

International Intelligence

Separatism is brewing in western Canada

Separatism in Canada is not limited to the province of Quebec these days. A respected member of British Columbia's Parliament, David Mitchell, said recently, "If our confederation is torn apart by Quebec's possible separation, we will need to reconsider our citizenship."

"Quebec will pull the trigger, but from then on, B.C. drives the bus," said Gordon Gibson, author of the report *Plan B: The Future of the Rest of Canada*, published by the Frazer Institute in Vancouver. On July 15, the *Washington Post* featured an article by correspondent Charles Trueheart, "With an Eye on Quebec, Canadian West Rumbles with Threat of Secession." According to Trueheart: "The resurgent possibility of Quebec's separation has provoked talk here [Vancouver] about British Columbia's own separatism . . . the concept of 'Cascadia,' a futuristic Pacific Rim entity composed of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon, has become a cliché in this corner of North America. Cascadia even has a flag."

Britain left out of four-power European bloc

Germany, France, Italy, and Spain have formed a standing committee within the European Union to improve consultations on economics, foreign policy, and defense. The committee, which was nicknamed the "Quadrige," will bring the respective governments' closest advisers together on a regular basis. Great Britain will not be allowed to participate until it stops obstructing the policies of the union.

According to a report in the Italian daily *La Repubblica* on July 24, the group "will work on the great European dossiers, in time for the intergovernment conference which, in 1996, will review the Maastricht Treaties. . . ."

"The *artifex* of the four-power entente is one of the [German] chancellor's closest

collaborators, his diplomatic adviser Joachim Bitterlich, who first made a blitz mission to Rome last week, then, on Friday, held a meeting in Bonn with representatives from the four countries.

"Is the Franco-German axis not enough for Bonn? The change is not so radical, but in the two meetings, the Federal Republic has clearly said that it is looking for a more articulated network of agreements. It thinks that no country alone could guarantee progress in six months on the great issues of political, economic, and monetary union, and that the connection with Paris must be enlarged. As if to say: We need a strong and continuous leadership to push Europe forward, even in common defense and foreign policy."

Clash in Philippines over Cairo '94 agenda

Philippines Cardinal Jaime Sin on July 26 called on Catholics throughout the Philippines to unite on Aug. 14 for a day of fasting and prayer to express "indignation and outrage at the abuses being allowed by the government against the family."

Cardinal Sin's statements were directed at President Fidel Ramos, who has vigorously backed family planning measures in support of the government's plan to curb population growth, and has backed the malthusian agenda of the U.N.'s International Conference on Population and Development, known as Cairo '94.

In an open letter to parents, Cardinal Sin warned: "It is now clear that global forces, backed by the wealth of powerful nations, are out to destroy the family by first destroying our children. Our children are being conditioned systematically to adopt a contraceptive mentality. Now they are being brainwashed to accept as normal, attractive, and even glamorous certain unnatural, abnormal, and perverse sexual relationships such as homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, sodomy, oral sex, contraception, sterilization, and abortion."

Father James Reuter, spokesman for the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philip-

pires, told Reuters that the church was going to make this "an emotional issue. Our battle cry will be 'Save Our Children.'" "I think this will probably end in the elections," he said. "We elect the President, the senators, the congressmen. The church will come in full blast" at the polls.

The Manila newspaper *Today* on July 31 denounced the church in an editorial, for its "medieval mindset." "For all the moral leadership it may have provided us during the last days of Marcos's despotic rule, the church is showing once again how easily it can lapse into irrelevance and irresponsibility, into a sorry retreat of aging single men who would decide, from behind the ramparts of the Vatican, what's right for the world."

British MP calls for alliance against Germany

British Member of Parliament William Cash called on the British government to ally with other European powers to stop what he called Germany's "atavistic desire to dominate." His remarks were reported by the *Daily Telegraph* on July 27, which is owned by the Hollinger Corp. Cash is the head of Hollinger Corp. board member Sir James Goldsmith's "Other Europe" movement in Britain.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, Cash said, "is endorsing Germany's atavistic desire to dominate, which we will never get rid of, except by alliances with other countries to contain Germany. We haven't tried hard enough to establish better relations with France. The British government is defending the indefensible. Our so-called increasing alliance with Germany has failed—as policy on Bosnia, the ERM [European Rate Mechanism] and the continuing thrust toward federalism in Europe has shown."

In a discussion on July 29, Cash reported that, some weeks earlier in the British Parliament, he had referred to an 1848 speech of British Foreign Secretary Lord Palmerston, where Palmerston said (in Cash's paraphrase), "England has no perpetual allies

Briefly

and no perpetual enemies, only eternal interests, which we must protect." (For an analysis of this speech and Palmerston's policy, see *EIR*, April 15, 1994, "Lord Palmerston's Multicultural Human Zoo.")

Cash said that he and Goldsmith have "a substantial understanding in common," that the Palmerston notion should guide their thinking about how to deal with Germany. "I've been arguing for a long time that Britain must form continental alliances, with various countries, to counter German assertiveness and domination," Cash said.

Spain OKs sterilization of mentally handicapped

In a ground-breaking decision for the western world, 7 out of the 12 members of the Spanish Constitutional Court upheld as constitutional the clause in the Criminal Code under which mentally handicapped people may be sterilized. A judge in Barcelona had impugned the clause as "an attack against the fundamental right to life, the integrity of the person, and that includes the mentally handicapped."

The majority, whose decision was written by Fernando García-Mon, said that sterilization would be carried out "in the interest of the handicapped and to promote his conditions of life and well-being . . . by allowing him not to be submitted to constant watchfulness . . . and let him exercise his sexuality. . . . In the case of a woman, the advantages of sterilization are even greater or more convenient, given the physiological effects of pregnancy."

The decision was backed by the National Association of Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped, the Association of Sufferers of Down's Syndrome, Supreme Court Judge J.A. Martín Pallín, and the dean of the College of Lawyers of Madrid, Luis Martín Mingarro. Prominent psychiatrist Enrique González Duro, however, charged that the decision "is madness and smells of Nazism," and said that families and groups promoting the decision were acting only in their personal, selfish interests.

The view of the four dissenting judges (a fifth was absent) was expressed by Rafael Mendizabal, who said that he has "a visceral opposition" to any such laws. José Gabaldon, another dissenting judge, wrote that for third parties to decide to sterilize other people is "in some way transforming a human being into an object, by taking over entirely that person's will."

Cheminade introduces new book by Jean Jaurès

Jacques Cheminade, the president of the Schiller Institute in France, has issued a reprint of the book *De la réalité du monde sensible (On the Reality of the Perceptible World)*, by the French philosopher and parliamentarian Jean Jaurès (1859-1914). The book, which was Jaurès's doctoral dissertation, has not been available since 1937.

In his introduction to the new edition, released by Editions Alcuin publishers, Cheminade describes Jaurès as a Christian humanist in the tradition of Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, quite unique among the Socialists. The view Jaurès had of social justice was not a Marxist view, but one based on a concept of divine harmony. The idea of reissuing this work should have occurred to the Socialists, particularly those who have been in power for so many years, writes Cheminade.

The Paris daily *Le Monde* on July 28 featured a review of the book on the first page of the literary section. The reviewer applauds the reappearance of such an important text, but laments the fact that the publisher is "linked to the European Labor Party," adding that "the senseless introduction by Jacques Cheminade, the main French figure of the party, considers that Jaurès's works have been misunderstood, and wrongly characterized by those who consider themselves his friends." "Worse," the review continues, "in the introduction Cheminade says that there are powerful oligarchical forces today which represent the opposite of what Jaurès saw to be the ideal institutions of society."

● **THE FRENCH** Parliament on July 21 passed a series of anti-eugenics laws, prohibiting surrogate parenting and establishing strict regulations for parents of "test-tube babies." Another law, upheld on July 27 by France's constitutional review agency, prohibits any "practice of eugenics that leads to the organized selection of people."

● **MILAN MARTIC**, the head of the self-styled "Serbian Republic of Krajina," said on July 26 that were NATO forces to arrive in the Balkans, "the war might spread throughout the Balkans, Europe, and perhaps the world."

● **A SENIOR SPANISH** Army general, Francisco Beguillas, was killed on July 29 when a car bomb destroyed his armored car just 200 meters from the Royal Palace in Madrid. No responsibility was claimed for the bombing, but Reuters reported that it is believed to be the work of ETA Basque separatists. Beguillas was Spain's director-general of defense policy.

● **GREECE** and Russia reached a military agreement, signed by their defense ministers in Athens on July 25. Details have not been announced, but there have been hints that the Russians signaled support for the Greek view rejecting Turkey's territorial claims in the Aegean Sea, as well as supporting the Greek position on the Balkans, which contests the status of Macedonia and raises alarm over the situation of the ethnic Greek minority in Albania.

● **RUSSIA** agreed on July 26 to withdraw its remaining 2,000 troops from Estonia by Aug. 31. The announcement came after discussions in Moscow between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Estonian President Lennart Meri. Yeltsin said that the talks had been "very difficult," and that he had come under heavy pressure from the West. He received letters from President Bill Clinton and Chancellor Helmut Kohl urging a speedy pullout.