

## Dartmouth journalist goes for federal leadership scene

by Susan Hayes

Dartmouth-born Alexander Barker is a research journalist who believes Joe Clark will not win another election against Pierre Trudeau.

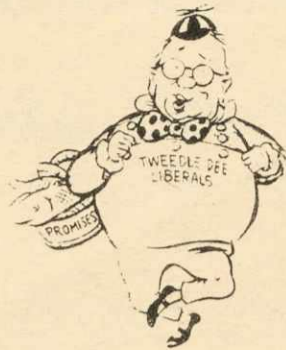
So he's challenging Clark to a leadership convention and offering himself as a contender.

He said there "has to be" a convention because there is no way for the federal Conservatives to form a government without a leadership turnover. He hopes his challenge will prompt Clark and the Tories into holding a leadership convention.

Barker said railway workers originally urged him to run and have given him support. His platforms would include a return to capital punishment, a 32-hour work week for unions, a complete medicare package and the double-tracking of the railway system.

"People can't keep running ads on TV for energy conservation," he said. "Air transport is burning too much fuel, and with double tracking, people will realize rail transport is much cheaper."

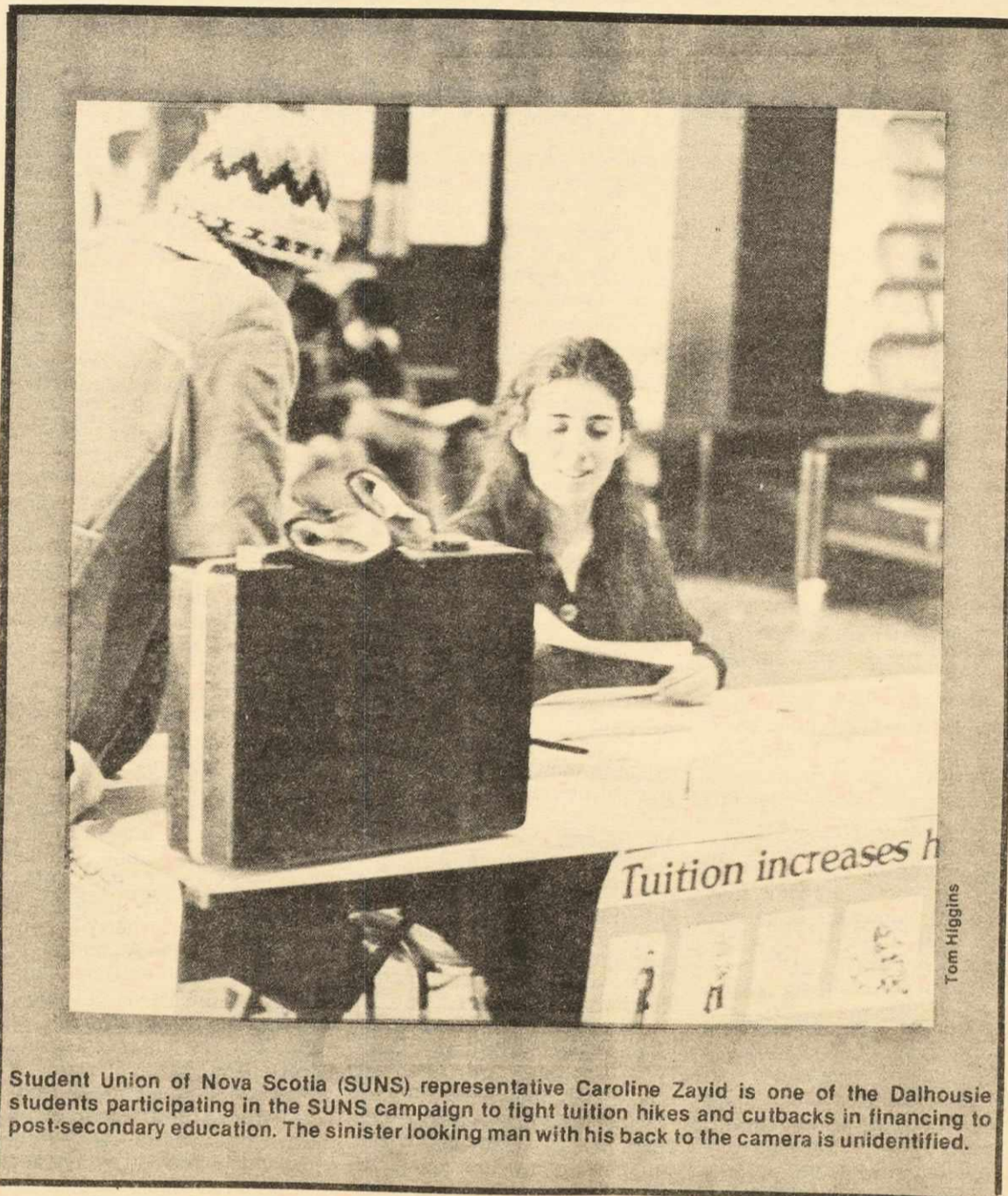
Barker claims Trudeau



wants to be "president for life." Talk of the prime minister's retirement, he said, isn't true because Trudeau wouldn't settle for a U.N. appointment. He said the "Communist influence" will penetrate if Trudeau is kept in power, because the prime minister is too liberal, allowing groups such as the Ku Klux Klan into Canada.

Barker said he expects 55% of the Conservatives to support Clark in a leadership review, but less than 50 per cent would mean an automatic leadership convention. The problem in Barker's view is Ontario, where he said the Liberals will try to buy votes to have Clark remain Tory leader, because they know they can defeat him at the polls. He said his personal timing is aimed at confusing the Liberal manipulators.

Only John Turner can stop Barker from running. If Turner, a long-time shadow for a Liberal leadership, does enter a Tory race, Barker said he will remove his hat from the ring. He said the possibilities for the Turner leadership bid are enormous.



Student Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS) representative Caroline Zayid is one of the Dalhousie students participating in the SUNS campaign to fight tuition hikes and cutbacks in financing to post-secondary education. The sinister looking man with his back to the camera is unidentified.

## Unathletic bookworms had no sympathy, in 1876

by John Cairns

As readers of books and writers of essays, students are as prone as anyone to being considered physically flabby. **The Dalhousie Gazette** of April 1, 1876, confirms this.

The paper chides Dalhousie students as follows:

"The Gymnasium Class is not so well attended of late as it should be. The debates in the House have attracted

some, and others seem to think that they have no time to spare from their books. . . . We often hear our students complain that their memory is bad, their brain muddled, and

that they cannot think. The best advice we can give them is to get at the brain through the bathroom and the gymnasium. Just look at yon pale faced youth. . . . He talks of an overworked brain and mid-

night oil, and his friends sympathize with the 'poor fellow' who is 'wearing himself out', when in nine cases out of ten, it is an overloaded stomach, and the want of exercise and cleanliness that is injuring him. He goes to a doctor and tells the story of his indigestion and his ills, and gets some physic, when a little wholesome advice is what he most needs. For the most part the student who sickens over his work deserves to be sick. Any young man who is too lazy or too effeminate to take the amount of exercise which his system requires has no right to our sympathy."

You may have thought that the nineteenth century predated modern conveniences, forcing everyone to maintain prime fitness, but perhaps not. Some students may still pursue mature minds at the expense of healthy bodies. Cases do persist of bad memories, muddled brains, and inability to think. Perhaps **The Dalhousie Gazette** still rings true, even after a century and five years. If so, the number of flabby students to have travelled our halls must be appalling!

## Rights of elderly withheld

WINNIPEG (CUP) — The University of Manitoba has decided not to appeal the Manitoba Court of Appeal ruling which stated that professor Imogene McIntire could not be forced to retire because she had reached age 65.

In a statement, the University Board of Governors said, the is-

sue has "important social and economic consequences which affect not only the university but the entire province."

The university decided not to appeal, however, because the

appeal court has stated that if the Manitoba legislature does

not agree with the court decision, the legislature can amend the Human Rights Code.

The court decided that as it stands now, the Human Rights Code takes precedence over the collective agreement which said professors have to retire at age 65.

The university decided to drop the case and wait to see what the legislature decides to do.

The government has not yet decided how to approach the case, according to the Attorney-General's department.

A decision will be forthcoming.

## Mount washes hands of chemical hazard

HALIFAX (CUP) — The administration at Mount Saint Vincent University is denying all responsibility for student health in light of reports of improper use and storage of chemicals used in the construction of a university building.

Speaking at a student council meeting January 30, Michael Merrigan, executive assistant to

the president, said, "It's not the administration's problem, it's the contractor's problem."

The chemical, Plad-270, is being used on the gym floor of Rosaria center. It releases toxic fumes which may be harmful to people who must pass through the construction site to reach other areas of the campus.

"I'm not an expert in this area," said Merrigan, adding the construction was "perfectly within the wishes of the department of labour."

Andrea Gibb, executive vice president of the student council, stressed the importance of proper storage of the chemical.

Merrigan was asked what re-

sponsibility the university administration would take in the event of an explosion.

"That 'if' kind of question . . . one should never ask it," said Merrigan.

Following the meeting, security guards were seen moving the barrels of chemicals to a more isolated area on campus.