



'Easy times over' -PM on Canadian Economy

By PETER ARCHIBALD

On Thursday November 10, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield hosted a noon meeting with the press at the Centennial Building here in Fredericton.

The conference was held to answer inquiries about the PM's talks with Hatfield. The discussions centred on the Maritime economy as well as Hatfield's views on New Brunswick's role in National Unity.

Trudeau also answered to some RCMP issues.

The PM spoke of the "structural functions of the economy" which entailed employment equalization with all provinces, and "in the long period, stabilization of prices across Canada."

Trudeau told the media that the world economic situation is the same as that of the Acadians: inflation and unemployment are high. He hopes the Government will decrease inflation to 6 percent soon and stated that the country's population growth of 5



percent was healthy. However he still indicated that the high unemployment of eight to nine percent must be rectified but offered no explanation of how.

He said that Governments must "consider from a human standpoint" the study of "physical and monetary ways to attack the problems of economy to become competitive with the U.S."

He went on to state that the "years of easy times are over."



Brunswick reporter Peter Archibald chats with Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Hatfield following last week's press conference.

On the Acadian issue Trudeau mentioned he would "leave it to Hatfield" but affirmed that he and Premier Hatfield had gone over rights of minorities as the Canadian constitution guarantees them.

Minority language rights were first in importance regarding "constitutional guarantees". Trudeau used French speaking schools as the example when he deemed they would exist should local desire and numbers justify them.

"Constitutional guarantees will not be subject to the whims, leisures, caprices of Education Ministers", stated the Prime Minister.

Breakdown of time spent on the talks between the PM and the Premier held high priority for the economy issue and left time only for a short discussion between the two on unity after the news conference.

The meeting ended after the PM briefly answered some RCMP inquiries.

He was questioned over talk of suspension of the CBC's budget after the network had allegedly released information concerning the RCMP that was of a secret nature.

He was asked if he thought these measures were deserved and was the CBC being irresponsible for publishing materials regarding the RCMP. The PM answered, "if you change the context to 'is it alright to make known information the media has uncovered', then yes", it was alright to publish such information.

Trudeau concluded, "I believe the Royal Commission (The McDonald Inquiry into the RCMP) will get to the facts without endangering the country's security."

Trudeau then unannouncedly got up and followed by Hatfield left the room and walked to the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel where they finished their talks.

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