

Election '74:

Issues in Fredericton South continued

(continued from page 15)
are the proposed Westmorland St. Bridge, Representation in the Legislature, and Transportation in the city.

"On the first issue, the proposed Fredericton Bridge does not seem to have been well thought out by the Department of Highways. Excluding engineering problems and aspects of building a bridge which I am not capable of commenting on; it seems to me that the choice is a poor one.

"First, Westmorland Street is not currently a major traffic artery in the city. It does connect with King and Queen Streets, however, it does not provide direct access to the Commercial Developments on Prospect Street

or the Trans-Canada Highway. It is for this second reason that I strongly reject the proposed location.

"There are other alternatives to the Westmorland Street site. The ones which have been mentioned most frequently are Regent Street, York Street, Smythe Street, and Hanwell Road. York Street can be eliminated from consideration for the same reason that Westmorland was ruled out, namely, it does not provide direct access to Prospect Street or the Trans-Canada Highway. One limitation of the Hanwell Road location is that it is too far removed from the downtown area. That leaves Smythe and

Regent Streets as the two primary locations for the New Bridge.

"No one would argue against a new bridge being built in Fredericton. The present structure is just not sufficient. With the future development of Fredericton depending upon the location of this bridge, however, the government cannot, and should not arbitrarily and hastily proceed with the Westmorland Street site. But this is what is actually being done.

"As the NDP candidate in Fredericton South, I believe for a capital city to have such a ridiculous set-up is a disgrace.

The Province must provide financial assistance to Fredericton and to other areas in the Province to improve transportation services.

4B. "The major issues in the Province in this election are Public Automobile Insurance, Taxation, Health, and Industrial Development.

"Public No-Fault Automobile Insurance is necessary to improve insurance coverage and claims service, reduce premiums, eliminate unnecessary litigation and lawyers' fees, and provide funds for investment in New Brunswick, not in Central Canada.

"Health Care in New Brunswick should be expanded to cover dental care, optical services, payment of drug and appliance

costs, psychological services as well as direct medical care for everyone regardless of ability to pay.

"The present taxation system is unfair to lower and middle income groups. It must be overhauled and based upon the "ability-to-pay" principle with the higher income groups bearing more of the load. Property Taxes and Sales Tax on re-evaluation of this site must take place. And this re-evaluation must include participation by the public at large.

"With respect to Representation in the Legislature, extreme discrepancies in population appear between ridings. Fredericton South, with a population of over 19,000, will elect one MLA, whereas, in other ridings, as few as 5,000 will elect one MLA. This is not fair and just to the people who live in Fredericton South. The Conservative Government of Premier Hatfield, in implementing Single Member Ridings, had the perfect opportunity to redistribute the population into relatively equal ridings; however, he chose instead to perpetuate the current imbalance. In the interest of political expediency, the Conservatives failed to establish a truly democratic electoral system with representation based upon population. As the NDP candidate in Fredericton South, I believe that this must be changed.

"Transportation within the City of Fredericton is insufficient for

the needs of the people. Old age pensioners, students, and the poor are severely handicapped in their activities by the poor bus service in Fredericton.

"An aggressive Industrial Development Strategy must be designed to attract and establish high wage companies in New Brunswick which can improve the standard of living of New Brunswickers and reduce the rate

of unemployment in the Province. This does not mean wholesale give-aways of cash to private enterprise, but instead, joint co-operation between government and industry with the government taking part-ownership in the ventures.

5. "I have decided to run for election because I feel that the people of New Brunswick must be provided with a real choice in terms of the government they wish to have during the next four years. As a long time supporter

and member of the New Democratic Party, I felt that it was my duty to represent the party and to present the issues, policies, and philosophy of government which I believe is best for Fredericton South, New Brunswick, and Canada."

Students still support old-line political parties

A poll conducted recently at the University of New Brunswick has indicated students are split in their support of the province's two old-line parties in Monday's provincial general election.

The survey, including personal and telephone interviews, was

conducted by the UNB Political Science Association and included 90 students.

Thirty-seven per cent of the sample each indicated they favored either the Progressive Conservatives and the Liberals. Thirteen per cent said they would vote for the New Democratic Party.

Seventy per cent of those questioned, however, predicted a PC win Nov. 18. The Brunswickan has included the full results below:

Which party would you want to see form the next government?
PC-37 per cent
Lib.- 37 per cent
NDP-13 per cent
Undecided or declined to answer-13 per cent

Which party do you predict will form the next government?
PC-70 per cent
Lib.-24 per cent
NDP-2.5 per cent
Undecided-3.5 per cent

What is your opinion of the PC performance over the last four years?

Favorable-39 per cent
Undecided-30 per cent
Unfavorable-31 per cent

What is your opinion of the Liberal performance while in opposition?

Favorable-20 per cent
Undecided-36 per cent
Unfavorable-44 per cent

What is your opinion of New Democratic policies?

Favorable-23 per cent
Undecided-23 per cent
Unfavorable-53 per cent

What do you think of the leadership abilities of Richard Hatfield?

Favorable-44 per cent
Undecided-19 per cent
Unfavorable-37 per cent

What do you think of the leadership abilities of Richard Higgins?



Favorable-32 per cent
Undecided-32 per cent
Unfavorable-36 per cent

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