

**BIFURCATED AND INTEGRATED  
PARTIES IN PARLIAMENTARY**

in ideological terms: it is partly inclined to traditional socialist or communist positions, and

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seen.<sup>11</sup> Currently, the new party looks more like arrangements for governing, within which the

2000

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and ethnic groups. Conflicts between classes and regions were handled quietly within the parties rather than openly between them. Thus

the parties of the glue that kept them together, and which tightly bound federal and provincial interests. Political classes were now



*Bifurcated and Integrated Parties in Parliamentary Federations*

but also for competition between the provinces and the federal government. By expressing adversarial interests between the levels of government, the parties lost their abilities to bridge conflicts between the orders of government and became bifurcated. The bifurcation of the party system was further exacerbated by the upsurge of Quebec nationalism, and later by western alienation. Conflicts of the centre-periphery type not only

their seats in the Atlantic provinces.<sup>33</sup> The Liberal majorities in 1993 and in 1997 were hardly the result of the strength of the party; it resulted instead through the split of former Tory votes among PC, Reform and Bloc Québécois.

The 1993 and 1997 general elections confirmed the growing tendency of regional interests to become a prime issue at national elections.<sup>34</sup> Observers spoke of "balkanization" as regional interests gained priority over nation-

*Bifurcated and Integrated Parties in Parliamentary Federations*

systems that the results of the 1997 elections in the Council of Ministers National 39

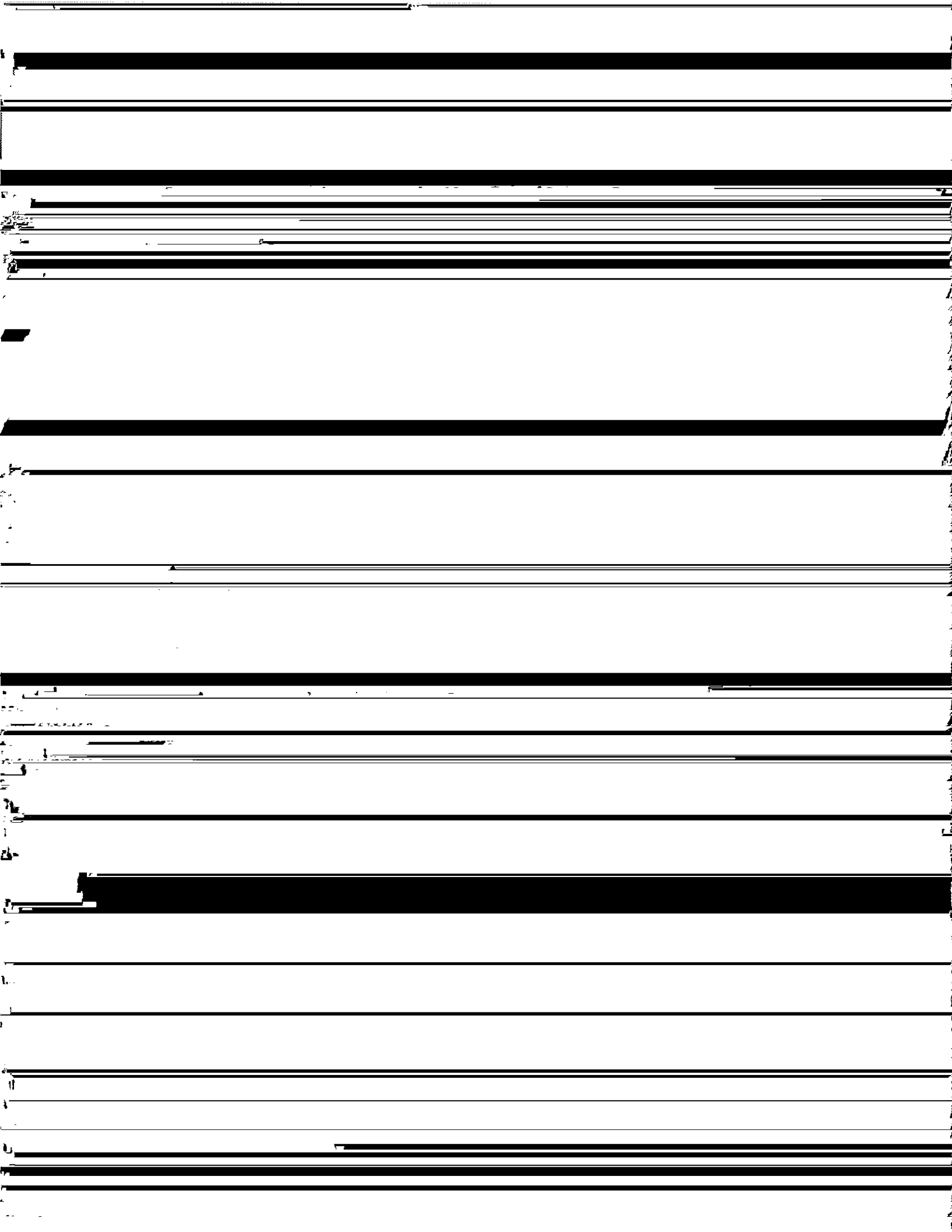
vary from those at the sub-national level.

The differences to other provinces are not only



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1954



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English: J. C. ... 1970 ... 40 ...

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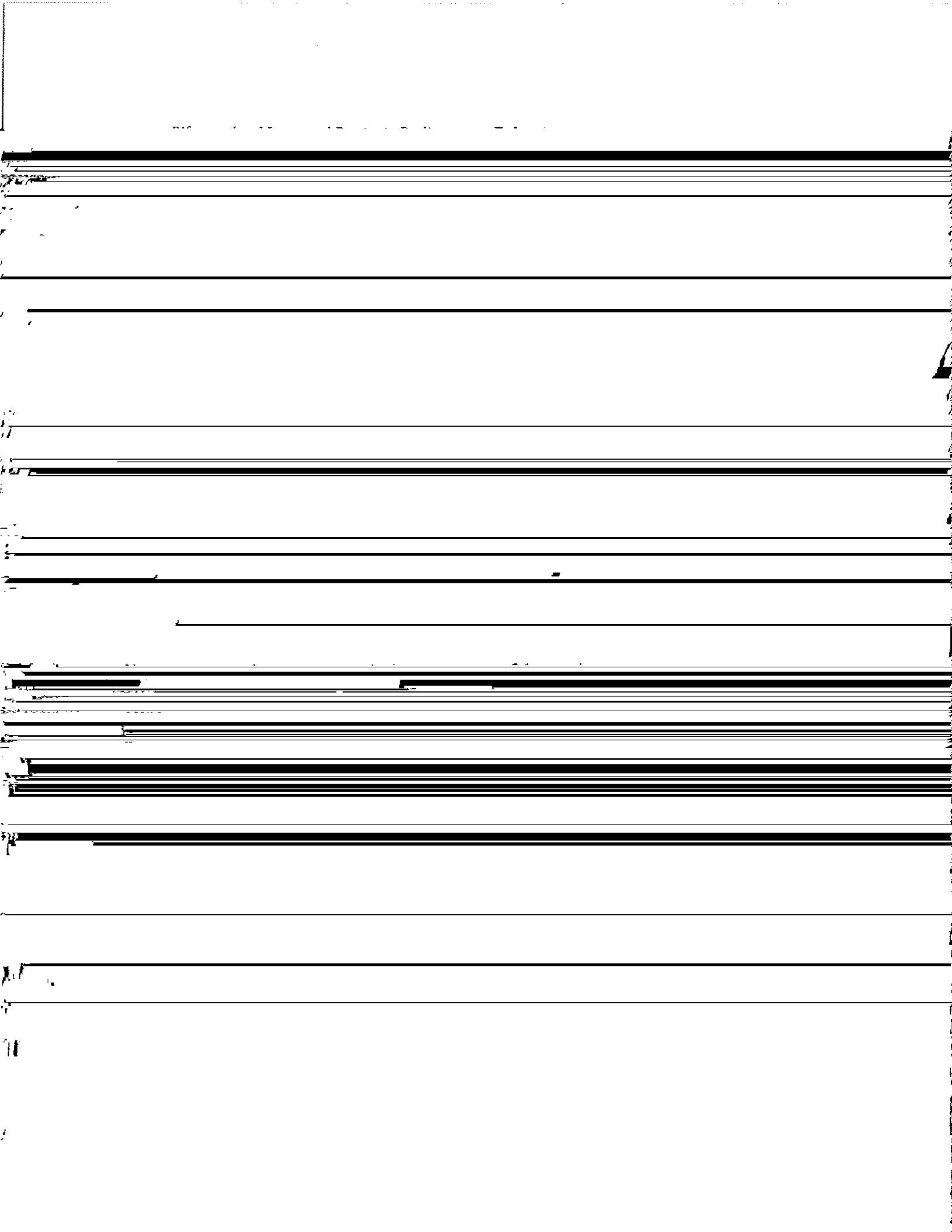
Nazis, who seized power in 1933 and established twelve years of dictatorship.<sup>58</sup>

After the Second World War, a reformed and more integrative party system emerged. The newly established Christian Democracy integrated the former clientele of the Catholic

Beside these two big parties, the Liberals (FDP) survived as a comparatively small but often rather influential party. Originally a right-wing Liberal party, they distinguished themselves from the predominantly still Catholic Christian Democracy by adopting

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*Bifurcated and Integrated Parties in Parliamentary Federations*

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with the blame for the consequences of reduced program remains to be seen. Sceptical voices have been heard already.<sup>76</sup>

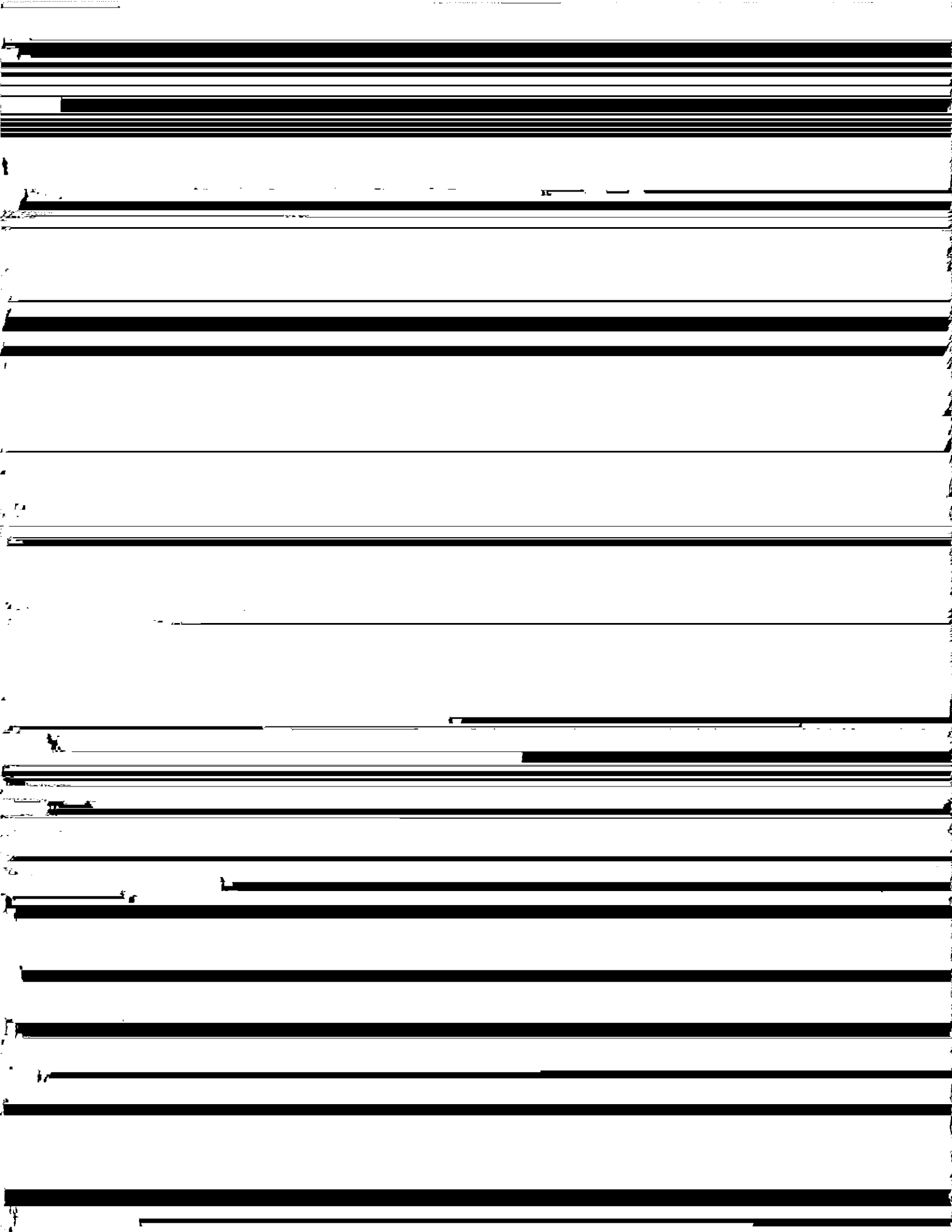
When the Liberal Party came to power in

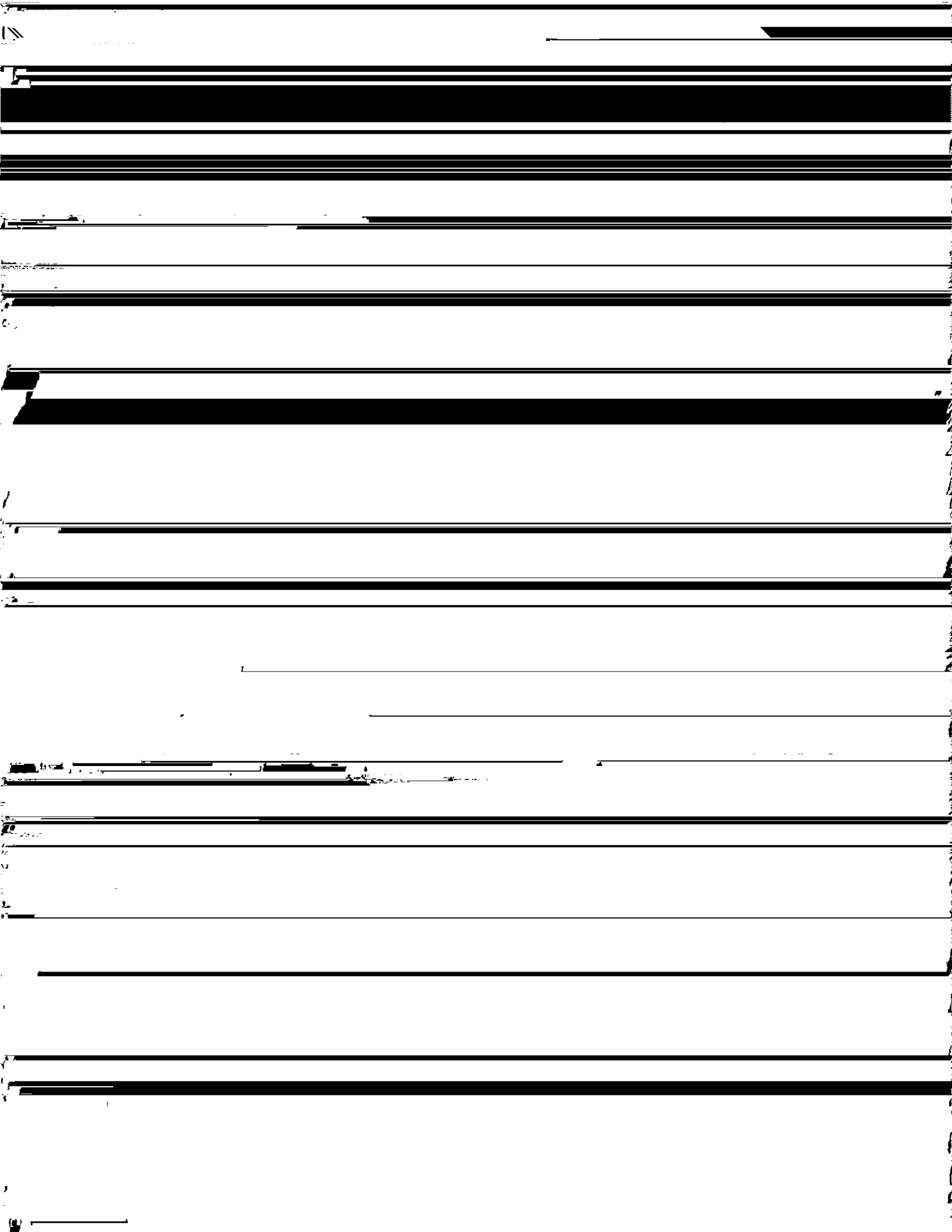
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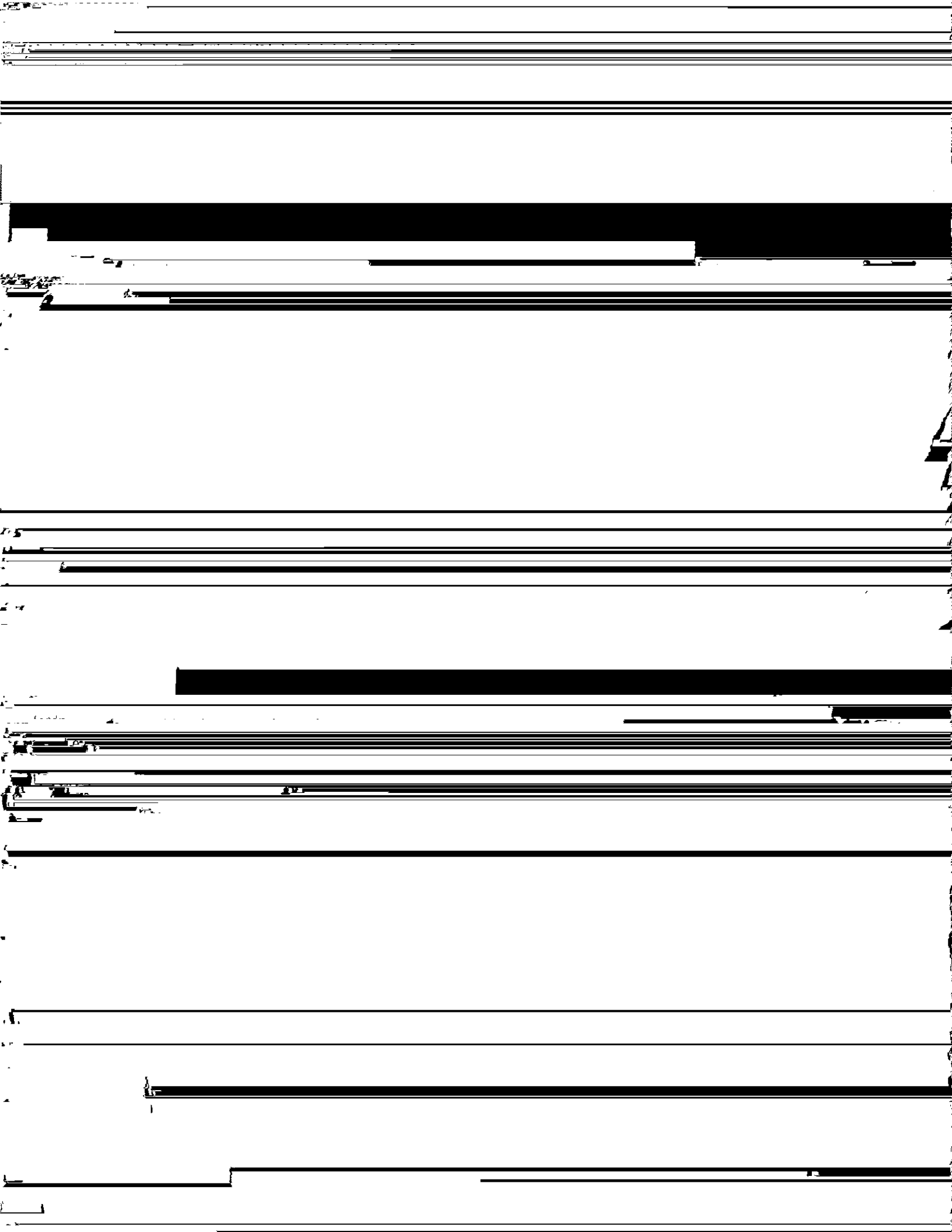
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The asymmetry of provincial policy

GERMANY







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Since the German federal government can hardly legislate without the consent of the *Länder* governments, it enters a process of

Although the legislative powers of the federal government are rather restricted, the federal spending power permits encroachment in

