

# MacEwan dismissed, yet discussed

by Arnold Mosher

It was agreed by all candidates at last Thursday's NDP leadership debate at St. Mathius church that the Paul MacEwen affair should be forgotten, yet discussion of it continually arose.

First of the NDP leadership candidates to speak was Len Arsenault who said that what ever happened to MacEwen, whether he is to be expelled or not from the party, it had to be a party decision.

Speaking on provincial affairs, Arsenault said the provincial government had turned over the province to multinational corporations, the Michelin Bill being proof of that.

Companies like H.B. Nickerson, said Arsenault, could easily get grants from the provincial government, while farmers making under 10,000 a year get no assistance.

Arsenault said that if Nova Scotia did have an oil bonanza there should not lead to just a centralized development. The

development of just Halifax in event of an oil boom would ruin such a "beautiful city", said Arsenault, and in order to preserve the "down home country way of living", the benefits should be spread out to the whole province.

Buddy MacEachern, senior member of the NDP provincial caucus and leadership contender, said the party was not in a good position but had possibilities for the future.

Everyone makes mistakes, said MacEachern in defense of MacEwen, and some people in the party are making MacEwen the main issue of the campaign.

MacEachern said Arsenault had consistently attacked MacEwen throughout the campaign, and that McDonough, though not as consistently, had done the same.

Carrying on his verbal abuse of party members, MacEachern leveled his attack at Ed Broadbent, the federal leader of the NDP. MacEachern said he was "dis-

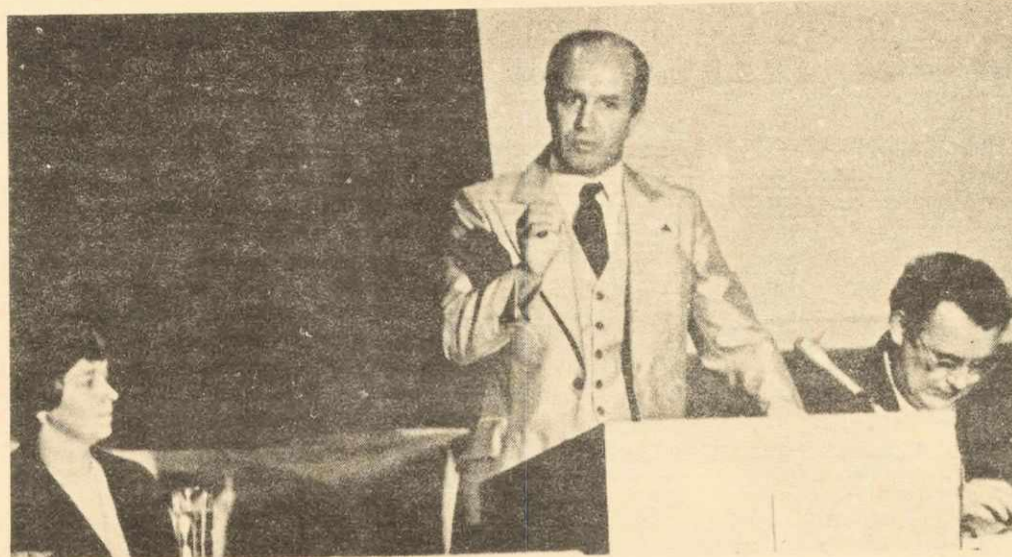


Photo by Arnold Mosher

gusted with Ed Broadbent's going to bed with the Liberals".

Regarding the question of party unity, MacEachern said the problems must be recognized but the party "can't have much unity when everyone is going off in a different direction". MacEachern said that if McDonough, who does not have a seat in the legislature, is elected leader the direction the party takes in the legislature would be determined by caucus, particularly the senior member (himself).

Alexa McDonough does not have a seat in the legislature but has run in the last two Federal elections in Halifax

south. The approximately 100 people attending the meeting were a partisan crowd in support of McDonough.

McDonough said it was MacEachern's discredit that he wanted to retain MacEwen in caucus.

Len Arsenault is not a "hit man" out for MacEwen and neither is she but MacEachern's continuous suggestions to that effect makes conciliation within the party difficult, said McDonough.

McDonough said, "Buddy (MacEachern) has been duped into thinking there is a sizable support for MacEwen", when there is only a small, but fiercely loyal group of MacEwen supporters.

McDonough said that she saw Broadbent's actions in uniting with the Liberals as a way to quickly repatriate the constitution so that the serious business of resource control can be dealt with.

Resource development in Nova Scotia does not go to the benefit of Nova Scotians, said McDonough. She cited the case of the gypsum industry, in which the province only got approximately 200 jobs in extraction while processing of gypsum in other countries resulted in thousands of jobs.

McDonough said the NDP must have a renewed sense of purpose and go out and challenge the policies of vested interest conducted by the old style parties.

## Bylaw changes coming

By Paul Creelman

Several proposals to change the student Student Union bylaws will be proposed at the upcoming general meeting of the Student Union, according to Gord Owen, President of Student Council.

The general meeting, which will occur on this Sunday, November 2, in the Council chambers, is open to any member of the Student Union. This would include all full-time students at Dalhousie.

The proposals for changes in the bylaws deal with the replacement of council members who retire from Senate or Board of Governor positions after October 31st.

"The way it works right now," said Owen, "is that we have to replace a person like that from within Council. Not only does this place an unfair burden on some Council member who then has two positions instead of one, but it also reduces the input that our Board of Governor representatives have into the Council".

The present bylaws allow for two elected student representatives on the Board of Governors. One is elected from the student body at large, and the other is elected from within council. At present, a resignation after October 31st requires the replacement of the representative from within council. However, Owen's proposed changes in the bylaws

would allow the Student Union to refill these positions from outside the Student Council.

In the case of the representative who was elected at large from the student body," said Owen, "we would hold another election and refill the position from the student body."

"In the case of resignation by the Representative from within Council, what we propose is that we be allowed to appoint anyone from either Council or the general student population."

Owen does not believe that unbalanced representation by the Student Council has been a problem here.

Very similar changes in the bylaws regarding replacement of Senate positions are also being suggested. The proposals would allow for appointment of a replacement to the Senate position to be appointed by a recruitment committee, and would maintain the number of voting members on the student Student Council.

Owen does not believe that unbalanced representation by Council members is at issue in the upcoming general meeting.

"The changes we are proposing are of workload for the Council members, and representation for these people in the Council meetings."

"At any rate", adds Owen, "the changes would be opening up these positions to the

whole student body, and making them accessible to everybody."

The proposals for changes in the bylaws were triggered by a number of resignations in these positions, according to Owen. Among the recent resignations are Sandra Zed, who a first year law student, who resigned as the elected Board of Governors representative, and Umesh Jain, President of the Science Society, who resigned his Senate position last week.

Another proposed change in the upcoming meeting concerns the number of Council meetings that a Councilor can miss without losing his position. Owen wants to change this number from three meetings to two meetings. After a Councilor has missed meetings, his post position would automatically be declared vacant.

"We really haven't had all that much problem with people missing meetings. However, last year we did have some trouble — according to the rules, Councilors could miss two meetings, and then come to a third. That would mean that they only attended every six weeks. I don't think that they would really be doing their job if they did that."

"In the end", says Owen, "no one can make a Councilor perform the duties he should be. But at least we have some control over this aspect of the problem."

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