

# Federal take-over of resource funds is deplored

This is no East-West confrontation Canada has been plunged into, nor is it a political difference. It is a complete take-over for all time, of the province's largest source of revenue — resource funds.

By the proposed change in our constitutional law, Ottawa will centralize most funds and all power under its control, leaving us the unpleasant task of having to finance all schooling, roads, welfare, development, within your borders, without adequate funds, unless the federal government — Ottawa — decides to give part of them back.

By placing these powers into a constitutional law that we the electors have never seen or voted on, and which for all practical purposes is unalterable, they have closed the door on provincial growth and prosperity for all time.

Ottawa will use Alberta funds to increase the scope of the mandarins, produce more uneconomical Crown corporations that refuse to give efficient service, and under the sharing plan use the funds to win political votes. Gradually each province's funds will be redirected to Ottawa.

Canada is too vast and diversified a country to be governed by an all-powerful centralized government. At this time in history, small countries like Great Britain have found it necessary to return funding and governing to Wales and Scotland, in order to have any measure of successful government. For Canada to now take the backward step of centralizing its government instead of increasing the provincial powers, will be a disaster for all Canadians and for all provincial governments. Not only will it result in a loss of services, accompanied by higher taxes, but it will result in violent discontent.

This year, by the federal budget, the fund crunch has been put on Alberta and B. C. but next year it will be any province's turn. Then they will realize how shocking it is that once these constitutional laws have been passed they are extremely difficult if not impossible to change. In a week in Alberta we are seeing the results. There is a withdrawal of many large companies from Alberta, and cancellation of contracts. The people leaving are not going to other provinces —

they are leaving Canada because they realize the impact of the new double taxes that will result when Ottawa has taken away the province's resource funds.

While our now legally owned provincial resource funds languish in Ottawa, the provinces will have to scramble to meet the needs of schools, health welfare, etc. of their province which can only be done by extra taxation.

In past history, constitutions only emerge after either a war of conquest, or a revolution. Canada is getting their new one by the political decision of a group of politicians who have never consulted their electorate. Alberta's funds have been taken by the federal budget; to spend as it likes, if it is confirmed by a constitution.

We who love our country and want to stay in it, are following Lougheed's example of passive resistance. There will be at first, only a small reduction of oil export by Alberta. Many Albertans now fly Canadian flags at half-mast; have sold their Cana-

dian government bonds; are boycotting Crown corporations; writing letters of protest to England, and joining the many groups forming to prepare for separation that may come after Trudeau's threat to rob us of our Constitutional Rights by December. Most of us realize that this unseemly and undemocratic haste to plunder provincial funds without our vote, is due to mismanagement to the point where Ottawa is desperate for provincial funds.

It is the central government at Ottawa which is now choosing to enlarge its powers, not the people of Canada. I am certain most Canadians have little faith in an all-powerful centralized Ottawa.

My ancestors came here when it was the Northwest Territories, and enjoyed a life of freedom. I envision the possibility of my children living in an area — Canada West: a federation of four independent, developing provinces and two territories, where property rights, the right to

grow and develop in freedom will as always, be guaranteed by our courts; an area federated only so we may act in strength and unity.

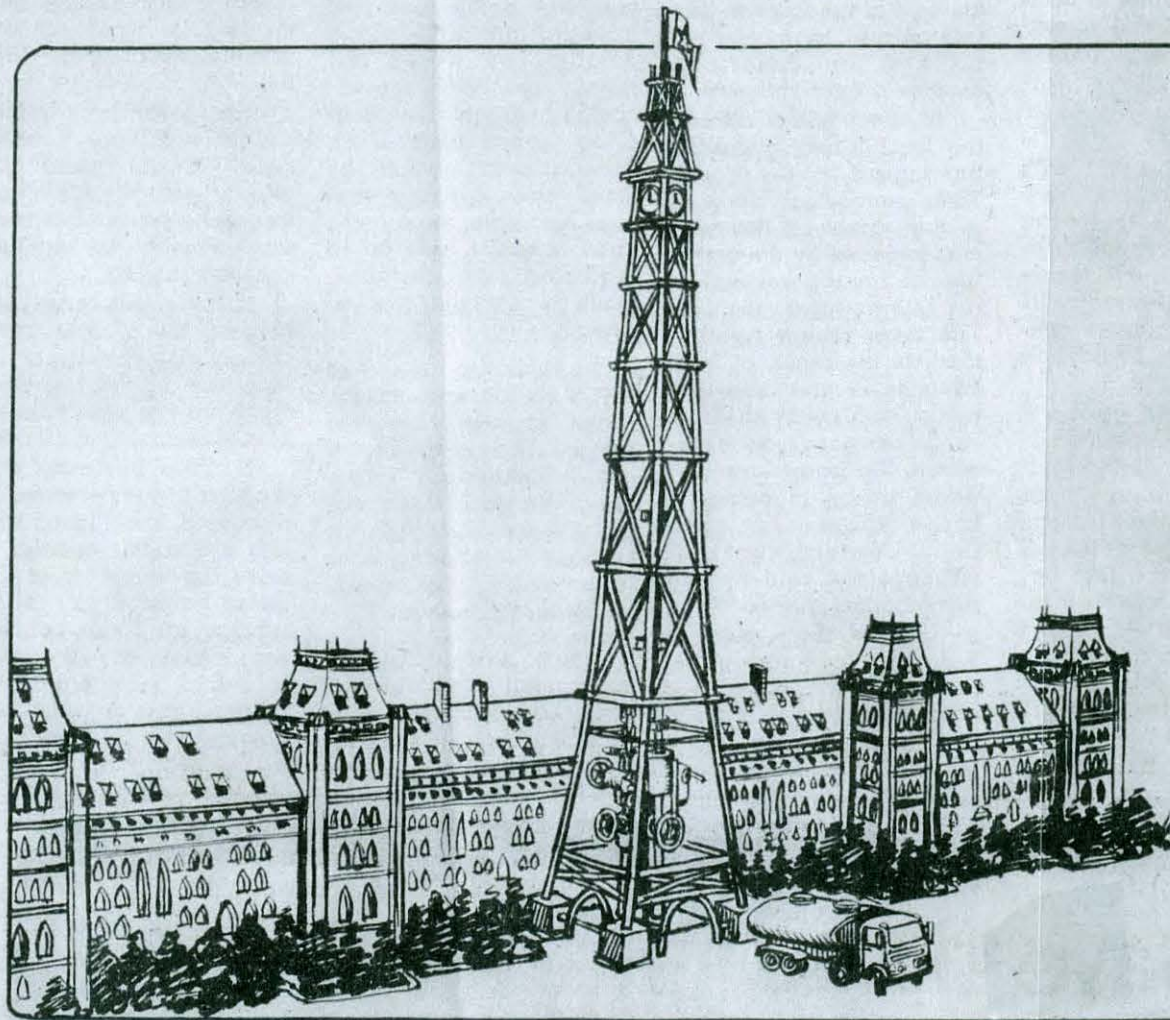
I don't want a centralized Canada where politicians or mandarins by tricks, using their new power of centralized funds, aided by new constitutionally given discretionary powers, can manipulate us only for the political purpose of staying in power by sections 31 to 41 of the proposed constitution.

In our time, we've seen how West Germany survived, prospered, and retained their nationality and their political rights, by simply refusing to accept political domination. We can too if forced to and right now the pressure is fierce. Loss of billions in revenue and thousands of jobs.

We must now delay the passing of the new Constitution in any way we can. Every person in Canada must be given a right to vote and make a free choice.

RUTH GORMAN,

Calgary.





# Take-over of resource funds is deplored

they are leaving Canada because they realize the impact of the new double taxes that will result when Ottawa has taken away the province's resource funds.

While our now legally owned provincial resource funds languish in Ottawa, the provinces will have to scramble to meet the needs of schools, health welfare, etc. of their province which can only be done by extra taxation.

In past history, constitutions only emerge after either a war of conquest, or a revolution. Canada is getting their new one by the political decision of a group of politicians who have never consulted their electorate. Alberta's funds have been taken by the federal budget; to spend as it likes, if it is confirmed by a constitution.

We who love our country and want to stay in it, are following Lougheed's example of passive resistance. There will be at first, only a small reduction of oil export by Alberta. Many Albertans now fly Canadian flags at half-mast; have sold their Cana-

dian government bonds; are boycotting Crown corporations; writing letters of protest to England, and joining the many groups forming to prepare for separation that may come after Trudeau's threat to rob us of our Constitutional Rights by December. Most of us realize that this unseemly and undemocratic haste to plunder provincial funds without our vote, is due to mismanagement to the point where Ottawa is desperate for provincial funds.

It is the central government at Ottawa which is now choosing to enlarge its powers, not the people of Canada. I am certain most Canadians have little faith in an all-powerful centralized Ottawa.

My ancestors came here when it was the Northwest Territories, and enjoyed a life of freedom. I envision the possibility of my children living in an area — Canada West: a federation of four independent, developing provinces and two territories, where property rights, the right to

grow and develop in freedom will as always, be guaranteed by our courts; an area federated only so we may act in strength and unity.

I don't want a centralized Canada where politicians or mandarins by tricks, using their new power of centralized funds, aided by new constitutionally given discretionary powers, can manipulate us only for the political purpose of staying in power by sections 31 to 41 of the proposed constitution.

In our time, we've seen how West Germany survived, prospered, and retained their nationality and their political rights, by simply refusing to accept political domination. We can too if forced to and right now the pressure is fierce. Loss of billions in revenue and thousands of jobs.

We must now delay the passing of the new Constitution in any way we can. Every person in Canada must be given a right to vote and make a free choice.

RUTH GORMAN,

Calgary.

