

October 19 civic election

Connolly opposes Morris for mayor



by Ron Lacey

Nominations for the October 19 Halifax civic election closed last Friday with two candidates contesting the mayoralty. As well, there is a record number of 31 candidates running for the 10 city council positions.

Ward 1 alderman and insurance salesman, Dennis Connolly, will oppose incumbent Mayor Edmund Morris. Connolly has been the mayor's chief opponent in the last council, charging that Morris' "one-man rule" has hampered effective civic government. He claims Morris' failure to draw on the individual strength of the ten aldermen on council has created disharmony. Connolly has also accused Morris of providing poor financial leadership, pointing out that the city's budget has increased from \$59 million in 1974, when Morris took office, to \$89 million today.

Morris has countered these charges by blaming whatever discord existed on the last city council on Connolly's "negativism." Connolly has consistently opposed the mayor on a number of issues over the past three years, including the mayor's plan to extend the Grand Parade.

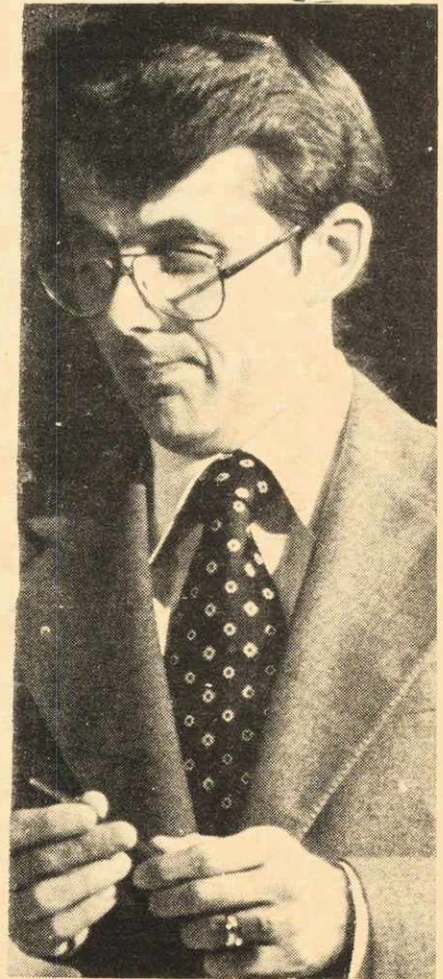
As for Connolly's charge of "one-man rule," the mayor said, "I wasn't elected to be a passive mayor, simply to be a speaker of city council applying the rules of procedure." Morris claims that the city's finances are sound, due in large part to increases in provincial

cost-sharing during the past three years. He said, "That's the name of the game."

At the first public meeting of the two candidates at St. Matthias Church hall on September 19, attended by approximately 175 interested citizens, Connolly described the moneys a civic government spends as a "sacred trust." He went on to say that the Morris administration has been one of "waste and extravagance," citing as an example, the Quinpool Road project. Morris repeated his oft-stated claim that the city's finances are in sound shape.

At that same meeting, Connolly brought up the point that there is about \$534 million worth of untaxed assessment in the city. He said he would favor taxing such institutions as churches (the church hall and land holding, not the house of worship), hospitals and universities. He said universities should be made to pay full taxes because they use civic services. Connolly favors this "take-pay" concept because it would take part of the tax burden off homeowners. Morris replied by commenting that universities and churches are, under provincial law, exempt from taxation. He did say that the government should make grants to areas where universities are situated.

The voter turnout in recent civic elections in Halifax has not been impressive, with little more than 40% of the eligible voters turning out at the polls. However, that



percentage may be surpassed this time because the great personal rivalry between the two candidates may create more interest than usual.

Armed book guard

SASKATOON (CUP) — University of Saskatchewan students who wait through long lineups at the university's bookstore are being met at the end of the line by a private security guard armed with a gun.

Some students, angered by the unnecessary presence of a weapon on the campus, have complained to the bookstore management and the university student newspaper the Sheaf.

Bookstore manager Don Bates said he hired the armed guard, of Flaman Investigation and Security Ltd., not to intimidate students, but to act as "a deterrent to any guy looking for a big score".

He claimed that an estimated \$1 million in book sales during the month of September, and an estimated \$15-20,000 losses due to theft last year, warranted hiring the armed guard.

"I would like to stress that the gun is being used as a deterrent to any off-campus guys looking for an easy job. The gun is not being carried to intimidate the students", Bates said. He added the store has been lax in the past about theft protection, and admitted that no one has been prosecuted for theft from the bookstore during the last five years.

A spokesperson for another Saskatoon security firm, Metropolitan Investigation Security Ltd., said Metropolitan guards never carry or display weapons as part of the company's policy of "avoiding any conflict that a visible weapon may provoke".

The spokesperson cited the July shooting of eight striking workers by security guards at a Robin Hood Multifoods mill in Quebec as an example of what can happen when guards carry weapons.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE REFORM OF MARIJUANA LAWS IN CANADA
L'ORGANISATION NATIONALE POUR LA REFORME DES LOIS SUR LA MARIJUANA AU CANADA



P.O. Box 253, Halifax, N.S.

MARIJUANA IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE LAWS

NORML CANADA is a non-profit organization which vitally needs your help. If you share our concern, join NORML CANADA, and support us in our fight.

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws in Canada, NORML CANADA, is working to change these laws.

We want to end all criminal penalties for possession and use of marijuana. We don't advocate the use of marijuana, but can find no medical, moral or legal justification for imprisoning those who do use it.

An estimated 2,000,000 Canadians including 43% of all college students have smoked marijuana. Under existing laws, all of them could go to jail.

Name: _____

Address: _____

- a. () I have enclosed my annual membership fee of \$15.00
- b. () I am not a joiner, however, I want to support your work with a contribution of _____
- c. () I have enclosed annual student membership fee of \$10.00
- d. () I am presently a prisoner; no membership fee
- e. () I want to volunteer some of my time (Specify how if possible): _____

International Students

organizational meeting for the
International Students Association
Thursday October 13 at 7:30
Council Chambers Second Floor
Student Union Building

Everyone Welcome