

Region should consider a warden's role

Halton Regional Council faces its first political crisis today as it attempts to elect its first regional chairman.

Allan Masson, the incumbent, was appointed by provincial order-in-council in 1973. He has ensured that Halton received a fair hearing at the senior levels of government and has acted as a figurehead for public relations purposes. But as chairman he could not exceed the authority given him by council.

Success and good luck to Venturers

The Venturers bottle drive Saturday was a success. More than three tons of bottles were collected to help toward their goal of purchasing two Voyageur canoes.

It was a good gesture by Georgetown residents to actively support a group of young people dedicated to earning their way in society. It is through initiative and resourcefulness that success will be achieved.

For anyone to say the Venturers do not possess this quality is a statement which must be challenged. To the young people, we salute you on your efforts to achieve a goal you have established.

In the many bottle drives and whatever other fundraising projects you might initiate: Good Luck.

Now council is charged with reviewing the first three years and determining whether the chairman will be paid the almost \$40,000 a year Mr. Masson received; whether it will be a full-time position or whether it will be part-time.

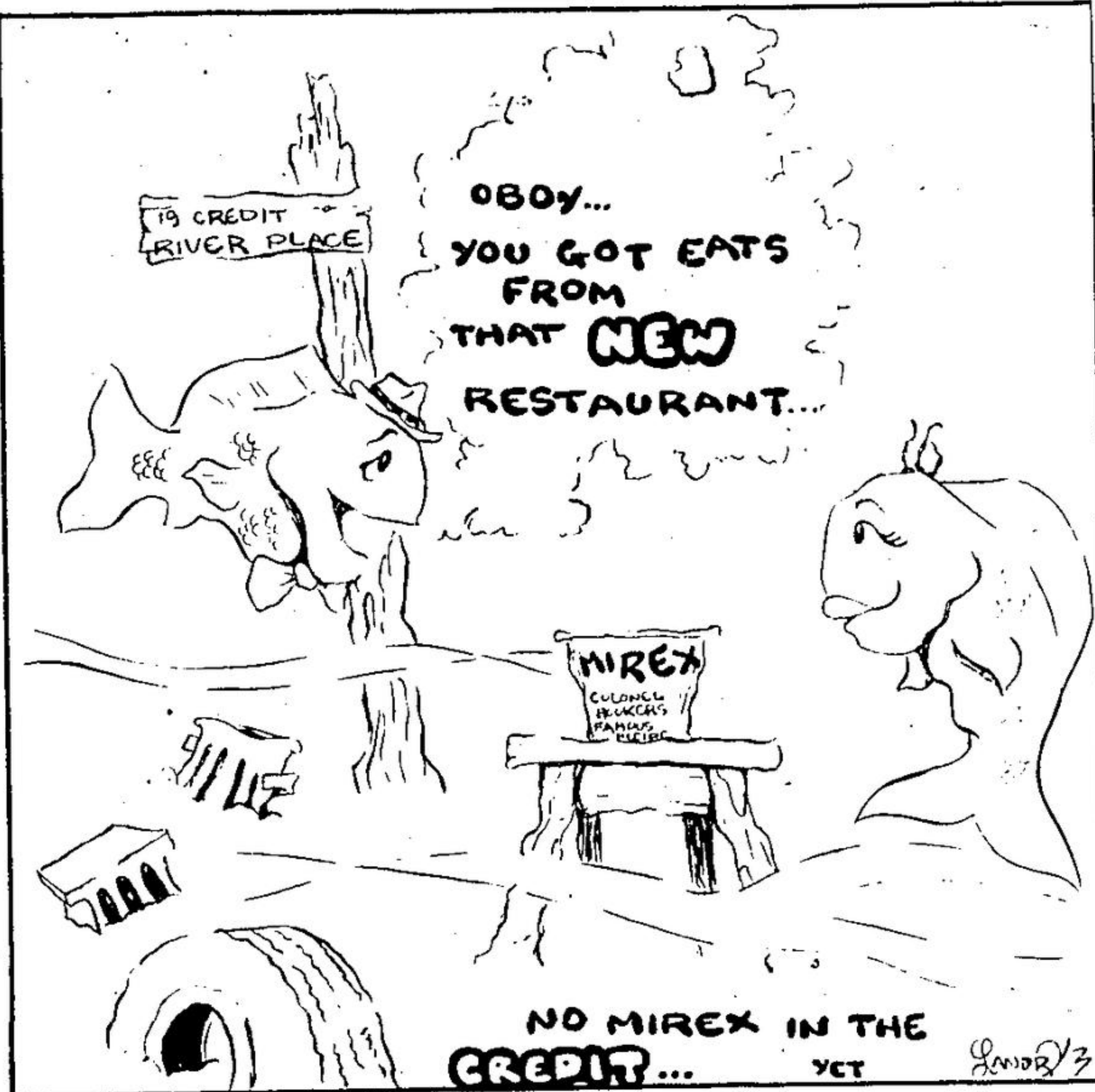
It is a series of decisions which may affect the future workings of council. Parochialism will likely surface to haunt this new council before any major decisions are made, even the election of a chairman.

Also being considered is a key question of whether anyone from council itself should be elected to the leadership role. As the Halton legislation now stands that is possible but would result in a by-election being called. That's a disservice to the community at large and an added expense which should not be called for.

Waterloo Region last week elected its chairman amid calls by its council for a review of the process. Several arguments were heard supporting a general election of the chairman during municipal elections.

The argument made is meritorious since the regional chairman does not have a mandate from the people; only from the elected council which can select from among its members or any one applying from the community.

The one avenue, not explored but commented on privately recently by one former council member, is for the chairman to assume the role of chairman for council and committee meetings while still retaining membership on council. In effect, it would be a return to the now-defunct county warden system. Councillors might be wise to give this more consideration. It may save money, time and hot air.



A tongue-in-cheek look at this wacky world - again

By GERRY LANDSHOROUGH
What better way to start the New Year than with potpourri. Here we travel the globe to bring you a sometimes serious, but mostly not so serious, tongue-in-cheek look at this wonderful wacky world around us.

First we're off to Ogden, Utah, where an item on the local police blotter caused more than a second glance.
It read: "Man requests officer to stand by while his girlfriend removes her clothes."
It was followed up by a further intriguing entry: "Girlfriend removed her things. No problems. No further action."

Now quit your snickering whilst I explain. The man in question merely wanted a police officer to stand by while his girlfriend was removing a suitcase full of her clothes from his apartment. I can just imagine what some of you out there in reader land were thinking. Tsk. Tsk. Tsk.

Now while we are on the subject of clothes let us tip-toe over to downtown Toronto where Arthur Squires certainly didn't get the last laugh.

Our friend Mr. Squires went into hysterics when the exotic dancer he was watching in a downtown tavern lost her panties accidentally during her performance. However, she turned out to be quite a "cut-up" for she was charged with wounding after she slashed Squires arm with a butcher knife. The moral of which is... Never laugh at an exotic dancer who loses her pants - she might turn out to be a "real cut up" Ohhhhhhhhh!

Away to Britain now for the latest word on the late Duke of Beaufort. His valet, bless his soul had to both put in, and remove all 338 pounds of His Grace from the bathtub, with, and I hope you ready for this - a block and tackle. Picture this little scenario... You may lower away now Crimmonson... "Jolly Good your Grace," and "We hope Your Grace has a pleasant journey."

Here is a tasteless subject from Birmingham, England. Mrs. Helen Dale who cleans the women's lavatories at a local bakery saw red when she discovered that the men were paid 20 cents more an hour for

cleaning the men's toilets. She is now "flushed" with success for an industrial tribunal decided she was entitled to equal pay for equal work.

The whole matter was certainly not washed down the drain (so to speak) and lib in the loo won out. It was certainly the only fair way the whole matter could wash unless,

Halton Hills goodwill ambassadors

A news clipping from the Georgetown (S.C.) Times which reached our desk in a rather circuitous route by way of Florida is a testament to lasting friendship.

The clipping shows five Halton Hills residents outside the Times offices and offers a short article on the friendship between that community and former Georgetown (Halton Hills) which developed between former Mayor Bill Smith and his counterpart Mayor O.M. Higgins who recently retired because of ill health.

The five travellers who became ambassadors of the community are Rev. and Mrs. R.C. Todd, Mrs. June Evans and Mr. and Mrs. George W. Evans.

With them they took the news that Georgetown has been developed with two other municipalities into the new community of Halton Hills. It is hoped that the "rapport" between the communities, which the Times so eloquently mentioned in its story will not die.

As the Times stated: "Good will, once established, like good men... would appear hard to destroy."

Our thanks to Tom Turner of Market Street for bringing our attention to the clipping which he received from an aunt in Florida recently.

Looking through our files

30 YEARS AGO
The Royal Bank of Canada, in Georgetown which closed in 1943 as a result of government policy of merging banks in small towns, announced that a branch was to be opened in Georgetown.

George Currie was elected deputy-revee for Esqueping, polling 353 votes over 462 for R.N. Brown.

The first Georgetown man to join the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, John Farmer left for Regina, Saskatchewan, to take a nine month training course. He was a graduate of Georgetown High School.

A radio shop on Main Street, called Ernie's Radio, was opened by Ernest Havelson. It was next door to Silver's Department Store in premises formerly occupied by Penon's Fish and Chip Store.

20 YEARS AGO
Municipal council, headed by Mayor Jack Armstrong, were sworn into office. Also sworn in by town clerk John D. Kelly were Reeve Stan Allan, Deputy-Reeve Doug McGilvray, Harry Hale, Walter Gray, Alfred Sykes, Ern Hyde and Fred Harrison.

Ray Salter was elected chairman of the Georgetown public school board for a third term.

The Georgetown Lions Club reported its largest ever profit on the Santa Claus parade and poultry draw - \$410.30. The 25th annual parade was put on by the Lions Club and the fire department.

of course, the tribunal turned out to be a "four-flusher."

FLASH! FLASH! BULLETIN FROM OUR EDITOR. Don't give up now dear pants-walking readers its bound to get better it can't possibly get any worse.

And now for our quote of the week.
"Every man needs a wife because sometimes things go wrong that you can't blame on the government." To which I can only add "I like the way your mind works, Leroy."

Away to San Francisco now where Phil Abrams for the mere sum of \$5 will deliver any message by phone that's legal. He's the founder of Linservice - his business consists of delivering messages for people too shy or timid to do it for themselves.

An example of some of his calls to date have been to tell a woman that though she has B.O. to tell a boss from an employee "Look you've got a rotten personality..." from a young boy to his girlfriend a nice, gentle, sweet "I love you," and so it goes.

The ultimate in a materialistic society that is losing the ability to communicate on a one-to-one basis. Pay someone to talk for you. Terrific isn't it?

I really hate to do this to you, dear readers, this being the New Year and all but that inscrutable mysterious character The Maharishi Sometimes Yogi has returned again this year and I'm afraid he once again is about to impart words of wisdom on us.

Take it away Maharishi.
"Remember that though it is written the wise man takes but one step at a time it is also written that only a fool takes more than one step to cross a chasm."

I can't believe it. He's done it again - such profound wisdom - such depth - and to think it's all here - that's luck.

Till next week - Keep on smiling.

Queen's Park

Outlook not visible through the smog

By DON O'HEARN
Queen's Park Bureau
Of The Herald

It seems it might be a good idea to go south in 1977 - for the year!

Looking ahead to the next 12 months it's pretty hard to have anything like a happy heart.

If there is even an horizon ahead, it isn't visible through the smog.

The smog, of course, is economic. The economy remains depressed. And there isn't any real reassurance of correction.

But with the economy depressed, so is everything else.

In government there is very little that can be done without money, except perhaps restraining things like sex and firearms.

And the money isn't there now. And from the prospects it won't be there for the rest of the year.

THE POSITIVE?
The Ontario government has shown in words that it grasps the problem, or at least Provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough has, but it hasn't shown much in the way of action to cope with it.

Under the leadership of the Treasurer there has been quite a stringent restraint program within government itself.

But there has been not much evidence of

A mother remains a mother always

By SUSAN DE FACENDIS
Well, the charming Prince Andrew has arrived to brighten up the balance of our winter and to begin his six month sojourn at Lakefield College School.

Despite his rather prosaic arrival at Toronto International Airport in a 747 rather than mounted on a prancing white horse, he has managed with his wit and self-possession, to throw the society matrons and teenaged girls into a complete dither.

Now as a mother and therefore able to relate to another mother's problems, I believe that Queen Elizabeth has the right idea. One should not only send their little dears away to school, but send them right out of the country.

Holding down a fulltime job is hard enough, but to have to do it with all the accompanying noise and interruptions, even if home does happen to be Buckingham Palace, is twice as difficult as leaving the mess behind you in the morning and going off to a quiet office each day.

Apart from the racket the horseguards must make tramping around the courtyard; changing guards and yelling "TEN-SHUN!" every five minutes, I am quite sure, knowing boys as well as I do, that young Prince Edward probably keeps the television volume far too high while watching Bugs Bunny. All these things must drive the Queen to distraction while she attempts to deal with affairs of State and other diverse problems, such as yet another Arab takeover of a London hotel.

Can you imagine the constant apologies she would have to extend to the Prime Minister during his daily visit, when having to stop and test Prince Andrew on his spelling word list, or listening to him run through his French verbs?

Then there would be the telephone. Between girls phoning her three delightful eligible sons and having to listen to Prince Anne's latest problems with her horse, how could she ever consider herself anything more than a royal telephone answering service?

No, sending them away to school is the answer. No children around to hound you for weekly allowances - even if the money does happen to have your picture on it - and the joys of being able to let someone else beat the dirty gym clothes to death, when the Royal children forget to bring them home for four months, must surely make it all worthwhile.

No more chauffeuring them to violin lessons, swimming classes, cricket games and ski trips. No more cleaning cookie crumbs out of the Persian rugs; scraping peanut butter off the crown jewels and searching for missing socks under the princely heir apparent's bed. No more of having to cajole Prince Philip into taking the kids bowling while she gets her "Opening Of Parliament" speech written.

Yet somehow, I have a strange feeling the corridors of the palace must be echoing with a terrible silence these days and that the mailmen's daily visits must now be of monumental importance. A mother, even a crowned and sceptered one, is after all, still a mother.

In a lighter vein . . .

Some College?

The farmer sent his son to college, and the lad came home at the end of the first year jubilantly announcing that he stood second in his class.

"Second?" said his father. "Second? Why weren't you first? What do you think I'm sending you to school for, anyway?"

Filled with determination, the boy plowed into his books, and returned home from his sophomore year with top honors in studies. His father looked at him silently for a few minutes, then shrugged his shoulders and grumbled, "At the head of the class, eh? Well, it can't be much of a college."

—The Rotarian

Clark lacked impact, but outdid the PM in year-end talk

By STEWART MACLEOD
Ottawa Bureau
Of The Herald

Conservative Leader Joe Clark's year-end television conversation on the CBC obviously couldn't have the impact of a prime ministerial chat, but he outdid Mr. Trudeau in coming that awesome expression of "partitioning Canada."

I bet that made Rene Levesque wince. Mr. Levesque, you see, has been performing verbal somersaults in an effort to emphasize the positive aspects of Quebec independence. And, for this reason, a few weeks ago, he decreed that the term "separatism" would no longer be used because "it has a sort of negative ring."

Instead, Quebecers would talk about "sovereignty" and "independence," which he decided are much more positive approaches. Mr. Trudeau, in his year-end talk with the nation, continued to use the word separatism, since he has no particular interest in being positive about any form of Quebec independence. But Mr. Clark clearly has gone one better.

By accusing Mr. Levesque of trying to partition Canada, the Conservative leader conjures up visions of Pakistan and Bangladesh. And in the view of most English-Canadians and many Quebecers, that could be considered somewhat less than positive in terms of Canadian constitutional changes.

TERMINOLOGY WAR
And the expression will not be the exclusive property of Mr. Clark. Officials in Mr. Trudeau's office acknowledge that suggestions had already arrived in that office suggesting a stepped-up offensive in terminology. There appeared to be agreement that "partition" might be the most effective term.

Mr. Levesque, of course, will continue with his "sovereignty" and "independence," but he is not going to have full control over the French political dictionary in the province. Mr. Trudeau, Mr. Clark and New Democratic Leader Ed Broadbent will all be active in Quebec on the subject of separatism. All are bilingual, and it's a safe bet that all will be discussing the implications of a partitioned country.

But Mr. Clark also made it clear, as Mr. Trudeau did earlier, that the next election

will not be fought on the question of national unity, bilingualism or the constitution - although all of these subjects are certain to be hovering in the unspoken background. The Conservative leader says he thinks the prime minister is too responsible "to try to polarize Canadians on an issue that now is of such very real importance in terms of the survival and integrity of the country."

However, it was his view that Mr. Trudeau could not separate himself from the fact that there now are very serious strains in the Canadian federation. To this extent the prime minister's record would become an integral part of the campaign.

It is difficult to say how this would affect the prime minister. While there is no doubt that the fabric of Confederation has weakened somewhat in the last few years, there is still a strong viewpoint that Mr. Trudeau is still the best equipped leader to deal with questions involving Quebec. It will be Mr. Clark's challenge to prove otherwise.

FRESH VOICE

As he described it to his television audience, the Conservatives would be seen as "a fresh national government" and a fresh voice from Quebec. And he wisely made it clear there will be no return to the two-nations policy of the 1960s.

But what he didn't make clear is how the Conservatives will offer a different alternative to the Liberals when the time comes to convince Quebecers they must support a strong federalist party as a demonstration for Rene Levesque. Presumably, both major federal parties will stand four-square for federalism.

Mr. Trudeau offered a hint of his campaign plans when he referred to a more equitable distribution of opportunity in Canada. "I think these are still basic issues and I think we would be... making a very serious mistake if we lost sight of that about inflation and unemployment and just began concentrating on constitutional or national unity issues...."

"If we want Quebecers to remain in Canada, we have to make that country a desirable place for them to live."
We will wait for a time to get Mr. Clark's basic position. "It takes time to prepare positions that you can live with as a government," he said.