Correspondence

Québec’s Politics

To the Editors: May I suggest that Bernard Murchland’s article on the Québec–Canada debate ("The Politics of Vengeance," January-February) is a little bit too dramatic? The facts are right (although I doubt his proportions on the asbestos workers) and the background sensitively presented. But some sober thoughts are missing.

The “united” Canada that is gone was united because the two linguistic groups were pursuing different paths. But now both groups are competing for the same jobs in Montreal and elsewhere and federal parties cannot any longer have different platforms depending on the language of the audience. Economic development and modern media have been integrating Canada and thereby creating tensions that did not arise in a condition of mere juxtaposition.

Also, a party that got into power with 42 per cent of the popular vote on the Quebecois right (although I doubt his proportions on the asbestos workers) and the background sensitively presented. But some sober thoughts are missing.

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