can appreciably alter the future course of Quebec actions. The B.N.A. Act and the present federation are doomed to destruction.

Much of the difficulty arises from the fact that les Quebecois think of the remainder of Canada as an English-speaking "nation" in the same sense that they are a French-speaking one. Hence, all their argument is put forth on the assumption that

the two "nations" can treat with one another on equal footing. The English-speaking remainder is not a "nation" (unity), however, but an area regionally divided by social and economic considerations. Canada is, in reality, five regions: I. B.C. II. Alberta: Saskatchewan: Manitoba III. Ontario IV. Quebec V. the Atlantic region. Federally administered policies which solve a problem in one of these regions almost invariably cause neglect and/or difficulty in another area. Each of the five regions is more or less "une nation".

When Quebec finally seizes control of her economy by usurping fiscal powers presently held by the federal government, B.C. will immediately, in her own interest demand equal privileges, followed closely by the prairies and Ontario. This will end our federal system.

In the light of these realities and their apparently inevitable conclusion (discounting the insanity of suppressing Quebec by force), I would therefore propose that the five regions negotiate a Commonwealth of Canada along the lines of a confederacy rather than a federal state, with: co-operative regulation of external Trade & Commerce; an internal system of preferential tariffs, with free trade prevailing when possible; retention of the present Criminal code; common support of most of the present nationally-owned public services (i.e. rail-

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In past years the students of UNB have shown that they are willing to support good causes. This year's Fall Blood Donor Clinic was no exception. Although we must remember that Saint Thomas and T.C. added their share it was mainly the students of this university which helped to make this a record clinic. The UNB Blood Donor Clinic this year showed an increase of over 10% in registered blood donors, with an increase of 9.5% in actual pints given. This year 1042 people signed up at the clinic in the basement of Aitken House, compared with last year's 947, and this year 117 were rejected for the many reasons we may give to excuse ourselves from giving. A commendable total of 925 bottles of blood was extracted from students and a few faculty members and post graduates, a result described by one of the Red Cross workers as "excellent". The fact that this figure could have been doubled leaves one with a few reservations about back-slapping, but next spring, perhaps, the hitherto unseen figure of 1000 pints may be seen.

Most people on campus realize the importance of these clinics and it is interesting to note that the Canadian Red Cross is one of only two RED CROSS services in the world able to maintain a free blood service based on voluntary donations. UNB students can be proud that they have contributed support to a worthy cause.

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"The Brunswickan will cease publication for three weeks," announced editor-in-chief Rod Mills just before press time. "We feel that a break of two or three weeks will be long enough," he added, "and after that time we'll go back into production again, fresh and rarin' to go."

The surprise statement came after a meeting of the Brunswickan Editorial Board called especially to review the staff situation.

Bill Freeland, Brunswickan business manager, added, "We have been working quite hard so far, and I agree with Rod that a two or three week break would do us all a world of good."

The Brunswickan has been plagued with resignations and has not had the necessary co-operation from the student body. "There isn't much glory in news writing, and people don't like to sacrifice their time for the student paper," remarked the news editor.

Mr. Mills announced that the break in publication would be made to coincide with the winter vacation period to minimize the effect on the student body. "Mum, we're going home for Christmas, folks."

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