

Block voting is the only answer, vote NDP

by Michael McCarthy

Students should vote solidly, in one block, for one particular party regardless of personal preferences for particular candidates or parties. The reason for this is that as long as students split their votes among the different candidates/parties, then they will never receive specific consideration in the formation of platforms or policies.

If votes are split, then students are not a separate political force, but merely part of the general populace and the usual demogra-

phic voting patterns, deserving no more than the general consideration given to the voting mass as a whole. Only by voting solidly for one party can the students receive recognition as a special interest

COMMENTARY

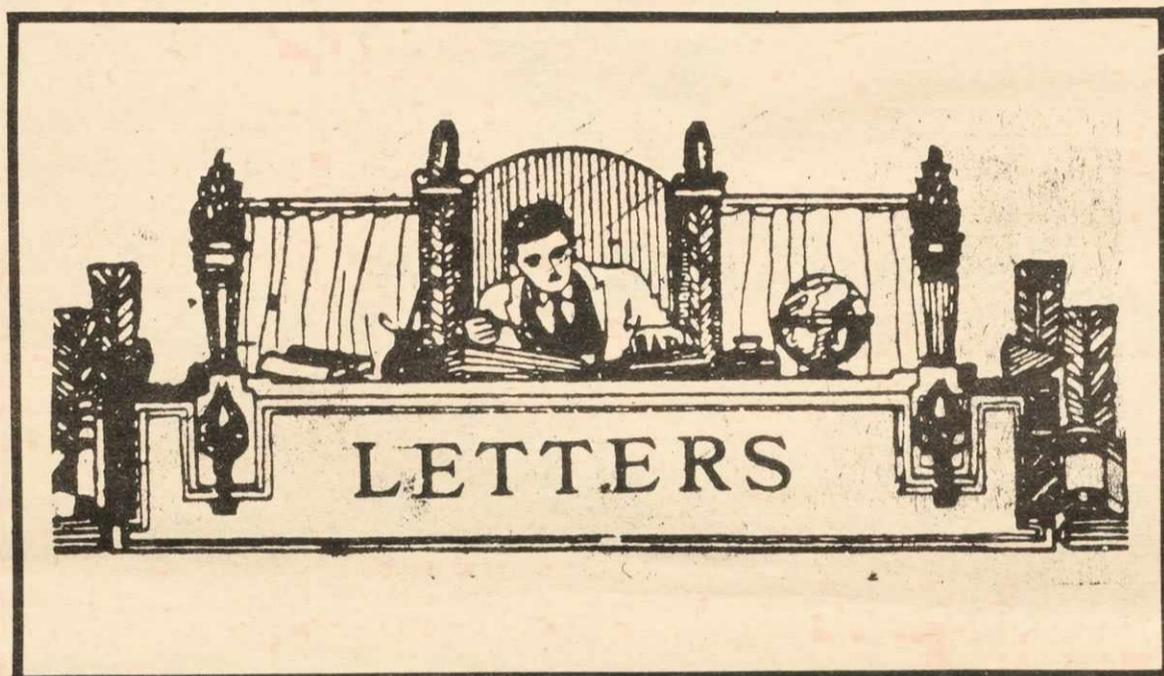
group who can command a significant block of votes. It is only after this is apparent to politicians, that they will proceed to pander to the students, offering concessions in return for votes.

It is evident that Liberal and

Conservative candidates are expected to win in this election and block voting for one or the other would be either unnoticed or explained away without reference to students. Only if there is a marked increase in NDP votes, especially in areas of high student population, will the politicians be awakened to the potential voting power of a student block.

Therefore, each and every student should vote NDP, not because this is necessarily a more student-oriented party, but because only by showing that we

can vote en masse will we ever start to see any parties orienting themselves more towards students.



The following is a letter to the head of the Halifax City Regional Library from David Orton, for the Socialist Environmental Protection and Occupational Health Group.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Socialist Environmental Protection and Occupational Health Group. We are formally protesting, after a telephoned protest on Friday Sept. 18, the manner in which the Halifax Library, the Nova Scotia Resources Council and the Ecology Action Centre have organized the Nov. 5 meeting in the evening lecture series "Uranium Mining in Nova Scotia - What are the Issues?" The four speakers listed are all advocates of uranium mining, in our considered opinion. To be more specific: Dr. Jack Garnett, the Director of Mineral Resources, N.S. Department of Mines, has spoken at a number of public meetings in the province in support of uranium mining. In Bear River (May 8, 1981) Garnett maintained that "technologically uranium could be mined safely in the province". He also made the claim that N.S. has the "most stringent guidelines in Canada, at the uranium exploration stage."

David Nantes, MLA and Chairman of the Select Committee on Uranium Mining, has not, to our knowledge, made any public statements on uranium mining. We would point out however, that the Select Committee supposedly established

to look into the uranium mining issue, has, according to one committee member, only met once for 15 minutes since the committee was established on April 3. (Statement by Mr. Joe Casey at a public meeting in Digby on Sept. 8) The committee has let disruptive uranium exploration continue with all the possible health and environmental effects. It is hard not to conclude, that Nantes, a member of the government party, is sympathetic to uranium mining.

Aladar Dorey, Manager, Uranium Mine Division of the Atomic Energy Control Board, Ottawa is the author of a number of publications which accept the necessity of uranium mining and minimize the risks involved. The following quotation from one of his publications gives his point of view:

"The often debated 'destruction' of the Serpent River system as a result of uranium mining in Elliot Lake, Ontario, resulted not so much from contamination by radionuclides (e.g. radium-226) as is frequently claimed, but from acidic seepages from the tailings and tailing dams in the watershed area.

"As a result of public perception of the level of hazards associated with all aspects of the nuclear industry, the uranium mill tailings are now controlled much more rigorously than other tailings, even though

the environmental hazards of uranium mill tailings are generally of the same order of magnitude as those associated with other tailings.

"The effects of past tailings management practices important long term goals of the industry and regulatory agencies." (Aladar B. Dorey, **Atomic Energy Control Board and its Role in the Regulation of Uranium and Thorium Mines**, Atomic Energy Control Board, May 1980, p.9)

Regarding the last listed speaker, Mr. Mike Guilcher, P.Eng., chief of the Water Pollution Control Division, Environment Canada: At the present time we have not come across any publications by Guilcher. However, we would point out the obvious - that the employer of this gentleman is the federal government, extremely active in the promotion of uranium mining and nuclear power. It is unlikely that Guilcher would transgress such parameters.

We demand that equal time be given to speakers, on Nov. 5, who oppose disruptive uranium exploration in Nova Scotia and possible uranium mining. Such speakers, in our view, should be those with concrete knowledge of the failure of "government responsibilities and standards", in what has been going on in Nova Scotia on the uranium exploration front. We are sure that the public in the Halifax-

Dartmouth area does not want a pro-uranium mining monologue on Nov. 5.

The argument has been put forth that having Dr. Rosalie Bertell speak on Nov. 12, balances out the Nov. 5 meeting. We do not accept this for the following reasons: Rebuttals have to be given to the positions of uranium regulatory agencies. We must look at the record in N.S. Comments from the floor or questions from the audience at the Nov. 5 meeting cannot bring a full picture of the reality, as opposed to the rhetoric, out into the open. While extremely pleased that Bertell is speaking, an acknowledged authority on low level ionizing radiation, she is not involved in the struggle here, like Garnett and Nantes. We would also welcome 'opposition' to Bertell on the platform, if anyone could be found foolish enough to present him/herself.

We do not accept the argument that because EAC has co-sponsored the series of meetings, the Nov. 5 lineup is legitimate. EAC in a document dated Dec. 20, 1980 described the draft uranium exploration guidelines as "A fairly good first draft." The EAC document never challenges the fact that uranium exploration is taking place in Nova Scotia, but accepts this. That EAC has agreed to provide sponsorship for the four listed pro-uranium mining speakers does not surprise us.

In closing we reiterate that for us, and we believe the concerned public, the one-sided nature of the Nov. 5 meeting is unacceptable. In the interests of broadening the speaker lineup on Nov. 5, we are making this letter to you available to the media.

Yours very truly,
David Orton, for the Socialist Environmental Protection and Occupational Health Group.

Dear editor,

Now the MacDonald commission is in we here on the force are taking a more liberal attitude towards campus subversion. In fact, we are requesting you to send us a list of all subversives, pot smokers, or other liberal-minded people like us for possible force recruits.

yours truly, the RCMP

P.S. Especially get one **Edgar the Anarchist's** address.

Dear Editor:

I stood, dry mouthed, at one of the endless lines you encounter at the Dal bookstore during the feverish time of the year. I was completely boggled by the ceaseless flow of beautiful girls clad in purple pants, my favorite color.

I glanced at the magazine stand and wondered how the new Penthouse could possibly be worth \$3.75, when I saw him! He was staring at me through dilated pupils from the cover of **The Rolling Stone**, no less.

An omen; I knew it because I'd been receiving such omens for the last five years. In grade ten it came in the form of **Kiss Alive** and the discovery of marijuana. In grade eleven it was Supertramp's **Even in the Quietest Moments** and a very uneventful year. Grade twelve was a year spent with Bruce on **Darkness on the Edge of Town** and I was damn lucky to get out alive.

Then came university. Oh yes, university. My freshman year was spent at U.P.E.I. pissing up against walls, stairs, people and anything else that stood in my way. It was a rebellious year for which Tom Petty's **Damn the Torpedos** and the cut "Even the Lasers" helped to fuel a fiesty fire.

My fifth omen came, strangely enough, in the summer of 1980. The omen was in the form of a double album called **London Calling**.

All that summer I was working for the clampdown, **Ha get along/get along**. I knew I was bound for death or glory and I'm still not sure which I received.

Now, here I stand in a paralyzed line up, brimming with self confidence because it took me only two days to register, when I get hit with another Goddamn omen. Only this time it's got me real scared. Can I possibly live up to this man's expectations? I mean, could I wake up this morning and get myself a beer? How about a girl in a Halifax bungalow? I tell you, Jim, I don't know but I'll die trying.

Morrison Lives!

A.R.Carroll

