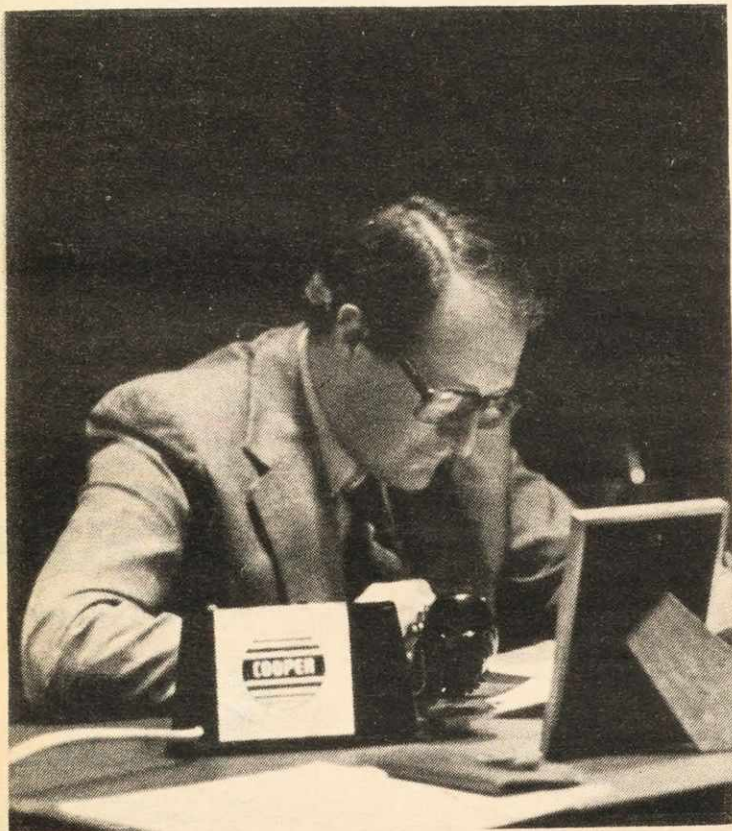


A day in the life of George Cooper



Pam Berman

**George Cooper PC candidate
in the Halifax area**

by Pam Berman

Three federal cabinet ministers were in Halifax on Tuesday, January 22nd, turning what would have been a routine canvassing day for George Cooper, the Conservative candidate for

Halifax into a high profile tour of the city.

I had decided to follow George Cooper around for a day to see what a typical day would be like for a federal candidate. From the beginning, however, it was obvious that it was not going to be a normal day of meeting the public and discussing their concerns.

I met Cooper at 9:30 AM at 1106 South Park Street, the office of the Acadian Federation of Nova Scotia. He was accompanied by Senator Jacques Flynn, federal Minister of Justice. They were attending a meeting of the Federation and Flynn was answering questions about constitutional reform and entrenched linguistics rights. Cooper and I remained out of the discussion having no prowness in the French language.

Flynn's next stop, again with Cooper and I in tow, was the Dalhousie Law Hour. Cooper introduced the Senator (complete with a joke) who then gave a speech on Reform of the Criminal Code.

Both Flynn and Cooper agreed afterwards that for the most part politics was kept out of the discussion with a few exceptions which were brought up by the students and could not be helped.

After lunching at the Faculty Club, Cooper attended the signing of the Panamax dry docks agreement as the 'official witness'. Premier Buchanan and Elmer MacKay, the Minister responsible for Development and Regional Economic Expansion (DREE), answered questions from the press but included in the photograph of the official signing ceremony was George Cooper as well as the Dartmouth-Halifax East conservative federal candidate, Mike Forrestall.

Press Conference finished there was time to shake a few taxi drivers' hands and comment on Geoffry Stevens ob-

servations about Joe Clark's confidence and calmness in this election.

"The best kept secret in this country is that Prime Minister Clark is really a very witty and intelligent person", Cooper noted, "and some day it will be made known to the Canadian public"

After dropping into the CBC Radio studios briefly, allowing Senator Flynn to be taped for an interview, Cooper and an aide rushed off to hurry out a press release on their input into the dock yards

Meanwhile, David MacDonald, Secretary of State, whose portfolios include Cultural Affairs, status of women and the Canada Council, landed in Halifax to attend a press conference at Dalhousie. MacDonald also delivered a speech at the Art College on cultural policies of the government, with Cooper making the introductions (same joke).

Important affairs over, Cooper left to attend the fights at the Halifax Metro Centre and do some "low profile" hand shaking.

Marxist Leninists condemn imperialism

by Paul Clark

"Change can only be brought about by violent revolution", said Hardial Bains, leader of the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist), speaking at a party rally in the MacMechan Room last Sunday night.

"We are not a conspiratorial party, when the day is ready for revolution we will hold a public press conference", he added. Posters like "Workers of all countries unite" and "Make the rich pay" set the tone for Bains' speech which followed presentations by five Marxist-Leninist candidates in the upcoming elections.

For a few hours there was doubt if Bains would attend the rally, as, according to party members, "capitalist reactionaries" had plotted to remove him from flights from Ottawa for which he already had reservations.

When he finally did arrive, Bains began by criticizing the Dalhousie *Gazette* and other student newspapers for not dealing with "the very important questions".

"We advocate a new society", he said. "If we followed the logic of the Dalhousie *Gazette* or other papers, humanity would remain in the dark ages, ruled by dinosaurs and rhinoceroses".

Prime Minister Clark and Pierre Trudeau were attacked for their "war preparations" in response to the Afghanistan crisis. The only way to serve Canada, he said, is to "oppose all imperialist powers, assassins, and wars."

Bains attacked the NDP several times for "stealing the treasury of Canadian workers" through the campaign funds they receive from the

Canadian Labour Congress. He said his party had organized for the last ten years without any such financial support.

Bains called the NDP "prostitutes of the rich" and said they are a capitalist party just like the Conservatives and Liberals.

The five Marxist-Leninist (ML) candidates preceding Bain focused on youth employment, the Michelin Bill, the weakness of other parties' platforms and the need for complete structural change in Canadian government.

Kathryn Schmidt, a ML candidate for the Hillsborough

self-preoccupation, and abuse of drugs and alcohol.

Unemployment forces youth to leave the province looking for work, to become petty criminals or to sleep in public toilets or the streets, she said. Schmidt concluded the future of youth lies with the proletariat and working people.

"wipe out" fishermen and native people.

He claimed the rich were committing more crimes than ever, citing government attempts to undermine wages and working conditions by splitting unions at SYSCO...

CAMPAIGN CLOSE-UP

Broadbent's suggestion to start a merchant marine was also criticized. Canada used to have one of the biggest merchant marines, Bains said, but after the Second World War it was handed over to Greek reactionaries like Aristotle Onassis to fight revolutionaries.

Bains went on to voice the CPC-ML's support for Quebec's right to self-determination. "All capitalists want to keep Quebec boiling. We oppose chauvinistic propaganda". But even though Quebec's right to self-determination is accepted, Quebec people should not trust René Levesque, Bains said, as his referendum will not decide Quebec's independence but only who will negotiate it.

Bains claimed that only through violent revolution could change occur and not through elections. He said his party only participates in the elections to publicize their doctrines.

"Make the rich pay for the crisis" was his closing statement.

riding in P.E.I. which includes Charlottetown and surrounding area, said there are 181 ML candidates running across the country, with people campaigning in Newfoundland and P.E.I. for the first time.

"It shows the work of the revolution and forces of socialism", she said.

The ML party has over 60 women candidates in the election, Schmidt said, more than any other party. She pledged her support to a "genuine liberation" of women which comes only through an overthrow of the present political system.

Since she is the first Communist ever to run for election in P.E.I., Schmidt said there is an enormous interest in her campaign.

"When I walk down the street, people yell 'Make the rich pay!'"

Schmidt concentrated on the problems facing youth in P.E.I., pointing to high unemployment rates and cultural

and spiritual and spiritual degeneration afflicting youth which she said leads to

Charles Spurr, the ML candidate for Halifax, expressed his concern about the present condition of society and the need for change. The rich and the government are "bleeding people white" and denying workers unemployment insurance.

Speaking about youth unemployment, he said the federal government's job creation programs are a means of exploiting the youth for cheap labour. This, on his view, illustrates the "anti-youth" culture we live in, predominated by meaningless sex and drug addictions which are "pacifiers" to dull the minds of youth.

Spurr condemned the Rhino party for joking about serious political issues and creating an air of complacency in a time of crisis.

Making the rich pay is the only solution to the crisis, he concluded.

Glen Brown, a construction worker who is the ML candidate for Sydney-North Sydney-Sydney Mines, said he had worked with the NDP in Manitoba and seen them



Brown said the Liberals and NDP did not provide genuine opposition to the Michelin Bill, because it impedes the formation of unions and because it is a move to broad-based bargaining which makes it easier for "labour aristocrats" to control locals. Nancy Desrosier, a former school teacher who is the ML candidate for Moncton, spoke about the unemployment and police harassment suffered by Acadians in New Brunswick.

A separate country for Acadians won't solve anything, she said, the rich would still be in control.

Gilles Desrosier, ML candidate for Saint John, opposed the sell-out of labour to U.S.

"imperialists". He said Broadbent is a "great patriot" who loves the rich and defends capitalists.