

'Now' has become 'later', Notley accuses ...

"Important planks in Tory platform shunted aside"

Cutbacks in provincial services, including the budgets of educational institutions such as the U. of A. are foreseen by provincial NDP Leader Grant Notley, speaking at the U of A Wednesday.

VGW cancelled due to lack of interest

University students who were planning to leave the campus Varsity Guest Weekend this year needn't bother. VGW has been cancelled.

VGW originated 20 years ago as a student initiated program to allow high school students from around the province to visit the Edmonton campus. Lectures, displays and related academic programmes were provided by various faculties and departments with a view towards giving potential University students a chance to see what university was all about.

In recent years the programme suffered from rapidly rising costs with declining student and public interest. The Academic portions began to receive less attention and the event became a two-day party. Faculty and students began to leave the campus as high-school students arrived, thus undermining the purpose of establishing an introduction for senior high school students to university life. As a result Students' Council decided to cancel this year's VGW.

"For several years" said Notley, "the province has been running an increasing deficit. This can't go on forever, if services are to be maintained."

He pointed out that the Tory government has two options facing it in revenue generation. One is increasing the revenue from resources, either by increasing sales or increased royalties. The other alternative, which he claims is more likely, is the imposition of a sales tax.

"Initially", claims Notley, "a sales tax will exempt those items which most affect working people; clothes, food and so on. This will be chipped away at,

over time, until these things also are subjected to a sales tax."

About 100 people greeted Notley enthusiastically as he declared that the "Now" slogan of the new Tory government has become "Four or Eight Years" as far as revoking of the police act goes, or the removal of the educational tax burden from the Municipalities, or the implementation of any other significant parts of their election platform.

The bulk of his speech was an attack directed against the Tories for their unwillingness to make the "most important decision of the decade... on the

question of generating new revenue by increasing oil royalties." He claimed that a former primary source of revenues, the Lease income, is something that has essentially dried up, but that "If Alberta were to bring its revenues into line with those of B.C., there would be room for almost a dollar a barrel increase in government take. That could mean an additional 400 million dollars a year" to the provincial coffers.

On the same subject, Notley called for tax on the export of Natural Gas. He claimed that the price could be doubled without upsetting the export market, although it would cut into the profits of the multinational corporations. He called for the formation of an Alberta Development Corporation, to "halt the flow of raw materials, which needlessly export our jobs ... your future and my future," and envisioned a development with public capital of the tar sands.

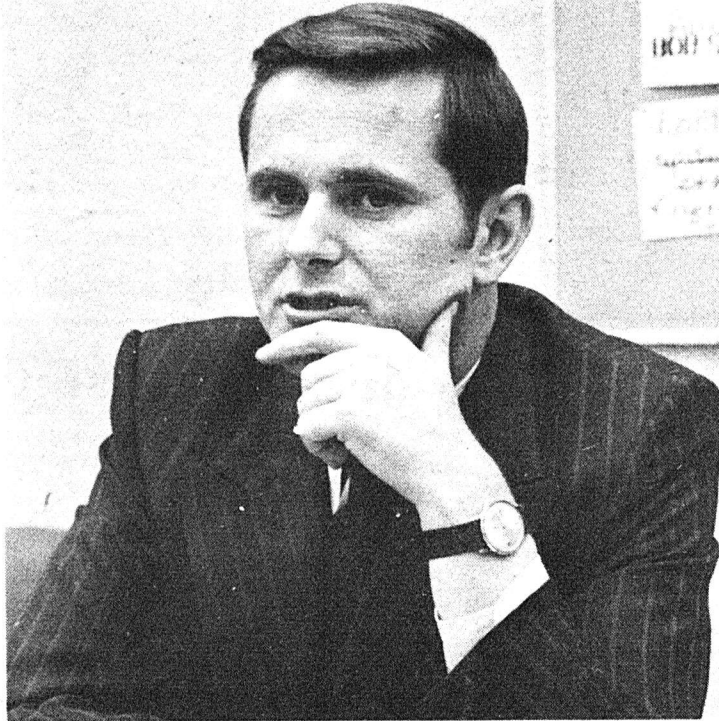
Notley speculated on the development of a steel industry in the Peace country, "utilizing coking coal from Grand Cache Peace River Power, the Iron Ore deposits of Clear Hills, and the local water and gas resources ... if there are any gas resources left by the time the NDP comes to power." The present government is not even undertaking feasibility studies on the development of local secondary industry, he charged, and that the possibilities and potentialities in this area "are not known".

He foresees a battle in the future between those who want

to develop Alberta with "Only the short term in mind, and those who want to make this province their home" and saw the probability, if the former are the victors, of an Alberta which is the "Montana of the Canadian future, with depleted resources and stagnant, deserted towns."

Notley suggested, in reply to one questioner, that if the Tories want to "forget" such election planks as the abolition of post-secondary tuition, that "3,4, or 10,000 students outside the legislature could remind Lougheed of his promises; I will be reminding him inside."

by Ken Orchard



Uncle Grant

Ken Bird photo

TV show to feature U artists

A program of University of Alberta composers will take place on Sunday Feb. 13th, at 1:00 p.m., on the Feature Artists Series of CFRN television - Channel 3. The composers represented are: June Graham, Ron Hannah, and Gordon Nicholson. Gordon, who graduated in Nov. 1971, is the first Master of Music student in Composition to have completed this degree at the U of A.

The following Sunday (Feb. 20th), a program featuring songs of Dr. Violet Archer, will be heard on the Feature Artists series of the same television station.

ELECTION NOTICE

The General Election to elect a new Executive Committee for the Students' Union will be held on Friday, Feb. 18, 1972.

Positions open are:

President

Executive Vice-President

Vice-President (Academic)

Vice-President (Services)

Vice-President (Administration)

Nomination forms are available at the Receptionist's Desk, Students' Union Office, Second Floor SUB

Completed nomination forms along with a \$25.00 deposit must be filed by 5 p.m. Tuesday, February 8, 1972.

Election Rally Feb. 16, 12 noon SUB Theatre

Paul Brunnen
Returning Officer