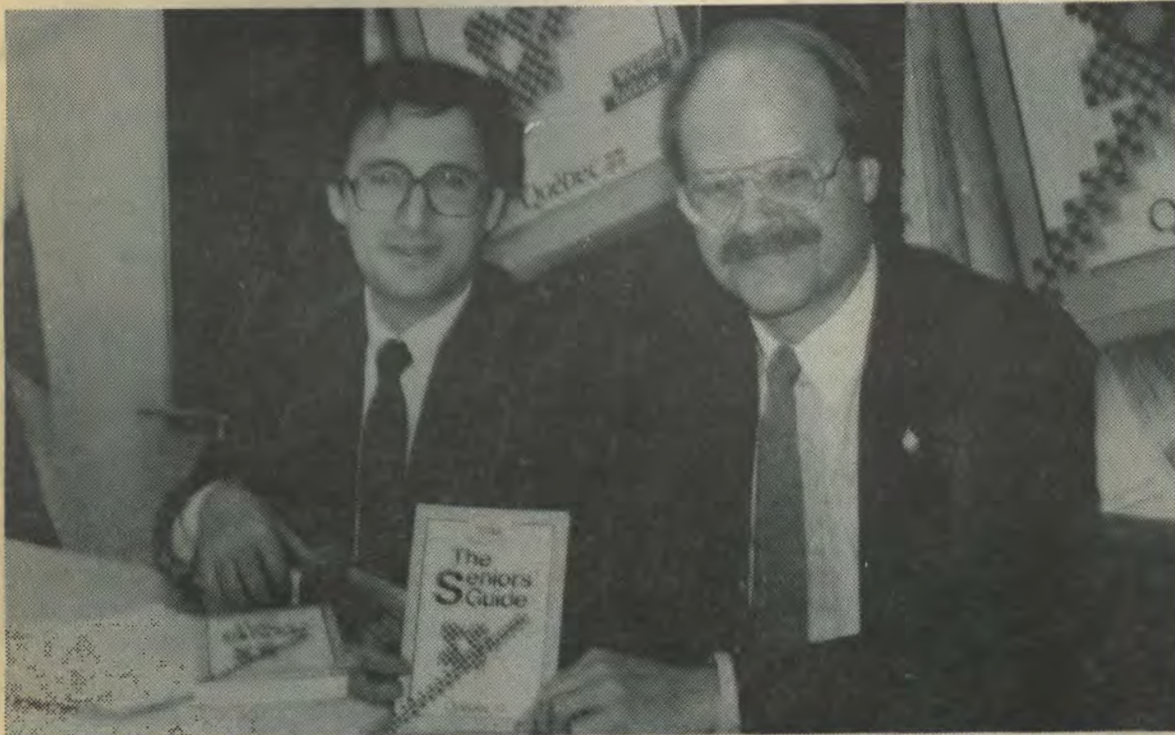


# the quebecer

alliance  
québec

Autumn 1986



Alliance Quebec President Michael Goldbloom and Communications Minister Richard French at Seniors' Guide launching.

## French launches English guide

The Quebec Ministry of Communications has just published and put on the market *The Seniors' Guide*, a new English language manual for senior citizens residing in Quebec.

The guide lists services available in English to elderly people in areas such as income tax, money matters, legal rights, adult education, housing and pensions. The guide's print is large and easy to read and its

content is informative for retired citizens, for those planning retirement, as well as for their children and relatives.

Until now, the only comparable documentation in existence has been the Guide des Aînées, published two years ago in French by Communication- (See Guide, page 2)

## Alliance supports Alberta parents

Lawyers representing Alliance Quebec appeared before the Alberta Court of Appeal in late September as intervenants in a case involving French-speaking Edmonton parents. At issue is the right of official language minority communities to control and manage their own schools.

"This case is important for linguistic minorities in all provinces across Canada," said Alliance Quebec president, Michael Goldbloom. "The right to control the school system is at the heart of any community's capacity to survive and flourish. The outcome of this case in Alberta will have implications for the English-speaking community in Quebec."

The parents are seeking the right to set up an autonomous French language school board in Edmonton. They appealed a lower court decision which refused them this right and held that requirements of section 23 of the Canadian Charter of

Rights and Freedoms were satisfied by the existence of one French language and one immersion school in Edmonton's established Catholic school commission.

The appellants argued that the lower court took too narrow an interpretation of section 23. They appealed with support from the Association Canadienne Française de l'Alberta (A.C.F.A.) who invited Alliance Quebec to intervene along with the Francophones hors Québec (F.F.H.Q.) and the Commissioner of Official Languages.

In its brief to the Alberta Court of Appeal, Alliance Quebec argued that control and management of schools can best be achieved through the creation of linguistic school boards. Alliance Quebec recently took this same position in a case in Ontario involving French-speaking parents in that province.

(See Alberta, page 2)



Jim Carter



Don Miller

## Vaughan Dowie steps down

Vaughan Dowie who has been with Alliance Quebec for three years steps down as executive director November 30 to become president of the Committee of Youth Protection.

The Committee of Youth Protection is the provincial watchdog for the rights of children and young people. As its new president, Mr. Dowie will head a 14 member committee overseeing a staff of close to 50 people whose duties include informing the public on children's rights, conducting research and, on occasion, instituting legal proceedings on behalf of children in need. Mr. Dowie's new position requires a high degree of collaboration with the ministries of Health and Social Services, Education and Justice.

Mr. Dowie joined Alliance Quebec in July 1983 as director of community development and became executive director in March 1984. In this function he was in charge of policy planning and development for the executive committee and the board of directors. In addition, Mr. Dowie worked closely with representatives from both the



Vaughan Dowie

provincial and federal governments, acquainting them with the positions of Alliance Quebec.

The years Mr. Dowie spent at Alliance Quebec were busy ones. As executive director, he has presided over three in-house conventions and watched both a federal and a provincial election (See Dowie, page 2)

## Alliance Quebec welcomes Jim Carter and Don Miller

Jim Carter joins the Alliance Quebec executive and Don Miller steps into the position of off-island vice-president.

Mr. Carter of the South Shore Chapter joins the Alliance executive as member at large replacing Mr. Miller of Quebec city. He is currently on sabbatical from his position as policy advisor with the Ville Marie Social Service Centre. He has many years of experience in community development, particularly in the area of establishing housing co-operatives, dealing with the needs of low income communities, and working with ethnic communities. He is a member of the South Shore Chapter board of directors and has served on both the provincial research and national issues

committee and on the 6C regional task force on health and social services. In 1985/86 Mr. Carter served on the Alliance board of directors. At present he co-chairs the provincial health and social services committee.

Mr. Carter says he is enjoying the Wednesday night executive meetings. "The executive is a centre for thinking and strategizing around the broad range of issues affecting our community. I can't think of any place else this is happening."

He described the Alliance as a "major force for community development for Quebec's English-speaking population" and added, "I'm pleased to be a part of it".

(See Miller, page 2)

### Education Interview:

A mother of so-called "illegal children" talks about her nine year ordeal.

See page 7

### New Fiction from Montreal

See page 15

### The Arts Scene

Foolhouse Theatre Cooperative is bursting with energy and ideas

See page 6



The Forum  
of Quebec's  
English-speaking  
Community

Editor:  
Claire Rothman

Contributors:  
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Caron  
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Goldbloom  
Helen Meredith  
Sheila Moore



Abitibi East Chapter members (left to right) Morris Michancio and Douglas Simpson meet with Mines and Native Affairs Minister Raymond Savoie and Cultural Communities and Immigration Minister Louise Robic. (for more chapter news see pages 8-10)

#### Apology

### Doris Duperrault

The Quebecer apologizes for a misprint in its summer '86 edition. Dianne Duperreault, member of the advisory council, is director of the centre for adult education in Port Cartier for the Eastern Quebec Regional School Board, not for the Eastern Townships Board as was printed.

### Grant Fabes

In the summer issue of *The Quebecer* we announced the members of the 1986/87 Alliance Quebec board of directors but we missed one newly elected member from the East Island, Grant Fabes.

Mr. Fabes is a district director with the Montreal Catholic School of Commission. He is a past president of the Quebec Association of Directors of English Schools. He is a member of the education committee of the English-speaking Catholic Council.

Mr. Fabes is chairman of the East Island Chapter of Alliance Quebec.

### • Alberta

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Goldbloom said of the case, "It is unfortunate that minority language communities must resort to courts of law for a definition of their rights on a province by province basis. Whatever the outcome of the Alberta case, we hope it highlights the need for clearer and more explicit educational guarantees under the Charter. Our political leaders have an opportunity to attend to this in the upcoming constitutional negotiations between Quebec and the rest of Canada."

Mr. Goldbloom praised the public commitment last May by Inter-governmental Affairs Minister Gil Rémillard to rework section 23 of the Canadian Charter so that it includes the principle of control and management of educational facilities by official language minorities.

### • Dowie

(Continued from page 1)

unfold. Over these three significant years the network of chapters has strengthened in areas such as Abitibi, Baie Comeau and Lac St. Jean. In addition, Alliance Quebec has developed increasingly solid relationships with French-speaking groups outside of the province.

Mr. Dowie was involved in the Supreme Court case in 1984 which widened access to English language schools in Quebec. He helped in the Manitoba court case where the language of Manitoba statutes was at issue. During his tenure, Alliance Quebec lobbied hard for linguistic guarantees in the area of health and social services, and he leaves on the eve of the Quebec court Appeal decision on the language of commercial signs in the province, an issue into which Alliance Quebec poured considerable work and energy.

Asked what he thought is in store for the Alliance, Mr. Dowie said, "The Alliance has a very important role to play in Quebec today. The community comes together here. Alliance Quebec is a place where consensus on issues of concern to the community can be developed."

"Alliance Quebec has a dual role as the defender of the English-speaking community and as a catalyst to encourage the community's participation in questions and issues which affect the broader society of Quebec."

"Chapter members have as

important a role to play as people working at the provincial level. At the national level, the Alliance must continue to ensure that the government takes Quebec's English-speaking community into account as it develops social policy."

Mr. Dowie identified health and social services and education as areas of concern to the Alliance in the immediate future. "We must get linguistic guarantees in health and social services," he said. "This area is fundamental to the lives of all members of our community. We must also develop a coherent educational structure to answer community needs."

President of Alliance Quebec Michael Goldbloom expressed pride at Mr. Dowie's appointment. "We can be proud that an English-speaking Quebecer and a member of Alliance Quebec was appointed to such an important position. Vaughan Dowie is a leader. At the Alliance he showed consistent courage and integrity, and he will carry these virtues with him to his new job. Our loss, which everyone at Alliance feels most acutely, is a gain for the province's young people. I wish Vaughan every success and happiness."

### • Guide

(Continued from page 1)

Quebec, and listing services offered primarily in the French language. Minister of Communications Richard French describes the Guide des Aînées as a "Quebec best seller" which has sold over 52,000 copies in 18 months.

The English Seniors' Guide is not only a translated version, it has been updated and adapted to fit the needs of the English-speaking community. Over 40 percent of its content is new.

The Seniors' Guide was formally launched at a luncheon at College Marie-Victorin hosted by Communication-Quebec on October 24. The luncheon was part of a day-long study session organized by Alliance Quebec involving senior citizens and senior citizens' groups. About 150 people attended to discuss health and social service issues affecting English-speaking seniors.

At the launching Mr. French noted that the government is trying to cater to and show, in modest ways, its commitment to English-speaking Quebecers. He stressed his hope that Quebec will remain a pluralistic home to many where understanding between linguistic communities can flourish.

Michael Goldbloom, president of Alliance Quebec, thanked the minister for publishing the guide. "This is a very important precedent for English speaking Quebec," he said. "The government has not only translated documentation, but it has made the welcome effort of adapting and modifying the documentation to answer the needs of our community."

"Access to government ser-

### • Miller

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Miller steps into the position of off-island Alliance vice-president, left vacant when Royal Orr resigned to become the host of CBC radio's "Quebec A.M.". (see story page 5)

Mr. Miller, a teacher by profession, is a founding member of C.A.S.A. in the Gaspé and served as its president in 1983/4. Currently residing in Quebec city, he is an active member of V.E.Q. In 1985/86 he served alongside Mr. Carter on the board of directors of Alliance Quebec. This year he chairs the off-island committee and is a member of the community development committee.

He describes the six hours he spends on the bus to and from Quebec city for executive meetings as "the only peace and quiet I get each week." Mr. Miller lists youth, communications, community development and cultural activities as important Alliance activities for Quebec's mainland communities.

vices is crucial for all residents of this province," Mr. Goldbloom continued. "The best services in the world might exist, but if the population is not made aware of them, it is tantamount to the services not existing. The Seniors' Guide will let people know what services are available — from adult education to pension planning. The lives of English-speaking Quebec senior citizens will be greatly facilitated."

The Seniors' Guide can be purchased through Alliance Quebec chapter offices and regional associations, or directly from the government press, Les Publications du Québec, C.P. 1005 Québec G1K 7B5.



Gary Mulroney, personal representative of the Prime Minister of Canada, presents Baie Comeau Chapter chairman Brian Rock with a cheque from the Secretary of State. (for more chapter news see pages 8-10)

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# Alliance hosts largest community seminar ever

Alliance Quebec held its largest community development seminar ever, October 24 and 25 at the Ramada Inn in Montreal. One hundred and fifty members from across the province attended.

Michael Goldbloom, president of the Alliance, spoke to the delegates on Friday evening

ment is undertaking a major demographic project which will provide data on the English-speaking community by chapter and association area and by CLSC district. This information will be available early in 1987.

A traditional Friday night wine and cheese reception followed the research presenta-

chapter and association level and the provincial level. They also expressed a desire to learn more about Alliance issues and to have more youth issues included on the organization's agenda.

At the education seminar on Saturday morning, participants discussed the often poor quality of social services available to English-speaking school children. Voice of English Quebec (V.E.Q.) proposed an interesting solution to the problem of the lack of English-speaking professionals. V.E.Q. and its regional council are currently working out a plan to allow English-speaking clients to cross CLSC district lines to get services offered by English-speaking professional staff.

In the government services workshop, participants discussed issues of availability of government services in English and representation of the English-speaking population in the provincial civil services.

The three skills development seminars included public speaking, grantsmanship and a community development seminar on identifying issues and resolving them at the local level. The Côte Nord Chapter's efforts to create an English language stream at the CEGEP de Sept Iles was given as an example.

The Health and Social Services workshop concentrated on



Ted Cooney and Belva Thomas talk about artists and the schools



Russell Copeman, Marylee Kelley and Jim Carter discuss health and social services

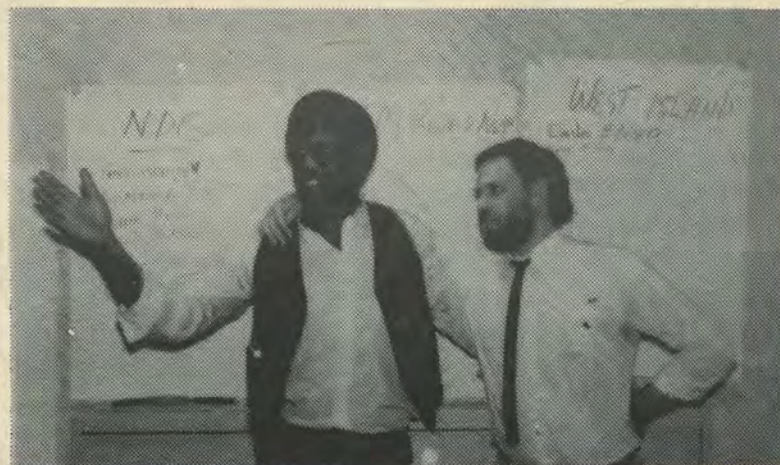
about the current political situation in Quebec and about issues of immediate concern to Alliance Quebec. He stressed the importance of the organization's role as a creative forum for the English-speaking community.

Also on Friday night, a panel chaired by Alliance research director Vered Talai discussed the uses and abuses of statistics. N.D.G. Chapter chairman Brian Webber, Townshippier Bill Flock and executive member Jim Carter talked about the importance of precise demographic information in describing the needs of our community and in advocating appropriate solutions.

The Alliance research depart-

ment is undertaking a major demographic project which will provide data on the English-speaking community by chapter and association area and by CLSC district. This information will be available early in 1987.

Ten workshops were held on Saturday including a full day youth seminar. Approximately 30 young Alliance members, ranging in age from 16 to 25, attended a leadership training session in the morning animated by Linton Garner, the South West Chapter animator. In the afternoon they discussed the topic, "What can Alliance Quebec do for you and what can you do for Alliance Quebec?". Participants said they wanted more youth involvement at both the



Linton Garner and Richard Hagermeyer lead the youth seminar

the role chapters and regional associations must play in consulting with the regional councils on the health and social services needs of the English-speaking community.

In the cultural workshop "Our artists, our schools",

panelists Ted Cooney of the Darcy McGee School for the fine and performing arts, and Belva Thomas of the Preville Fine Arts Centre on the South Shore, discussed ways of involving artists in educational institutions.

## Court wrangles in the Magdalens

Alliance Quebec is supporting the appeals of two English-speaking men from the Magdalen Islands. The two were initially charged with minor offences of misdemeanour and received unilingual summonses in French instructing them to appear at the local police station for fingerprinting. Neither of the two men understood their summonses and both missed the fingerprinting appointments. Crown prosecutor Robert Levesque immediately brought additional charges of "failure to comply" against them for not having shown up at police headquarters as requested.

One defendant, Roger Burke, pleaded guilty to the original charges and not guilty to the additional charge of failure to comply. He was found guilty on both counts. The other defendant, Roy McLean, pleaded not guilty to both the original charge and the charge of failure to comply. He was acquitted on the original charges but found guilty of failure to comply. The two men were fined \$25.00 each despite repeated attempts by

defence lawyer Donatien Grenier to show his clients' good faith and their inability to read and understand French.

Alliance Quebec agreed to intervene in the two cases because of the general principles at stake.

Kathleen Weil, Alliance Quebec director of legal affairs, says that the defendants have been denied justice. Prior to the trial, Mr. McLean had no criminal record. He now finds himself with one because he was unable to decipher a French summons.

The Magdalen Islands cases address the same issue as the MacDonald case in which an English-speaking Quebec motorist received a speeding ticket in French. That case went all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada, where the court ruled that there is no obligation to issue a summons in English in Quebec.

Appeals for the Magdalen Islands cases will be heard in Percé, Quebec in the late autumn or early winter of this year.

# Government lends an ear to an English Voice

Alliance Quebec is pressing on with its efforts to ensure the availability of provincial government services in English.

How well are English-speaking Quebecers served by their government in areas such as welfare, rent, Quebec pensions, occupational health and safety, employment? This question is the focus of a new committee composed of Alliance Quebec members and government representatives. The committee was formed to discuss the current state of English-language services, and to set up a system of consultation with the English-speaking community across Quebec on the subject of access and availability of services.

The committee is chaired by Mark Kmec, a lawyer with the firm of Piché, Emery and includes members Kathleen Weil, Alliance Quebec director of legal affairs and government services, Suzanne Cohen, Maria Matakias, Paul Cliche and Yvon Joron of Communication-Quebec.

The group met for the first time on September 30 to plan consultations for the Montreal area. By early spring they hope to be working with representatives of mainland Quebec,

Through regional consultation, government representatives hope to gather data on specific local wants and needs. A researcher hired by the committee will consult with Montreal area groups on the state of their services. Then a questionnaire based on this data will be drafted and sent out.

Mr. Kmec defined the committee's mandate as the following: "We want to identify provincial government services

which are presently unable to answer the needs of the English-speaking community. The data shall be made public and recommendations, sent to the government. Consultations will allow regional groups to work directly with the government. We also hope that various interest groups — business, ethnic, seniors and youth organizations — will attend the consultations and contribute their thoughts and ideas."

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# The Alliance Community

The Alliance is as necessary to Quebec's English-speaking community today as it has ever been. In 1986 we continue to face a number of challenges to ensure that Quebec remains a comfortable and secure home for all of its citizens.

Not least among these challenges is to continue the work we have started in developing a sense of community among English-speaking Quebecers and strengthening our ability as individuals and as a community to contribute to Quebec society as a whole.

Our community development seminars and our annual convention provide graphic examples of what we mean when we talk about a province-wide, culturally-diverse community. When the Gaspesians hosted a lobster party at Convention '86, it was a family affair. When Dance Factory performed its Black Dance Anthology, we felt a communal pride in the talent and commitment of our young artists. In workshops and over coffee we see our members sharing experiences, arguing over issues and offering advice and assistance to each other.

Different groups in the community require different kinds of support. At our recent community development seminar some 30 young English-speaking Quebecers met to discuss perspectives on the future. We must be prepared to listen and to take careful note of their concerns. The Alliance is currently undertaking a youth attitudes survey to define and understand the attitudes and perceptions of young English-speakers in the province.

Senior citizens are concerned about the lack of government documentation in English. The Alliance listened to them and made it a priority to have the "Guide des Aînés" adapted and published in English. The "Seniors' Guide" was published this fall and we are particularly appreciative of the support Communications Minister Richard French has accorded this project. Now we must ensure that the "Seniors' Guide" is as popular within the English-speaking community as it was with French-speaking Quebecers.

Quebec's English-speaking community shares concerns about the quality of education, about health and social services delivery, about the vitality of cultural expression and about opportunities for our young people.

Some of these issues can be resolved within the community by co-ordinating and sharing resources in imaginative ways. Others require the active support of the government and of our fellow Quebecers.

At both the local and the provincial levels we must continue to provide a forum which allows the widest possible cross-section of our community to join together and to work through these problems. We must also continue to organize activities and events which bring English-speaking Quebecers together to celebrate their community.

We must continue to encourage our community to participate fully in Quebec society. We have a valuable contribution to make to the many government and non-government institutions and agencies which define the social and economic fabric of our province. Our participation not only ensures that the English-speaking community is represented but also illustrates and reinforces our commitment to work for the good of the entire Quebec community.

The Alliance must continue to be an independent province-wide organization where groups and individuals can meet to discuss common issues and plan joint activities. We must continue to encourage and support the constructive ways in which we can and must participate as an organization and as individuals in Quebec society. These were our goals when we created the Alliance. They remain priorities today.

**Michael Goldbloom**



## Fund-raising: A fact of life

by Catherine Duff Caron, Chair, Fund-Raising Committee

Fund-raising is a fact of life. Throughout the year, the mailman brings requests for donations from one worthy cause after another. We choose the causes we support and affirm our commitment to them. The range of choice is tremendous, from political parties to hospitals; from alleviating distant starvation to combatting misery on our own streets; from preserving the past to a declaration of faith in future research. Some causes are dramatic, visually powerful; other much less so.

### A worthy cause to support

Alliance Quebec is one of the causes Canadians choose to support.

Representing the interest of over 800,000 Quebecers takes money. Space, materials, qualified staff and a system for bringing people together and distributing information take money. The quality of the staff and the number of research projects, test cases and dossiers they can undertake are directly related to the availability of financial resources.

All of us who are members of the Alliance have our own idea of what the organization is and our own experiences which reinforce that idea. In short, we know why we support the Alliance. However, people in the larger Quebec community who may not be familiar with Alliance Quebec or its work have no reason to choose Alliance over other organizations soliciting them for funds. In order to raise funds for the Alliance cause, it is important that people understand what the Alliance is doing and its plans for the future. Op-eds and media coverage carry the message to many. But there is still a need to prepare and distribute information on Alliance's goals, challenges and victories.

The federal government continues to provide a substantial, though diminishing part of the organization's budget and the Alliance must depend increasingly on community support. Alliance Quebec is not an arm of government. It is a community organization. Our autonomy is a cherished quality and strength.

### Put fund-raising on the front burner

Our fund-raising efforts not only make more initiatives possible, they also broaden the organization's membership base. Approximately one-third of all new members are recruited through fund-raising initiatives.

The Alliance must work hard to raise funds privately. It has undertaken the comprehensive task of canvassing the English-speaking community, and its success to date is evidenced by the broad support it enjoys. Resourceful fund-raising involves more than requesting handouts and favours. The Alliance Institute is developing creative, exciting ways of ensuring that the vital work of the Alliance is understood and actively supported by the groups that are directly affected by the organization. The financial reality of everything the Alliance does must be positively incorporated into our work plans.

It is time to put fund-raising on the front burner!



## Maldoff on Morningside

A new commentator on Quebec affairs has made his debut on C.B.C.'s national airwaves.

Eric Maldoff, past president of Alliance Quebec, joins McGill political science professor Daniel Latouche and radio host Peter Gzowski every second Thursday on C.B.C.'s popular Morningside program. Maldoff and Latouche know their province intimately. They have been invited as resident experts to analyze and comment upon events as they unfold in Quebec.

"My role is that of Quebec columnist," Mr. Maldoff said of his new post. "Daniel Latouche and I have been recruited as informed Quebecers to talk about issues of the day. We try to bring Canadians outside of the province up to speed on what's going on here. People across Canada read and hear Quebec news; we try to give a local and thoughtful analysis of it."

Mr. Maldoff takes the new position seriously, devouring a diet of three to four Quebec newspapers a day, phoning contacts around the province to get just the right angle on a story. "Neither my background as a lawyer nor as president of Alliance Quebec prepared me for this experience at C.B.C. In law and at the Alliance, the tendency was to focus on a narrower range of issues, specific, well-defined problems. Journalists have to juggle whole batches of issues simultaneously.

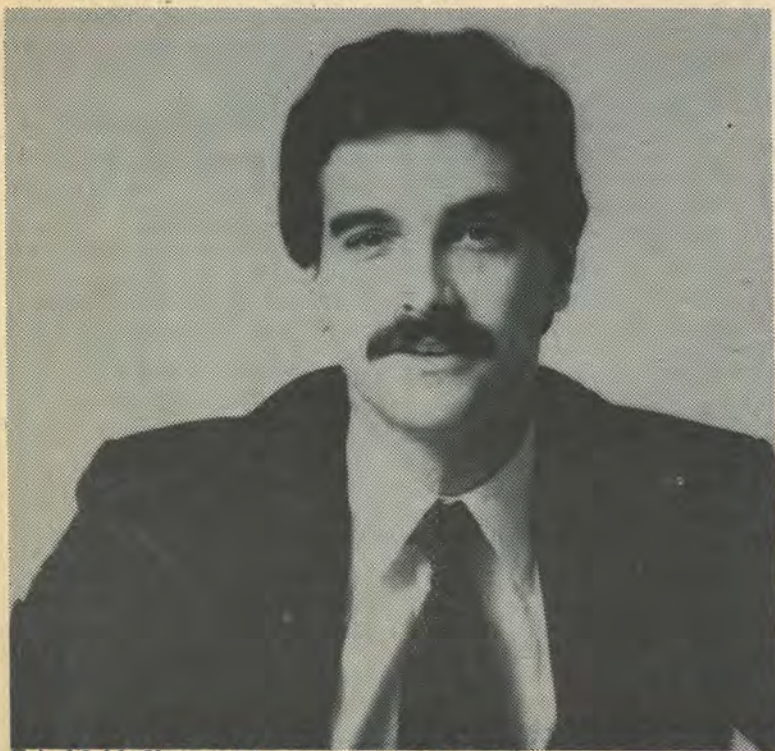
They must draw upon the entire gamut of social, political and economic matters. It takes a lot of work to stay on top of things, but it is fun."

Mr. Maldoff's debut on Morningside was September 11. He and Mr. Latouche spoke briefly about the resurgent abortion issue and then discussed the era of Jean Drapeau, Montreal's mayor who retires in November. The remainder of the show was spent discussing the future of municipal politics and the relative strengths and weaknesses of mayoralty candidates Jean Doré and Claude Dupras.

Asked what issues he saw on the Quebec agenda in the coming months Mr. Maldoff said, "The general shift of public concerns in the province. Where are all the Quebecers who, throughout the past 15 years, showed such commitment to social and political matters? Most of them are talking economics and finances in 1986.

"The language of signs. The Quebec population is manifesting growing dissatisfaction with its waffling provincial government leaders as it awaits a Court of Appeal verdict on the signs issue.

"The constitution. To what extent is the rest of Canada prepared to come to terms with Quebec? What is Quebec's proper place in Canada, and towards what national vision are our political leaders working?"



Eric Maldoff, new Morningside correspondent



Royal Orr at the microphone

### Quebec A.M.

## Royal Orr wakes up the province

Hats off to Royal Orr, the new host of C.B.C.'s popular morning show, Quebec A.M., broadcast on the Quebec Community Network for English-speaking communities off the island of Montreal. Mr. Orr, who was off-island vice-president of Alliance Quebec prior to joining the C.B.C., will coax listeners through their groggy first cups of coffee from Ungava Bay in Quebec's north to the Eastern Townships in the south.

"It's a big challenge to broadcast to the off-island Quebec English community," Mr. Orr said recently. "It covers a big area and there are all kinds of people, from gold miners to fishermen, farmers and university professors, even some civil servants."

Reactions to date have been enthusiastic. Joan Richards of C.A.S.A. in the Gaspé gives the new host top marks: "Whatever Mr. Orr sets out to do, he does well. I like his presentation, his

voice, his delivery — everything is good!"

President of the Townshippers' Association Della Goodsell agrees: "Royal Orr has fit in beautifully in the short time he's been with the C.B.C. You'd think he was an old hand at the business. He has a perfect radio voice."

Mr. Orr is well-acquainted with the province's English-speaking population. Born in the Eastern Townships, he still owns a 140 acre sheep farm in Hatley, Quebec, which he visits each week-end from his new base in the provincial capital. Asked how he likes Quebec city life Orr confessed, "I haven't had time to find it yet. I'm up at 4:30 in the morning and fall asleep again at 5:00 in the afternoon. In that respect it's worse than sheep farming. Sheep farmers get up at 4:30 only once a year during the lambing season. The C.B.C. is like "lambing" all year 'round. One has to be a lot more articulate in

this job as well."

The new host has an impressive track record of work and volunteer experience with Quebec's English-speaking community. He leaves a job as co-ordinator of cooperative education at the Eastern Townships school board and has, at various times, worked with the Townshippers' Association where he was the first executive director, the Quebec Farmers' Association, the federal government minority languages program, and of course, Alliance Quebec.

Michael Goldbloom, president of the Alliance, applauds the career change of his one-time colleague and longtime friend: "It's an honour for the Alliance that Royal was appointed to such an important post. The people of mainland Quebec will benefit greatly by his intellectual energy, breadth of knowledge, enthusiasm and unflinching care. This is cause for celebration in Quebec's English-speaking community."

## Minority language broadcasting must survive

The federal task force on broadcasting policy chaired by Gerald Caplan and Florian Sauvegeau held public hearings in Montreal in September of 1985.

Alliance Quebec, The Townshippers Association and the Quebec Farmers Association all presented briefs to the

task force at that time. Although each brief stressed different points, the general message was the same: broadcasting service in the English language and particularly the CBC, is essential for the future of our community.

More than a dozen organizations representing French-

speaking communities from outside of the province of Quebec also presented briefs to the task force.

In its final report released this September the task force stated: "What each group wants from broadcasting is more than simply the provision of French-language or English-language

services. Each group wants programming that reflects the culture of its region and community. That is the message the official language minorities have delivered to the task force."

As to concerns of Quebec's English-speaking communities, the report states: "They want

the CBC to take greater account of the importance of the anglophone community in Quebec and of its cultural vitality in theatre, music, painting, dance and so on."

The report also refers approvingly to the Quebec Farmers Association brief on the needs (See Caplan-Sauvegeau, page 10)



# Theatre that shocks and surprises

Two men in sunglasses and kilts stumble onto the stage at Jodees Bar in downtown Montreal, dragging their golf carts and their heavy Scottish brogues behind them. "Edinburgh Vice" was one of the more memorable skits in a recent Foolhouse Theatre Cooperative production entitled "Monday Night Live". The inept undercover duo blunder into the Montreal bar scene and find themselves totally bewildered by local social customs and mores.

Foolhouse Theatre Cooperative, a new dynamic Montreal theatre group, loves to shock and surprise. One of their shows, *Monday Night Live*, which runs Monday and Tuesday nights at Jodees Bar, 2025 Drummond Street, is a political cabaret giving Foolhouse writers, directors and actors a delightful opportunity to satirize just about everything and they do just that. The show takes the format of a pirate Quebec T.V. station — S.T.T.V. (pronounced "hostie" t.v.). Blending music, song, dance, comedy, improvisation and audience participation, it looks at current events in today's world and then takes carefully-aimed pot shots at local names in the news. No one — not politicians, priests, Westmount matrons, or even royalty — escapes the scathing wit of this lively, irreverent group.

The Foolhouse Theatre Cooperative, offshoot of an earlier company, was formed a year ago by Howard Banshick, Cynthia Shaw and Allan Patrick. At the present time the cooperative boasts over 80 members who specialize in acting, play writing, directing, music, choreography and photography.

They claim to be the first democratic theatre company in Montreal history. Members pay a minimal entrance fee and then elect an executive.

"The co-op is run on an egalitarian basis," explained Mr. Patrick, a founding member. "In traditional theatre companies, a single artistic director takes charge and his word becomes law. In cooperatives, on the other hand, any member can field ideas. We determine cooperatively what plays we want to do and how we want to do them."

Foolhouse members have planned three projects for the 1986/87 season: *Theatre Sports*, an improvisational acting project which is currently touring Montreal cegeps and universities; the soap opera-spoof, *Destiny*, which plays Wednesday nights at Gertrude's pub on the downtown McGill campus; and *Monday Night Live*.

The co-op likes to provide



The zany cast of Foolhouse's show, "Monday Night Live"

young and energetic theatre for its audiences. Their plays are often locally-written works. Seven out of 11 productions by Foolhouse to date have been original plays or else have been written by Foolhouse writers "en gang" as co-operative workshops.

Canadian drama seems to be a priority as well as more radical works which mainstream theatres might not want to risk producing. Foolhouse also strives to provide work and much-needed experience for young and struggling local artists.

The birth of the Foolhouse Theatre Co-op coincides with a general renaissance of English-language theatre in Montreal and throughout the province. In the late 1970's Montreal was an impoverished city in terms of its number of English-language productions. Today, small, experimental groups are mushrooming, growing up seemingly over night and receiving increasing attention and recognition. Association of Producing Artists, (A.P.A.), Playwrights' Workshop, Creations Inc., Geordie Productions, Youtheatre and the Black Community Workshop among others are doing some very exciting work.

Foolhouse Theatre Co-

operative is riding the crest of this wave. More and more young artists are joining up and the Montreal community is finally beginning to take notice.

Alliance Quebec is in the process of organizing a series of discussions and exchanges with representatives of Montreal's growing number of theatre groups. Hugh Mitchell, co-chairman of the Alliance Quebec cultural committee, expressed satisfaction with recent consultations. "The Alliance is now in a position to focus on things cultural," Mr. Mitchell said. "The English-speaking community must begin to support artists and artistic groups, which in turn must express the experiences, hopes and dreams of English-speaking Quebec."

"Mutual support is highly desirable. Both the larger community and its artists deserve to demand a lot more of each other than they have over the past few years."

Mr. Patrick notices a growing sense of community in the local theatre crowd. "Theatre companies are exchanging press releases to inform each other of what's going on," he observed. "Co-productions are becoming more popular and there is a constant lending and borrowing of sets, props and other materials."

Life for the co-operative is by no means secure yet. Funding is difficult to come by. Government grants usually go to established companies where the likelihood of commercial success is strong. The familiar lament of lack of space is often raised. It is very difficult to find cheap and roomy locations to stage productions.

Despite the obstacles, Foolhouse Theatre Cooperative members are buoyantly optimistic. "Our chief aim is to get young people back into the playhouses," Mr. Patrick confided. "There's a market out there waiting for non-mainstream local and experimental theatre. This is not a staid town. Its theatre should reflect that. At Foolhouse we want to break down people's preconceptions about theatre and excite them with the magical possibilities of the art form."

Theatre troupes in the 1980's have a lot to contend with. They exist in an electronic world. They must compete with television, video games, Hollywood movies. Foolhouse artists are determined to show their community that art and culture mean a lot more than American mass media; they aim to shoot higher than the likes of *Dynasty* and *Miami Vice*.

## Theatre companies touring schools

Black Theatre Workshop  
1968 de Maisonneuve  
West

Montreal, Quebec  
H3H 1K5  
932-1104

Foolhouse Theatre Co-op  
c/o 5622 Sherbrooke  
Street West  
Suite 3

Montreal, Quebec  
H4A 1W5  
483-5426

Geordie Productions  
4001 Berri  
Montreal, Quebec  
H2L 4H2  
845-9810

Picardi Maisonnette  
c/o 5411 Waverly  
Montreal, Quebec  
H2T 2Y8  
270-9187

Youtheatre  
307 Ste. Catherine Street  
West

Suite 500  
Montreal, Quebec  
H2X 2A3  
844-8781



## Education Update:

# Ryan resolves "illegals" problem

Autumn 1986 has been a welcome season for the 1500 children who, until this year, attended English schools across the province in violation of Quebec's Charter of the French Language.

The problem took root nine long years ago, in 1977, when admission to English school provisions of Bill 101 came into force. Under these provisions a child could attend English school if one parent had completed more than half of his or her elementary schooling in English in Quebec. Children whose parents were educated outside of Quebec and who moved here after August 1977, or who were educated in Quebec but in a French school, were barred from English schools. The Provincial Association of Catholic Teachers (P.A.C.T.) reacted immediately to the new law by allowing the so-called "illegals" entry into English Catholic schools. For nine years the government refused to recognize these students or to provide funds for them; for nine years P.A.C.T. and Protestant and Catholic school boards in the Montreal and Hull

areas arranged classes, coughed up the money needed annually for each child, ensured papers were graded and unofficial report cards and diplomas were issued.

In July 1984, a judgement rendered by the Supreme Court of Canada widened access to English schools in Quebec. The Court ruled that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms prevailed over the restrictive provisions of the Charter of the French Language, and that children with a parent educated in English anywhere in Canada had the right to attend English school in Quebec. While this was an improvement, it still failed to address the problem of families with parents educated abroad or in a language other than English.

On June 19, 1986, Quebec Education Minister Claude Ryan pushed a new bill through the National Assembly and the nine-year struggle came to an end.

Response to the bill was mixed. Parents of the students involved were overjoyed and relieved. Representatives of P.A.C.T. were equally pleased.

On the other hand, members of the Alliance des Professeurs, a union representing French-speaking teachers in the Montreal Catholic School Commission, opposed the bill. They accused Mr. Ryan of inciting disobedience of the law.

Media reaction was divided. A couple of editorial writers and columnists from both the French and English press lambasted Mr. Ryan for discriminating against parents who had respected Quebec's Charter of the French Language and sent their children to French schools. The majority of French and English columnists, however, expressed approval and praised Mr. Ryan for a long-overdue, humane solution to a delicate problem.

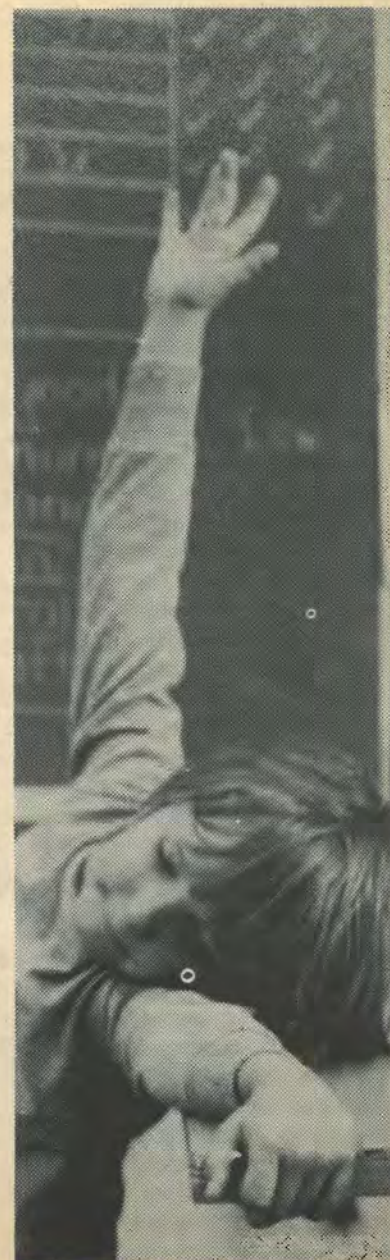
The new school admissions law absolves the 1500 illegal students currently attending English-language schools in Quebec. Certificates of admissibility have been issued to the majority, legalizing their education.

The law dissuades parents who might be tempted to side step the Charter of the French Language in the future. Educa-

tion personnel who continue to defy Quebec's French education regulations will be heavily penalized. Teachers and principals face six-month suspensions and school board officials can be disqualified for five years in the event of future irregularities.

The law is strangely silent on two important counts. It does not give brothers and sisters of the 1500 illegal students an automatic right to attend English schools. In most cases this will not be a problem. The Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms will apply, guaranteeing English education to the children of any family where at least one child has received English elementary or high school instruction. Nor does it address the hundreds of graduates who have already left the public school system and who, to this day, lack official grades or high school leaving diplomas.

Despite these gaps, the law is welcomed by most Quebecers as a sound solution to a protracted, unfortunate experience in the history of their province.



Barbara Verity

## Education interview:

## Nine long years of uncertainty end



Barbara Verity

In the following interview, *The Quebecer* speaks with Mrs. A., mother of two girls who have attended English schools in the Montreal Catholic School Commission in violation of the Charter of the French Language. Mrs. A., whose name is withheld out of respect for her privacy and that of her family, discusses her experience over the past decade as a parent of so-called "illegal" children.

*The Quebecer:* Tell us about your family history.

*Mrs. A.:* I am a native Montrealer. I was born here and raised in an English-speaking

home environment. All my brothers and sisters were educated in the English school system in Montreal, but by a twist of fate I ended up going to a French elementary school. In highschool I switched over to the English Catholic system.

My husband is Italian. He was educated in Italy and immigrated to Quebec in his teens. I have two girls, now 13 and 14 years old. We speak English at home, just like I did when I was young. My eldest girl entered kindergarten in 1977, just after the Charter of the French Language came into force.

*The Quebecer:* What happened

when the Charter of the French Language was enacted in 1977?

*Mrs. A.:* At the time, our eldest daughter was in a French immersion kindergarten in a Protestant school. At the end of the school year the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal (PSBGM) wrote to inform me that my child could not continue to attend classes there. They suggested grouping the kids together and sending them to a different school. I was becoming worried. Then the Provincial Association of Catholic Teachers (PACT) announced that they would stand by illegally enrolled students. I took both my daughters and started them in at a Catholic school.

*The Quebecer:* Did PACT play a major role in your nine-year ordeal?

*Mrs. A.:* PACT was the only group with the courage to act in the 1970's. At that time, everyone was avoiding the issue. People were packing their bags and leaving rather than sitting down, putting their heads together and trying to find solutions. No one wanted to confront the government and the flagrant injustices under the new Charter of the French Language.

PACT deserves a lot of credit for the way it immediately took

a stance of support for students affected by the Charter of the French Language. Teachers from PACT stood by parents, taught our kids and allowed them to continue almost normal lives in their schools. I never heard from the school board. In its eyes my kids didn't exist. PACT teachers and principals really cooperated and sustained the parents.

*The Quebecer:* What were your initial reactions to the Charter of the French Language?

*Mrs. A.:* It was a rushed bill. It contained many clauses that were ill-thought-out, lacking compassion and foresight.

I never thought to myself, I am going to break this law. To this day I do not consider myself or my family law-breakers. When I learned what the Charter of the French Language was all about I asked myself how on earth my elected government could treat me in this way. After all, I was born here, raised here. I am a Quebec citizen and I felt that my rights had been completely disregarded. Camille Laurin rushed the bill through in August 1977 so that it would be in force when the school year started. Because it was rushed, it was poorly drafted. We have suffered the consequences for nearly a decade.

*The Quebecer:* How has this experience affected your children?

*Mrs. A.:* When the girls entered Catholic school I explained to them, in simple terms because they were six and seven at the time, exactly what was happening. Generally, their school life was not much different from that of their peers. One year a teacher did get nasty. She simply refused to teach "les illegaux". The PACT teachers responded quickly and with humanity. They removed children affected by the language legislation from that teacher's class and taught them separately, for the duration of the school year.

*The Quebecer:* Were your children self-conscious about their legal status?

*Mrs. A.:* No, apart from that one incident there were very few problems. The only time they were reminded of their differences was when report cards came out. It didn't bother them much. We talked openly about it, so they understood and accepted the situation.

(See Education, page 12)



# Regional

## Abitibi East Chapter

The Abitibi East Chapter, formed in February 1986, held its first general meeting in April.

In March, following its inauguration, the Chapter made a request for funding to the Secretary of State. August 29 Bob VanTassel travelled to Rouyn to receive a cheque presented by Benoit Bouchard, federal minister of employment and immigration, on behalf of the federal government. This money will be used for projects currently being planned by the Chapter.

Meanwhile, Louise Robic, Quebec minister of cultural communities and immigration, was receiving a warm welcome from representatives of ethnic and English-speaking communities at a meeting held August 28 at the offices of native affairs minister Raymond Savoie. Ms. Robic applauded proposals for a multi-cultural hall.

Since Ms. Robic is enthusiastic and has already given financial support, and the multi-cultural hall is a community priority, the Abitibi East Chapter is working hard to make the centre a reality. Douglas Simpson, notary, is working on a charter for the hall. At the last executive meeting Chapter members made visits to prospective locations for the hall. Progress is being made.

One of the Chapter's immediate goals is to let the community know that it exists and that it has a role to play. A pot luck supper has been planned for November. It will be a great way for everyone to get together, enjoy and meet new people and will also be the Chapter's first planned fundraiser.



Moose festival in Abitibi East

## Abitibi West Chapter

The Abitibi West Chapter held a wine and cheese party on October 3 to promote membership. There was an abundance of superb cheese and wine and a door prize of a set of wine glasses was given out. Graeme Decarie, professor of history at Concordia University in Montreal, addressed the party on the roots of residents of Quebec, and spoke optimistically about the future of the province. He also described this year's annual Alan Jones history contest. Over 50 new members signed up and everyone had fun.

## Baie Comeau Chapter

The Baie Comeau Chapter was pleased to receive a supporting grant from the Office of the Secretary of State and a special grant from the Ministry of Cultural Communities. These are the first grants in the Chapter's history.

The youth committee has elected the following executive officers: chairmen Vicki Ratki and Stephen Kull, secretary Eric Desrosiers, and treasurer Richard Ferlatte. Ms. Ratki was also elected chapter youth representative to the provincial youth sub-committee.

During the summer, projects on local history assembled by the youth committee were used as educational material during the bilingual exchange of secondary students from Ottawa and Baie Comeau. The projects are now on permanent display in the Baie Comeau High School.

The board of directors is extremely pleased to announce the recent election of new members: June Albert, Mary Ellen Beaulieu, Eric Desrosiers, Shirley Doucet, Dorothy Gauthier, Alain Lemee, Terry Peterson, and Vicki Ratki.

Recently elected local committee chairmen are: Donald Goodfellow (budget and finance), Shirley Bélanger (health and social services), Shirley Doucet (education and communications), Maria-Teresa Mastrocola (local history), and Brian Rock (youth liaison).

The Chapter will publish its first newsletter in November.

## C.A.S.A.

C.A.S.A. (Committee for Anglophone Social Action in the Gaspé) recently held its 12th annual general meeting. D'Iberville Fortier, Commissioner of Official Languages, was one of several special guests invited to speak. Quebec Communications Minister Richard French, Finance Minister Gerard D. Levesque, Jeff Polenz, attaché to Education Minister Claude Ryan, and other elected representatives of the federal, provincial and municipal governments were also in attendance.

Discussions centred on the need to legitimize the term "linguistic equality" through more equitable representation of anglophones in the public sector, improved second language opportunities within English language institutions, and through wider access to health and social services for English-speaking Gaspésians.

At the meeting, the C.A.S.A. education committee announced its innovative proposal to enhance second language opportunities for both English and French Gaspésian children. Participants reacted to the proposal with great enthusiasm and lively discussion and exchange ensued.

Mr. Fortier expressed confidence that "with good will on all sides, the objective of ensuring that children have the opportunity to learn their second

official language while preserving the integrity of their cultural heritage will be met".

## Côte Nord Chapter

The Côte-Nord Chapter held a Hallowe'en dance November 1 at the Sept-Iles Yacht Club. Chapter members were encouraged to invite friends from the community and to promote and publicize the work of their local chapter. A light buffet was served and prizes were awarded to the most ghoulishly garbed.

The Chapter has also been busy with a membership drive in Sept-Iles and Port Cartier.

## Côte St. Luc Chapter

The Côte St. Luc/Hampstead/Snowdon West Chapter held a public meeting on November 2 to present the recently published *Senior's Guide* to their community. Copies of the *Senior's Guide*, which lists a wide variety of services in Quebec useful to senior citizens (eg: legal affairs, pension plans, housing) were made available. Dr. Ellen Beck, a gerontologist with the Jewish General and St. Justine Hospitals, addressed the meeting on the topic of senior citizens and social services. Sharon Frenette, who translated the original French version, *Guide des Aînées* into English, spoke about the difficulties and rewards of her profession. The involvement of Alliance Quebec in getting the guide translated and adapted for English readers was also discussed.

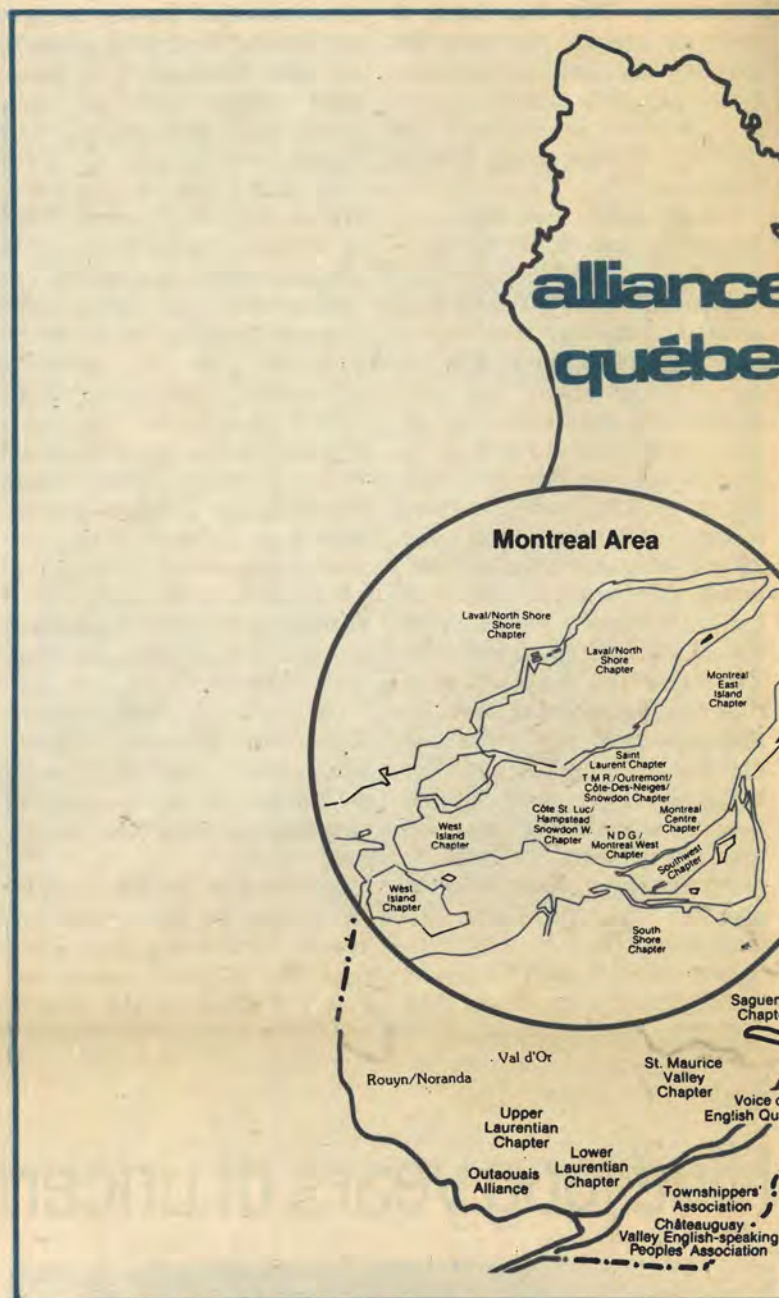
On November 3, Mitchell Brownstein, co-chairman of the Chapter with Vernon Dowie, addressed a group of Hadassah women on Alliance Quebec and its role in the local community.

The Côte St. Luc Chapter was very proud to see three Chapter members appointed to positions on Alliance Quebec provincial board committees. Mitchell Brownstein was appointed to the convention committee, Vernon Dowie joins the health and social services committee, and Lois Todd, the provincial committee on policy.

Over the summer, Chapter animator Nora Schwartz and volunteers continued the Chapter outreach program by touring the Côte St. Luc library and meeting with librarian Eleanor London, and by meeting with members of the Golden Age Association of Westbury Avenue. Plans for a presentation at the Golden Age Association are underway.

## C.V.E.S.P.A.

The autumn conference held September 20 by C.V.E.S.P.A. (Châteauguay Valley English-speaking Peoples' Association) fulfilled its purpose of showing



the Châteauguay Valley in action.

Panels included health and social services, government services, where the topic discussed was the use of English in government in the province; business and employment, where Jean Cantin, president of the société pour le progrès de la Montérégie, presented a global view of Montérégie; culture and heritage; and education, where



Châteauguay Valley Music association concert

the future of English education in south west Quebec was discussed. At the community groups workshop, panelists spoke about institutions such as the Royal Canadian Legion, the St. Anicet Chamber of Commerce and various women's organizations. Other panels focused on youth and senior citizens. At the workshop on youth, Premier Bourassa's plan to create a conseil permanent de la jeunesse was examined.

The day ended with a reception, dinner, and a concert by the Châteauguay Valley Music Association.

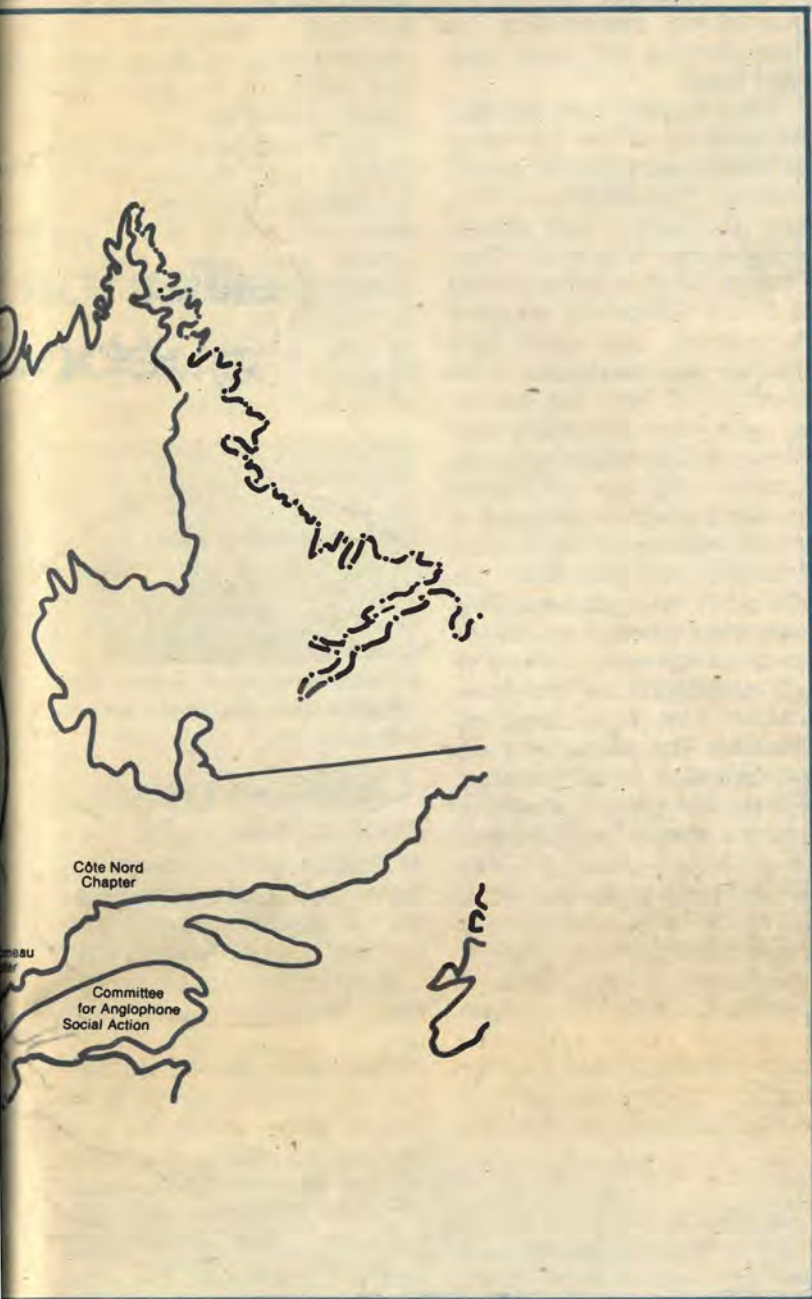
## Laval/North Shore Chapter

The City of Laval has announced plans to build a centrally-located library to house 50,000 books for the city's English-speaking community. The Laval North Shore Chapter is indebted to Frances Rappaport for unflagging work and energy regarding the project.

Priorities currently under discussion in the 6B task force (Laval/North Shore, Upper and Lower Laurentians) are: emergency services for youth, general emergency services, senior citizens, and psychiatric



# Happenings



care. In Laval, animator Beverly Beauchamp is serving on the table de concertation, a group that represents the various local health and social service institutions.

Board member Mark Kmec recently wrote a brief on municipalities which was presented to the Pariseau Commission.

Marvin Blakely, Chapter treasurer and member of the education committee, was elected to the provincial board of directors.

This year, with Pearl Edwards as chairman, the Chapter will be reaching out to the community. Newsletters and meetings in several local areas have been planned to involve as many communities as possible in the Chapter. Members will be available to speak to groups and associations.

The new Chapter office in Western Laval High School, 5075 Souvenir Street, Chomedey, is open regularly on Wednesdays and also at other times.

Congratulations to Chapter members, the Marchands, on the birth of a daughter.

## Lower Laurentians Chapter

On a magnificent autumn afternoon, September 27, the Lower Laurentians Chapter hosted its fourth annual Heritage Day. Citizens from the region and members of Alliance Quebec took the opportunity to combine a drive through the flaming fall leaves with a visit to St. Aidan's Church Hall in Louisa, Quebec where Heritage Day took place. Local families and organizations such as Wentworth Recreation Com-



Ruth Leishman waltzing on the Heritage Day

munity Association, Wentworth Township, the fire department, the Dunany Golf Club and the Dunany Community Association displayed historical ar-

tifacts and projects. Hand-drawn family trees revealed the age and venerability of certain lower Laurentians dynasties. Antique furniture and household goods were also on show. Country and western music was supplied by a local band, and delicious food and sweets were provided by people from the area.

## Upper Laurentians Chapter

The Upper Laurentians Chapter has compiled a directory of community services which is now available for distribution. The directory contains names, addresses and telephone numbers of individuals and institutions in the upper Laurentians region in domains as diverse as health and social services, education, sports and leisure. Hospitals, CLSC's, old peoples' homes, school boards and community groups such as the Girl Scouts are included. Special thanks go to Heather Mattenberger and Mary-Lou Kelly of the Upper Laurentians Chapter who conceived the plan to publish the directory and put in long hours to execute it. People wishing to obtain copies are encouraged to phone chapter animator Liz Santini at (819) 322-5573.

The 6B task force (Laval/North Shore; Upper Laurentians; Lower Laurentians) is continuing its work on health and social services. Last winter the task force met with the regional council to discuss local English language health and social services. Questionnaires were then compiled on the availability of English language services and sent to every health care institution in the area. To date, the response rate from these institutions is 80% and an interesting picture is beginning to emerge. Local CLSC's and CSS's claim that English-speaking residents do not often use their services. The 6B task force will continue to investigate reasons for the low incidence of use of government services and possible remedies.

The Upper Laurentians Chapter is pleased to announce that in June the provisional committee of the 6B task force was given the status of a permanent committee.

## Montreal Centre Chapter

The Montreal Centre Chapter held a planning session in August where government services and community development were discussed. Chapter members are currently working with the administration of McGill University and its on-campus employment Canada office to make listings of jobs with the provincial civil service more available to McGill

graduates. By the spring, the chapter hopes to extend its work to the campuses of Concordia University.

Chapter animator Dominique McCauhy has recently compiled an extensive list of community organizations in the downtown and Westmount areas. Ms. McCauhy and chapter volunteers plan to visit these organizations during the course of this year to identify available services, exchange information and establish firmer links with them. Special attention will be paid to senior citizens' groups.

## Montreal East Island Chapter

The Montreal East Island Chapter is currently coordinating a neighbourhood watch program for the English-speaking community. As liaison for the English-speaking community in the east island, it will work closely with representatives of Operation Tandem, a program offered jointly by the police force and the M.U.C., to educate people on home protection and security. The Chapter is planning a first English language home protection seminar for the Almage Group, an amalgamation of the three English-speaking parishes in the east end, St. Aloysius, St. Margaret, and St. George.

On September 24, representatives of the pre-CLSC Mercier Est convoked a meeting with the English-speaking population of the east end as part of a series of meetings with groups to determine how they are viewed by the public and how they can improve the services they offer. Fernand Mucci, coordinator of pre-CLSC Mercier est, welcomed 15 members of the Montreal East Island Chapter and encouraged them to introduce themselves, and identify their parishes. This initiative was applauded by chapter members as a first step in the long process towards reform and increased access in the area of provincial health and social services.

Patricia Camacho, founding president and currently a member of the Chapter executive, was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Grace Dart chronic care hospital. The Montreal East Island Chapter extends congratulations to Mrs. Camacho for this important achievement.

## Montreal South West Chapter

Montreal South West Chapter is forging ahead with a successful membership renewal campaign. Letters were sent out in the middle of August to over 300 individuals who had failed to notify the Chapter of their intention to renew or to let their memberships expire. Within weeks, approximately 200 of those written to responded, announcing their continuing active support of the Chapter.

The Chapter plans to expand its publicity and membership drives into Little Burgundy, Point St. Charles and Ville Lasalle.

Progress was made this summer on the Montreal South-

West Chapter's oral history project. The Chapter hired two university students to help with research, and animator Linton Garner organized over 20 interviews with residents of Point St. Charles, Crawford Park and Verdun. The interviews were recorded on tape cassettes, and catalogued for the Chapter's new history archives. They document life in Montreal from the turn of the century to the present day. Mr. Garner has approached his local MNA for funding from the cultural affairs budget. The project has sparked a lot of local interest and enthusiasm and is off to a propitious start.

## The N.D.G./Montreal West Chapter

The NDG/Montreal West Chapter board met in mid-June for a full-day planning session to review chapter objectives, to set priorities for the coming year and to organize specific projects.

One such project is a special event planned for the spring of 1987 on the theme of "a minority within a minority". This event should highlight the particular interests and concerns of minority communities within the NDG/Montreal West areas. It is hoped that participants will emerge with a clearer understanding of what these concerns are and how they can be addressed.

The statistical profile of the community issued by the Chapter at the time of the last annual general meeting, has been distributed to most community groups. Local city councillors have also put the profile to good use. The Chapter appreciated the publicity. As soon as the 1986 census data are compiled and published an update from the Chapter will be circulated.

## Outaouais Alliance

Outaouais Alliance started its fall season on September 20 with a policy and planning workshop for directors and staff at Norway Bay. Bill Young, co-chairman of Alliance Quebec's provincial committee on community development and assistant campus director at Heritage Campus, was moderator.

On October 6 the Outaouais Alliance sponsored a Quebec stock savings plan workshop at Aylmer, Quebec. A stock broker from the offices at Geofrion Leclerc and an accountant were present to give financial advice and to discuss investment possibilities.

The cruel winds of winter are beginning to blow, but take heart; the Outaouais Alliance has already begun planning the Rites of Spring, an event to promote young upcoming artistic talent. Keep your fingers crossed. They are hoping that Dan Ackroyd of Blues Brothers and Changing Places Game and originally from Hull, Que. will agree to attend this worthwhile event.



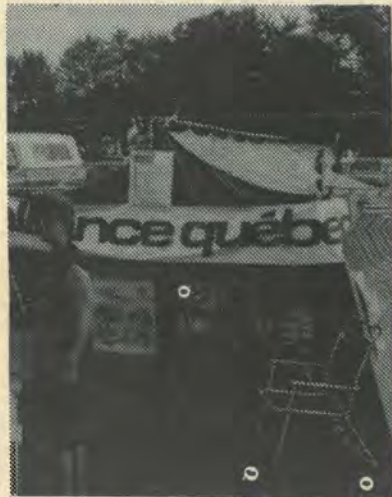
# ● Happenings

## Saguenay-Lac St. Jean Chapter

The Saguenay-Lac St. Jean Chapter participated in a municipal bookfair in Jonquière in the last week of September. It did extremely well selling books it had ordered from Golier Press as well as a selection of Canadian books donated by the Canada Council.

At the present time the Chapter is busily planning a 1950's style dance to take place in mid-November. Organizers hope to have a costume contest and period D.J. rock and roll to set the mood. Drinks and refreshments will be served.

An on-going project in the Chapter is the compilation of a directory listing all English language professional services available in the Saguenay area. Deborah Wagner, member of the Saguenay-Lac St. Jean Chapter, is the moving force behind this praiseworthy effort.



Alliance booth at Highland Games

## South Shore Chapter

This summer The South Shore Chapter participated in the St. Lambert Highland Games — with a membership booth, not tossing the cat — and was delighted at the response. Over 300 people visited the booth, some just to say hello, others to pick up information or to start or renew memberships.

Paul Jones, vice-chairman of the Chapter, had a memorable summer. He was chosen by the B'nai Brith League of Human Rights Association as one of 15 humanities teachers from across Canada to tour Germany, Poland and Israel. The trip theme was "holocaust and hope".

Chapter activities are beginning to swing. Membership renewals have been a priority and another newsletter is being prepared to be followed by a telephone blitz to members.

The health and social services committee has organized a planning session for a public consultation meeting set up by the regional council of the Montérégie. The Chapter office was one of the first organizations contacted by the council.

The committee on government services will meet soon

because several federal departments are reconsidering their policy of advertising unilingually in French in south shore community newspapers.

The Chapter is currently planning a gala evening of one act plays and a visual arts vernissage in late February. Three local drama groups have expressed interest and have met in the south shore office to discuss the plan. The groups were strangers to each other and the South Shore Chapter is pleased to have initiated their meeting.

## St. Laurent Chapter

Members of the St. Laurent Chapter are actively participating in the Ville St. Laurent municipal elections to be held November 2. Delegations from the Chapter have contacted mayoralty candidates to discuss issues and clarify municipal party platforms.

On October 25 the Chapter set up a table at the local flea market to sell household items donated by Chapter members. The fund-raising event was a success and shoppers and browsers who expressed interest in Alliance Quebec were encouraged to take information brochures and membership applications.

Dr. Mohammad Hedayetullah, the Chapter's cultural communities chairman, is currently in the process of contacting leaders of the various ethnic groups in Ville St. Laurent. Dr. Hedayetullah ultimately plans to arrange meetings between representatives of the St. Laurent Chapter and these ethnic communities to discuss the possibility of cooperation and future work together.

## St. Maurice Valley Chapter

The St. Maurice Valley Chapter has begun its fall session with activities in all committee areas. The Chapter is currently holding a membership drive concentrating on the city of Trois Rivières and plans to expand membership into the Shawinigan area in November.

The St. Maurice Valley education committee has invited the Shoe-String Shakespeare Theatre (Geordie Productions) to present plays in three local English schools. On November 3, elementary school students will enjoy a production of *Pinocchio* and secondary school students can look forward to *Romeo and Juliet* in the spring.

Over the summer the Chapter printed 150 copies of the medical terminology booklet. Copies will be available for the public as soon as the Chapter feedback process is completed. Local health and social service committee members have contacted health and social service institutions to let them know that the booklet exists and that it can be obtained along with

government literature from the local Chapter office.

Thanks to active lobbying and consultation with the provincial government, better nursing is now available in the local schools. Also, Mr. Philibert, MNA for Trois Rivières, has publicly announced the intention of the provincial government to fund the St. Maurice Valley Chapter. At the federal level, the Secretary of State has just sent the Chapter promised funds.

On a lighter note, the Chapter held an autumn celebration on October 18. Chapter members met over traditional fall treats of pumpkin pie and apple squares and then visited les Vieilles Forges for a tour of this historic site.

## TMR Chapter

In June the TMR/Outremont/Côte-des-Neiges/Snowdon East Chapter held a special board meeting to identify priorities in programming and issues of membership and to outline ways to achieve goals for the coming year.

The evening was organized in three parts. During the first half the members were divided into two groups: One to discuss issues of membership, and another to identify desirable chapter programs for the coming year and discuss how links with the community might be strengthened. During the second half of the meeting the groups joined up and presented their recommendations. Discussion followed on how to implement these, and what structures were needed to carry out the goals.

The Chapter is currently planning to carry out a demographic study on the Chapter's territory to identify and explore needs of the local population.

Chapter board members also want to prepare a questionnaire to determine concerns of Chapter members.



Della Goodsell, Townshippers' president

## Townshippers' Association

On September 20 the Townshippers' Association hosted Townshippers' Day at the Equestrian Centre at Bromont, Quebec. Despite overcast skies, attendance was excellent. Participants feasted on Brome Lake duck, browsed through stalls filled with antiques, handmade wooden toys, dried

flowers, and local crafts and wares. Peppermint Patty and Terry di Monte from CHOM FM, Montreal took the microphone commenting on lively dancing and music from local bands.

Townshippers' Day was also the occasion of the Townshippers Association annual general meeting. Representatives from both the federal and Quebec government attended. Jean Charest, minister of youth and M.P. for Sherbrooke addressed the meeting and made three welcome announcements: i) the Secretary of State has decided to give the Townshippers' Association money to fund production of the *Welcome Brochure*, a booklet designed to attract industry to the Eastern Townships by describing the lifestyle of the English-speaking community living there; ii) the newly incorporated Townshippers research and cultural foundation has been granted charitable tax status; and iii) that on behalf of the Secretary of State, Mr. Charest wanted to present a cheque for the balance of funding due to the Townshippers Association. Pierre Paradis, MNA for Brome-Missisquoi was also in attendance as was Michael Goldboom with a sizeable delegation from Alliance Quebec. Elections were held for members of the Townshippers' board of directors for 1986/87.

## V.E.Q.

On Thanksgiving week-end, Voice of English Quebec held their fifth annual fall festival. The day's activities were well-attended and included bingo, a football game, a pub with Ben's smoked meat imported from Montreal, and a variety of children's activities. A dance followed in the reception room of the Manege Militaire. Fun was had by all.

## West Island Chapter

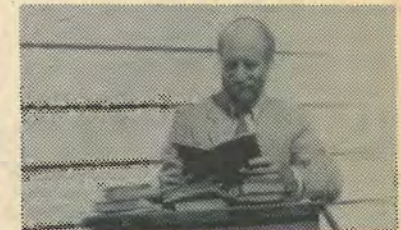
In late June the West Island Chapter did some successful off-island recruiting in Hudson. Chapter volunteers set up a membership and information booth in a Hudson shopping centre and within two days had signed up 114 new members.

On September 24, the Chapter followed up in Hudson with a meeting during which the Alliance Quebec health and social services video "A History of Helping" was shown. A lively discussion ensued on the future of English language services in the province and the need for community work in this area.

Thanks to the tenacious letterwriting of board and chapter member Stuart Steventon, blasting sites for sewage construction on the west island now have bilingual warning signs. Throughout the summer signs had been in French only. Mr.

Steventon and other chapter members initiated a letter-writing campaign to municipal authorities demanding that both official languages be represented to ensure the health and safety of the entire west island community.

The West Island Chapter has been very successful in nominating candidates to institutional boards in the west island area. Ten Chapter nominations were appointed to the boards of institutions such as the Lakeshore General Hospital, CLSC Pierrefonds and a local reception centre.



Chairman of lower Laurentians Chapter Jim Warbanks peruses old texts

## Caplan-Savegeau

(Continued from page 5)

of English-speaking people living on the mainland: "Our need for a sensitive and viable regional English language CBC is as strong or stronger in 1985 than twenty or forty years ago."

The report goes on to state: "Access to services will be of limited value unless there is local and regional programming to meet the broadcasting needs of the official language minorities. Both French and English-speaking minority groups put forward convincing arguments that this would require much strengthened CBC regional services."

Elsewhere in the report the task force makes a recommendation on the use of the CBC transmitters by community broadcasting associations of the official language minorities. "One of the main complaints these groups have made to the Task Force is that the CBC programming available to the official language minorities lacks local content and flavour. They could very well supply this for themselves during sections of the CBC network schedule which are of little local interest."

The Quebec regional director of the CBC, Ray Chaisson, told *The Quebecker* that the CBC board of directors recently adopted a policy to provide this kind of access to its radio transmitters. "The community association would have to invest about 20,000 dollars for a studio and equipment and then we would have to agree on a suitable broadcasting schedule."

Mr. Chaisson said he would be happy to talk to any groups who want to set up a broadcasting association and make use of the CBC transmitters.



Health and social services interview:

# "English language services are crucial, in law and in fact"

**Marylee Kelley** of Beaconsfield is a woman well-known to many. Founding member of Alliance Quebec, Ms. Kelley sat on the Alliance Quebec executive from 1982 to 1984.

She now co-chairs the provincial Alliance committee on health and social services with Jim Carter, and sits on the board directors of Alliance Quebec.

Ms. Kelley has extensive experience in the health care area. For many years she worked as a volunteer at the Montreal Children's hospital and in 1973 was elected president of its Auxiliary. In 1975 she became president of the Association of Hospital Auxiliaries of the Province of Quebec (AHAPQ), which enabled her to tour all hospitals with auxiliary associations in Quebec and to learn a great deal about the provincial health care system. She is currently on the board of directors of the Denis Benjamin Viger reception centre.

In the following interview Ms. Kelley talks to *The Quebecer* about work that lies ahead in the area of health and social services:



*The Quebecer:* Provincial Minister of Health and Social Services Thérèse Lavoie-Roux has promised to guarantee English language health care and social services and to protect our institutions in Quebec. Can you elaborate on this for the benefit of *Quebecer* readers?

*Ms. Kelley:* The minister has promised legislative guarantees before the end of the current session of the National Assembly. This is welcome news to all English-speaking Quebecers.

Getting the guarantees down in law is a first and necessary step on the road to reform. Unfortunately a right on paper does not necessarily reflect a right in reality. Over the next few years the English-speaking community of Quebec will have to mobilize and respond to the challenge of implementing these legally-guaranteed rights. It's vitally important that the community be involved in this process which will affect it so fundamentally.

*The Quebecer:* Are problems of

implementing the right to enjoy English language services uniform in all English-speaking communities across the province?

*Ms. Kelley:* No. A distinction must be made between the island of Montreal and mainland English-speaking communities in Quebec.

In Montreal, many established English-language health and social service institutions already exist. We have old, venerable hospitals such as the Reddy Memorial and the Royal Victoria, and a certain number of centres catering to the needs of senior citizens and youth.

When the promised legislation comes through we won't



see much change in these Montreal institutions. The question will be to maintain the status quo. English language institutions already exist on the island. The new law will mean simply that institutions continue to exist and provide services they have provided for years.

In mainland Quebec, where English-speaking communities are smaller and more widely scattered, English language institutions often don't exist. The problem in these communities will not be to protect a status quo, but to establish an English language service network. Plans will have to be developed by local regional councils for the entire spectrum of health and social service care.

This will require a high degree of community involvement. Chapters will have to familiarize themselves with local institutions. They'll have to identify institutions which are best situated to offer English-language services and care.

Implementing legislative guarantees is a three step process. Health and social service committees in each region will have to attend the following:

1. As a first step, chapters should publicize the newly legislated rights. They must help



to inform the community, health care institutions within the community, and their local regional council as to what rights the law will guarantee for English speakers.

2. After this, chapters will have to work very closely with their regional councils to study particular needs and to prepare plans to implement rights.

3. As a third and last step, we will have to monitor programs once they have been set up on a region by region basis to ensure continued high quality English language care.

*The Quebecer:* How can local chapters inform people and sensitize them to the newly guaranteed rights?

*Ms. Kelley:* I'll give you a concrete example. In regions 6B (Laurentians - Lanaudière) and 6C (Montérégie), local task forces and regional councils have sent questionnaires to health care institutions to determine the availability of English language services in their areas. They have then established functioning regional committees to work on policies and programs with the regional councils.

This is a first step in creating discussion between three major players — the community, the regional council, and health and social service institutions. It is a plan that perhaps all regional councils could benefit by implementing.

*The Quebecer:* The government promised Alliance Quebec linguistic guarantees by the autumn of 1986. It is now the end of October. Should the

government continue to delay the legislation, what will happen?

*Ms. Kelley:* In the greater Montreal area there will be a real erosion of English language services should the legislation not come through. On the mainland, the fight to secure English-language services will be delayed, if not totally obstructed.

Clearly, pressure must be brought to bear on the government to fulfill its commitment. If the government fails to table the legislation before the end of its fall session, Alliance Quebec will work to ensure that it is tabled in the winter.

*The Quebecer:* How best can the Alliance facilitate the evolution of the health and social service system?

*Ms. Kelley:* Chapters can invite local organizations such as churches, the local Y.M.C.A., golden agers and the like to information and exchange sessions on the need for legislative changes and their implications for the community at large. We can also work closely with other community groups interested in advocating reform in the social affairs sector. Finally, chapters can organize themselves as advisory groups to their local regional councils.

Work at the local level in the health and social service domain will be crucial over the next few years. It is up to local communities to see to it that our theoretical rights in law, when they do arrive, translate into a solid, meaningful reality.



## Alliance launches history contest

The Alan Jones history contest promises to be bigger and better than ever this year.

The contest was conceived in 1985 as a province-wide student effort to paint an impression of the English-speaking community of Quebec. If a community is to evolve it must have a sense of its roots and traditions. Only then do its present situation and future directions become clear. The Alan Jones history contest was designed to encourage young people in or community to appreciate our history and the achievements of those individuals who paved the way for us.

Last year, young Quebecers in communities stretching from the Gaspé to the Outaouais were invited to create a display or montage depicting the history of their local regions. The contest was a resounding success. Close to 50 projects were submitted by elementary and high school students across Quebec. Alliance Quebec members who attended convention '86 will remember the abundance of beautiful and imaginative displays of photographs, maps, sketches and models set up in the conference hall last June. It will be a challenge to match these initial efforts.

The Alliance Quebec local history committee met September 25 to start the wheels of the 1986/87 contest in motion. Chairman Graeme Decarie and committee members Bud

Jones, Marianne O'Gallagher, Kevin O'Donnell, and Sam Allison chose the title for this year's entries, "Immigrants and Pioneers: Our Community's Roots". The choice of themes is as far-reaching as the stories, anecdotes and developments marking the history of English-speaking Quebec.

"Quebecers come from a wide range of racial, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds," Mr. Decarie explained. "In this year's competition we want to stress contributions of cultural groups within the larger English-speaking community. Students don't have to go all the way back to the 17th century and the pioneers to do history, although there is always that option in certain of the older communities. They can sit down with their grandmothers and great uncles. They can look at the more recent contributions of immigrants to the development of Quebec."

The committee is planning to have four age/grade categories: i) grades kindergarten to three; ii) grades 4 to 6; iii) grades 7 & 8; and iv) grades 9 to 11.

In each category an Alan Jones memorial plaque will be awarded as first prize and honourable mention will be given to the runner-up. Projects will be displayed at Convention '87 and samples of award-winning work will be featured in the post-convention issue of *The Quebecer*.

## • Education

(Continued from page 7)

*The Quebecer:* How did the law affect you and your husband?  
*Mrs. A.:* The uncertainty was the worst part. In summer, when August rolled around, we never knew what to expect. Each year the government promised to do something about it or hinted that the kids would be thrown out of the schools. Every autumn, on the first day of school, I walked my daughters to their classrooms to make sure their names appeared on the class list and to check that there were desks for them.

The uncertainty really nagged at us. For nine years the government knew we existed, had our names, addresses, our children's schools on record, and did nothing. We waited, during all those years, in limbo.

The government wrote me sporadically telling me to send the kids to French schools. I never agreed to do this. They never followed up with anything but additional sporadic letters.

*The Quebecer:* How do you feel about the term "illegals"?

*Mrs. A.:* I never use it. I hate it. I prefer to use the term "Bill 101 kids". The other label evokes too many anxious and unpleasant memories.

*The Quebecer:* How do you feel about the province of Quebec after this ordeal?

*Mrs. A.:* My faith in Quebec

society has not really been shaken. I am comfortable here. Quebec is my home and I hope that my daughters will stay and make it their home as well. Of course I want my girls to have the choice to educate their children in French or English. If I had had that freedom I probably would have sent them to French schools. That's the irony of my particular case. I was scared that if I started them in French schools and then wanted to switch over to English, the government would not have let me. Because of this worry, I decided to stay with English schools all the way.

There must be readers who do not realize that the Charter of the French Language affected people born and brought up in English in Quebec. This law had repercussions for English-speaking natives of Quebec as well as for non-English-speaking immigrants. It is not the type of legislation I was proud to see passed by my elected representatives.

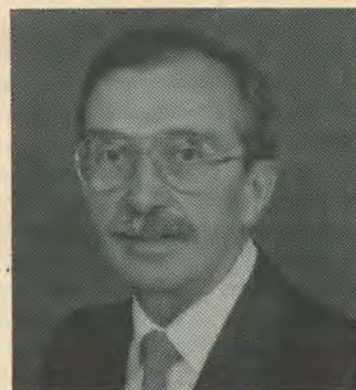
*The Quebecer:* How do you feel about the new school admissions legislation?

*Mrs. A.:* I am very grateful and thankful that someone has finally put an end to this injustice. I am really glad that my daughters can now be recognized as students and legitimate members of Quebec society.

# Chapter Chairmen

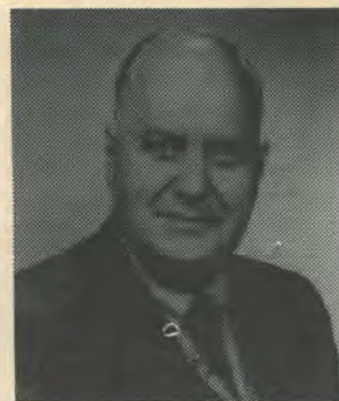
### Abitibi East Chapter

Robert Van Tassel has resided in Val d'Or since 1945. He is currently controller with the Lamaque division of Teck Corporation. He is an avid fisherman and cross-country skier.



### Abitibi West Chapter

Clark Lawton was born in Cassville (Stanstead), Quebec. He holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario. After his studies he served for five years in the army and travelled overseas as an officer in the Royal Canadian Engineers. Now retired, he resides in Noranda and involves himself in community work.



### Baie Comeau Chapter

Baie Comeau Chapter chairman Brian Rock is a high school teacher and has been president of the Baie Comeau Teachers' Association since 1981. He has served on the Alliance Quebec provincial board of directors, the provincial off-island committee. He was founding co-chairman of the Baie Comeau Chapter, is the youth liaison officer and serves on numerous local committees.



### C.A.S.A.

Sharon McCully is a reporter with SPEC newspapers who has worked as a correspondent for C.B.C.'s Quebec AM, a reporter for CKBC Radio in the Gaspé and host of a weekly show on CIEU-FM. The SPEC representative to the Association of Quebec Regional English Media (A.Q.R.E.M.), she is also a member of the Cercle de presse de la Baie des Chaleurs.



### Côte Nord Chapter

Brenda Bond is an elementary teacher in Sept-Iles, Québec. Born in Gaspé, she studied at St. Joseph's Teachers' College and McGill University. She currently serves as vice-president of the Coatibi Teachers' Association, a position she has held for four years. She has served on the Côte-Nord board of directors for three years, and as chairman of the education committee.



### Côte St-Luc Chapter

Mitchell Brownstein, a fourth year law student, is currently president of the Mount Royal young Liberal association and also a board member of the federal senior association. In 1984 Mr. Brownstein served as president of the Young People's Federation of Allied Jewish Community Services. He chaired the phone-a-thon committee of young people's campaign of Combined Jewish Appeal in 1983.



### Côte St. Luc Chapter

Vernon Dowie presently chairs the Côte St. Luc Chapter's health and social service committee in addition to his position as co-chairman. A former employee of the department of national defence and regional vice president of the union of national defence employees, Mr. Dowie now enjoys an active and productive retirement.

### CVESPA

Bruce Hains was born in Montreal. He served in the Canadian Army in the second world war and later worked in the Company of Allied Chemical, Valleyfield, Quebec. Mr. Hains has served with the Canadian Legion, and has been an active member of the board of managers of the Valleyfield Presbyterian Church. He joined the CVESPA board of directors in 1983, served as president in 1984 and was re-elected in 1986.

### Lower Laurentians Chapter

James Warbanks was born in Valleyfield, Quebec and educated in both French and English. A graduate of Sir George Williams University, he lived and worked in Montreal and Trois Rivières before settling in Lachute 10 years ago. Mr. Warbanks is a founding member and former education coordinator of the Lower Laurentians Chapter. He likes sports and microcomputers.

### Upper Laurentians Chapter

Jeff Brooks, born in St-Laurent, holds a BSC in chemistry and psychology from McGill University. In the mid-1970's he operated an apiary in Huntingdon and in 1977 he moved to St-Sauveur where he currently resides. He commutes to Montreal where he works as production manager for a multinational firm.

### Laval/North Shore Chapter

Pearl Edwards was born and educated in Great Britain (Queen's University, Belfast). She has resided in Canada for 30 years. She is a founding member of the Laval/North shore regional group and an active volunteer. She worked hard to establish an English Polyvalent Highschool in the Lake of Two Mountains area and to reorganize French immersion programs in the area.

### Montreal Centre Chapter

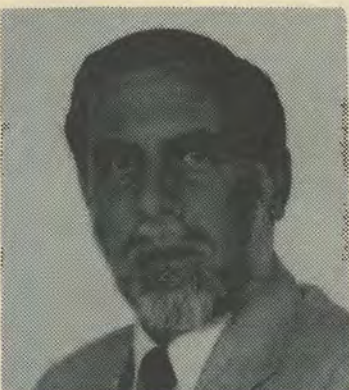
Zonia Kewyan is a writer, editor, teacher of English and author of two books on ethnic history. Since 1983 she has been involved with the Montreal Centre Chapter in the capacities of newsletter editor, chairman of the communications committee, and since 1985, chairman of the group.



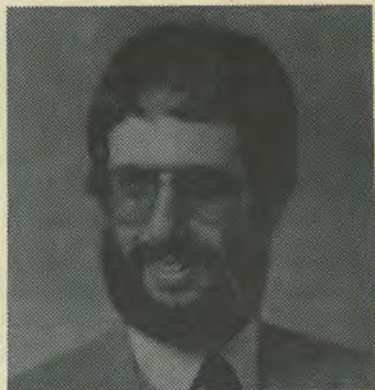
# and & Association Presidents



**Montreal East-Island Chapter**  
Grant Fabes, a district director with the Montreal Catholic School Commission, is a former guidance counsellor and high school principal. He is a past president of the Quebec Association of Catholic School Administrators. At present, he is vice-chairman of the education committee of the English-speaking Catholic Council.



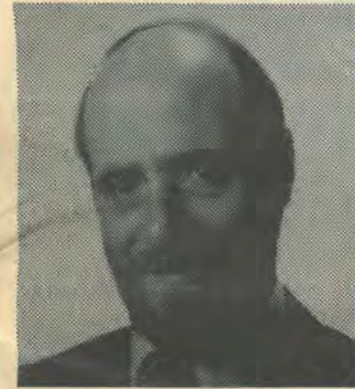
**St-Laurent Chapter**  
Craig Berger has practised law in Montreal for five years. Secretary of the St-Laurent Y.M.C.A., Mr. Berger is also a special advisor to the board of directors of the Carrefour Multi-ethnique de St-Laurent. He is a previous member of the provincial business employment programme committee and has served on the Alliance board of directors.



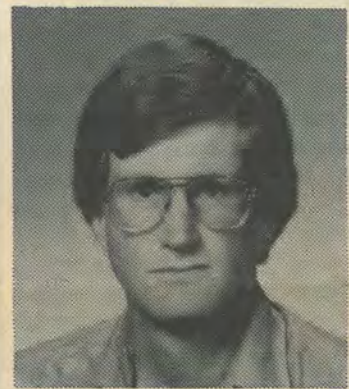
**Montreal South West Chapter**  
Bob Dobie, a founding member of Alliance Quebec, recently opened Holy Cross Residence, a local home for senior citizens, and is the recently-elected president of St-Henri's Liberal party association. Currently on leave from CECM, he is director of Canadian operations at Terre des Hommes Canada, a non-profit group doing developmental work in the Third World.



**St-Maurice Chapter**  
Vera Young is a teacher in Trois-Rivières. She is a former regional director of the Eastern Quebec Teachers Association and has worked for the C.B.C. She has been chairman of the St-Maurice Chapter for four years. In 1985-86 she served on the provincial education program committee, the off-island committee and the board of directors.



**N.D.G./Montreal West Chapter**  
Brian Webber grew up in Newfoundland, British Columbia and the United Kingdom. For the past four years he has lived in N.D.G. but travels often due to his work. He holds a masters degree in engineering and economics and currently heads the Canadian branch of a management consulting group



**TMR/Outremont/Côte des Neiges/Snowdon Chapter**  
Maria Wichers was born in Indonesia. She earned a M.S.W. from McGill University and then worked at the Children's Service Centre. She later became assistant to the Director of Youth Protection at the Ville Marie Social Service Centre. Presently retired, she enjoys an active volunteer schedule.



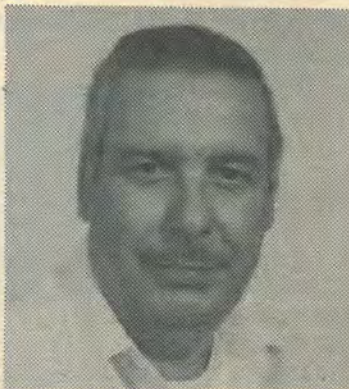
**Outaouais Alliance**  
Ed Trembath was born in Noranda, and now teaches social sciences at Philemon Wright Regional High School. Since 1985 he has served as president of the Outaouais Alliance, and since 1983 has been a member of the board of directors. In 1984 he chaired the local signs committee and the first Youth Career Festival committee.



**Townshippers' Association**  
Della Goodsell has worked with The Townshippers' Association since 1980. Della was born and brought up in Beebe, in the border area of the Townships, where for many years she was in the transport business. She works with many committees and community organizations in her area, including musical and historical societies.



**Saguenay Chapter**  
Harry Surette, founding chairman of the Saguenay Chapter, was born in Massachusettes and came to Canada in 1973. He lives in Arvida where he is a senior analyst in instrumentation at Alcan. Mr. Surette is vice president of Club Bernashe in Shipshaw.



**V.E.Q.**  
David Cannon, a lawyer with the firm of Martineau Walker, was educated at St. Lawrence College and Laval University. He is a trustee of the Y.M.C.A. in Quebec city and a member of the Quebec Garrison Club in addition to serving on the board of directors at A.Q.R.E.M.



**South Shore Chapter**  
Margaret McKeown has worked on school committees for many years. She retains a keen interest in education and represents the South Shore on the education committee of the English-speaking Catholic council. She keeps in touch with South Shore community groups by her regular attendance at Community Network meetings and is also a member of the Candiac Wednesday Group



**West Island Chapter**  
From 1979-1981 Elizabeth Amaron worked as a reporter for the *Pointe Claire News and Chronicle*. In 1981 she was hired as executive assistant to Joan Doherty, the Dorval MNA. In 1986 she mediated in a project to help young people in conflict with the law.





## Chilling tales from the townships:

The Townshippers' association annual heritage interview contest was conceived in 1984 and launched in 1985. Students in English-language schools are invited to participate by interviewing older citizens on their recollections and writing the material down in essay form. Last year, over 400 Townships

students participated and winners were selected by a jury of two. By participating in the contest, students are uncovering a wealth of colourful and fascinating historical facts about their region of Quebec.

Below are the two first prize winning stories.

By Joanne Croghan

Mr. Gordon Fuller was born in 1901 and has lived in South Bolton all his life. A blacksmith by trade, he served overseas during World War I, and perhaps it was there that he learned to tell such stories. The following is a tale which Mr. Fuller heard from his father many years ago. It is still told today around cozy fires at night and taken as the truth.

Solon Greene was, without a doubt, the lowest form of human life that ever inhabited South Bolton, or so folks said. Vulgarity was his way of life and he thrived on it, gambling, thieving, drinking, and spitting his days away as if they were as numerous as blades of grass. He was every local mother's horror, as ninety percent of the town's adolescent male population wanted to grow up to be "jes like Ole Sol," and the town itself regarded him as a member of the devil's own family. His notorious reputation stretched for miles beyond the Bolton boundaries, and several small jails served as homes away from home for Sol Greene.

Just as the best of men go forward to lead the less good men, Solon Greene arose as the leader of a group of scandalous hooligans and derelicts who emulated his filth. These reprobates, some local and some out-of-town pack-peddlers, although disgusting themselves, looked to him for guidance in vile matters. They met regularly, but not in any organized or official manner. Usually, however, their reu-

nions took place in one of two ways.

The first and more innocent of the two was a gathering in Solon Greene's only valuable possession and investment, his hotel. The sole one for miles, Greene's Hotel housed both slimes and patricians, who arrived on the stage coach from out of town. The latter rarely rested in peace as Sol and company often socialized downstairs. Drunk, they sat around a table laden with several decks of marked cards while they cheated one another out of money and valuables, cussed, smoked, spat, and spoke of their exploits with women.

The second type of gathering of the Solon Greene clan was that which familiarized him with the Law of the Townships. On dark and eerie nights he and a companion or two would slink about the pastures of neighbouring farms and steal horses. After painting them with a homemade dye he sold them for a good price as very different looking animals. These dishonest acts, coupled with occasional night muggings, paid for the upkeep of Greene's Hotel.

Several years before the beginning of the twentieth century, Solon Greene was found dead, to the relief of many, the grief of few. Some said he was murdered in a drunken brawl, while others argued that he was killed accidentally by a pursuing farmer whose horse Sol was trying to steal. The church



Children at Townshippers' Day 1986

members felt that he had been the victim of his own lifestyle — too much sin and not enough religion was bound to kill him in the end and it did. Whatever the means, old Solon had kicked the bucket and, after a short funeral services, was buried in the South Bolton Cemetery.

Before he was stiff in his grave, bizarre and frightening things began to happen. Valuable horses went missing without a trace, and, frequently, kegs of whiskey disappeared mysteriously from locked cellars. Pedestrians were robbed regularly, yet none could identify the attacker. Worst of all, however, were the numerous reports of an ominous figure which loomed about back roads moaning and cussing loudly as if in pain. The same figure was also spotted on several occasions sneaking about the newly purchased Greene's Hotel. It soon became clear to the local folks that Solon Greene was not eight feet under the ground where he belonged.

These extraordinary occurrences, as frightening as they were, went on for days and then

weeks. As time progressed slowly, the townspeople became so terrified that they refused to go out, even during the daytime. The heads of justice, refusing to accept that Solon Greene was back from the dead, decided to



Townshippers enjoy Brome Lake duck and a friendly chat, Bromont, Quebec

dig up the coffin and publicly reveal his rotting corpse.

The turnout to witness this event was surprisingly large considering the fear which people were experiencing. Men, women and children alike gathered around as the still partially bare rectangle of earth was once again hacked and chopped at until a shovel hit against solid wood. As dozens of pairs of eyes looked on, the coffin was hauled from its snug hole and placed on the ground. Within seconds the lid was flung open to reveal absolutely nothing. The body has disappeared!

There are no records which say that the haunting of Solon Greene stopped with the disturbing of his grave. Even tales do not deny that he may or may not still lurk in the fields of South Bolton. Before you decide whether or not this story is true, however, why not visit Solon Greene's tombstone in the South Bolton Cemetery one dark and scary night? You might just learn something!

## Blood Money

by Kathryn Napier

This story took place in Marsborough (present day Megantic) during the Civil War. All dates and names are unknown and entirely fictitious. The story is based on fact.

Between 1861 and 1865 the United States was torn apart by the Civil War. The South struggled to preserve its way of life that was based on plantations run on cheap slave labor. The North, led by President Abraham Lincoln, believed slavery was wrong and should be abolished.

The South had little trouble gathering an army because their

way of life was threatened. But the North had trouble getting enough volunteers so they paid people to go out and get people to enlist in the Union (Northern) Army.

The story is told that in Marsborough there lived a man, paid by the North to bring back soldiers; a man by the name of Robert Shaw. Marsborough was perfect for his swindle, for the townspeople spoke only Gaelic, but he spoke Gaelic and English.

Mr. Shaw visited local residents and told them of the hard times America was going through. "None of the log

camps are cared for," he told them, "because there are no strong men to work in them. If you sign these papers you can go to the logging camp in Maine and help America until the men come home from the war. You will, of course, be paid."

Most men signed the forms, completely trusting this Yankee. Many could not even sign their own names, and had to make a mark. If they had read the English form, Mr. Shaw would have wound up on the seat of his pants outside their doors, for when these men arrived at the "logging camp" they found out their tragic mistake. They

were placed in a stockade, then later sent to fight in the war.

One night Mr. Shaw was in his parlour with his wife Amelia. Before them, on the coffee table, was all the gold he had been paid for enlisting Canadians into the Union Army. They were counting their money.

Suddenly they heard a noise at their window. Looking up they saw a man wearing a uniform of the Northern Army. The man vanished before their eyes. Frightened, the couple put their gold in an iron pot and buried it.

There have been many at-

tempts to find this gold, and people who think they know where it was buried have been out to Marsborough to look for it. After locating the spot, they found they could not break the ground. They felt such a strong supernatural power that they fled in terror. People say this is because the "shades" of Civil War soldiers are protecting it. It is still believed to be buried near where the house once stood.

As told by Mrs. William Young with extra information given by Ian Tait.



## Words and Expressions from the Gaspé

*Words and Expressions of the Gaspé* compiled by Art Campbell is a pocket-sized book brimming over with the lively language of Quebec's easternmost inhabitants.

### Glossary

aboard	To go aboard someone is to angrily and aggressively confront him.
arse over kettle	A bad fall. "The cow kicked, and he went arse over kettle, pail and all!"
crailing	To some people this means pining or yearning for somebody or something. To others it means complaining or grumbling (Cascapedia Bay).
dure de comprenure	Difficult understanding.
Eaton's beauty	Any spoiled, over-dressed, conceited girl. (Eaton's Beauty was a doll featured for many years in the Eaton's catalogue)
mad enough to chew nails and spit screws	Extremely angry (New Carlisle).
pissquicks	Rubber boots which were easy to put on for a hasty exit.
rowing with one oar	Not mentally alert (Magdalen Islands).



Painting by Tennyson Johnson from Bougainville, Gaspé

## English house opens in Quebec City

by Helen Meredith

After close to twenty years, Quebec city has, once again, an independent English-language bookstore, La Maison Anglaise. On Cartier Avenue in the city's centre new businesses and stores have been opening with surprising regularity. On July 15 La Maison Anglaise joined their ranks and opened its doors to the public.

Co-proprietor Frank Hogg explained that opening the store was something of an experiment, an opportunity to see if an English bookstore could hold its own in the city.

La Maison Anglaise maintains an impressive stock of reference material such as dic-

tionaries and thesauri as well as a wide selection of literature and non-fiction English publications. The store also caters to customers for whom English is a second language. It has a large stock of English-as-a-second-language books. These resources are particularly sought out by English teachers in Quebec city.

While the Cartier Avenue store entices shoppers and browsers, plans are afoot to increase its mail order service. Mr. Hogg is extremely interested in creating a service for people living east of Quebec city who are not presently served by an English bookstore. By offer-

ing reasonable prices and charging appropriately for postage, this service could respond to a real need.

If the first weeks of La Maison Anglaise's existence are an indication, many people are very keen to order books via Canada Post. The orders are flowing in.

In addition to the mail order service, proprietors of La Maison Anglaise are eager to begin other projects. One important project is to have readings and book signings. Mr. Hogg hopes to assert the presence of the bookstore in the community. Initial response has been very good and promises to continue so.

### Book Review:

## Revolution and Romance

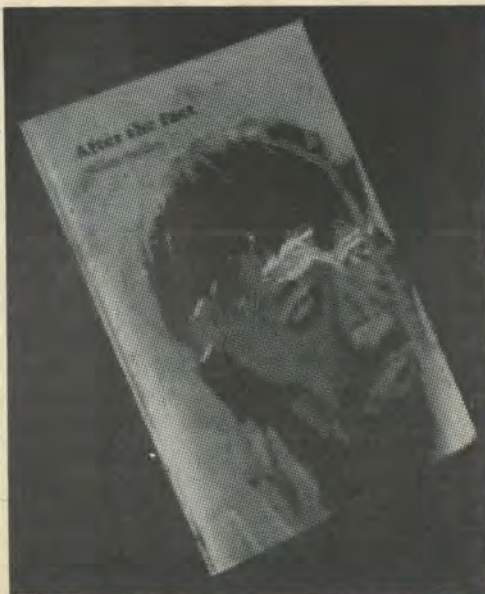
Review by Albert Bras

*After the Fact* a new novel in English by Hélène Holden  
Oberon Press, 176 pages  
\$12.95 paperback.

Hélène Holden, long-time Montrealer and part-owner of the Double Hook bookstore in the city's centre, is not a particularly prolific writer but she is a most fascinating and gratifying one. In her 1969 first novel, *The Chain*, she examined the private and public lives of a group of Montrealers during the so-called Quiet Revolution. Seventeen years later, in her third novel, she returns with a work about her life in a "future" Quebec; Quebec after what seems to have been a revolutionary war of independence.

*After the Fact*, which could be described as a dystopia, is a masterful study of the psychology of the mob. Set mostly in the fictitious Lower North Shore village of Cap-des-Vents, it explores what can happen to a community (and, by extension, to society as a whole) when all familiar standards of behavior are suddenly dropped.

The novel's catalysts are Catherine Lemoyne, a painter; her lover Lawrence Lemoyne, a writer; and her young daughter Natalie. The Lemoynes escape from a city very much like Montreal and seek refuge in little, out of the way, Cap-des-Vents. They hope that the village is going to be a peaceful haven but fate has



arranged a rather nasty and brutish surprise.

The inhabitants of Cap-des-Vents never fully accept the visitors as their own. In the beginning they tolerate their presence. Then, as the social and political situation dramatically deteriorates, the Lemoynes come to be perceived not just as strangers or intruders but as collaborators: as the enemy.

They become scapegoats for everything that has gone wrong since the upheaval, from fast-disappearing jobs to shortages of food and fuel, and the villagers like a pack of crazed and starving animals turn on them. The mob is so vicious and unthinkingly amoral that by the end of the novel Lawrence is framed for a crime he obviously did not commit; Natalie is physically attacked by local children; and Catherine, hunted by village women after having been raped by their men, is forced to escape into the frigid of swirling waters of the Saint Lawrence River.

There are several striking elements in *After the Fact*. The characterization is generally strong and the language, effective. In particular, Holden's writing can be so terse, she is able to convey local

mores in a mere two or three sentences, and to do so with biting wit. In one memorable passage the town's aging beauty queen observes: "You could beat a woman in Cap-des-Vents but you couldn't whip her. We weren't that sophisticated."

There are some problems in the novel, including unnecessary obfuscation. For instance, Holden is never very explicit as to the exact nature of the political developments in the Quebec she depicts. Has a civil war taken place? A revolution? Independence? From references to the "new regime" and to a people's dream finally coming true, the reader is led to deduce that she is talking about a revolutionary war, but this is never made explicit. The Lemoynes' flight is another cause for puzzlement. Do Catherine and Lawrence escape to Cap-des-Vents in order to get away from their respective spouses or because of political turmoil in the city? Again, there is no way of knowing.

Overall, the flaws in *After the Fact* are minor. They do not diminish the novel's real achievement, which is most evident in the author's grippingly powerful portrayal of the mob.



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