

Shea beats Stein

Dark horse takes presidency

In a surprise contest that caught many delegates off guard Preston Shea defeated Mark Stein for the presidency of the Nova Scotia Young Progressive Conservative Association. The youth party's election proved to be one of the more interesting events at the Tory annual meeting this past weekend. It was Shea over Stein by a margin of 29-28.

Many youth delegates are still wondering why they were not told before Friday that there would be a contest for the office. Mark Stein, President of the Halifax YPC organization, had expected more candidates to announce when he issued his letter of intention to delegates on January 3rd. As the weeks passed, however, no one else offered and the outgoing executive assumed that Stein's election would be by acclamation.

When the meeting opened at the Lord Nelson on the 28th there was suddenly an active contest in the cards. Preston Shea was off and running in one of the shortest campaigns on record. Balloting was scheduled for 6:30 that night.

Young PCs, who tend to know each other well through past cam-

paigns in the province, were somewhat surprised to see Dal Law School's frequently weak YPC club present in full force. Shea had attracted several other keen new Tories to his campaign, faces familiar at Dalhousie if not in the party ranks. Among these were Michael Sherar and Bruce Evans from Dal's Student Council.

Information reaching this office suggests that Shea's late entry into the race resulted from his reluctance to oppose Stein. Whether it was a deliberate 'dark horse' strategy or a genuine late decision, however, does not alter the contention of many participants that nominations should be closed before the delegates arrive for the meeting, so that all candidates have an equal opportunity to present their platforms and proposal to those who hold the vote. One delegate suggested that anyone worthy of election should be able to stand the pressure of an open campaign.

The YPC Presidency is a strenuous position. In addition to keeping existing constituency

youth organization in touch with the party's Halifax headquarters, the President serves as liaison with youth executives in the other provinces. Should there be an election in the next year in this province, the task facing Shea will be all the more unenviable.

The other main excitement for the YPC group came with a constitutional amendment reversing the rule that one of the three Vice Presidents had to be female. The argument that a quota based on sex was discriminatory won and all three of this year's V-P candidates, all male, were installed by acclamation. One of these was none other than Keith Evans, the third Student Councillor in the weekend's hat trick and one of the chief forces behind the Shea candidacy. Richard Peach and Bruce Skinner filled the other two V-P slots.



Photo/Allen

Preston Shea addressing the YPC meeting which elected him as President. Shea is a student in Law at Dalhousie.

CBC still discriminates

by Valerie Mansour

CBC plans to continue discriminating against gay organizations.

The CBC Program Policy group recently completed their study. Peter Meggs, CBC vice-president in charge of audience and public relations, said "the corporation's policy on Public Service Announcements clearly excludes subjects deemed controversial", in a letter to the Gay Alliance for Equality (GAE).

A corporate policy study was initiated in September when GAE filed an intervention in Halifax radio station CBH's license renewal application. CBH was refusing to carry Public Service Announcements for a telephone counselling line which GAE operates.

The letter does say that CBC plans to give opportunity to gays to present their point of view on programs. Robin Metcalfe, spokesperson for GAE in Halifax told the *Gazette* that *As It Happens* may run a taped program from GAE.

Metcalfe's reaction to the recent CBC comments was the "CBC seems to believe that gay people are not really people. This discrimination is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the Canadian gay community."

Gay organizations in Canada plan a national protest against CBC on Feb. 19.

Canadian University Press which

represents seventy university and college newspapers serving 350,000 students across the country have been boycotting CBC radio advertising because of CBC's discriminatory policy.

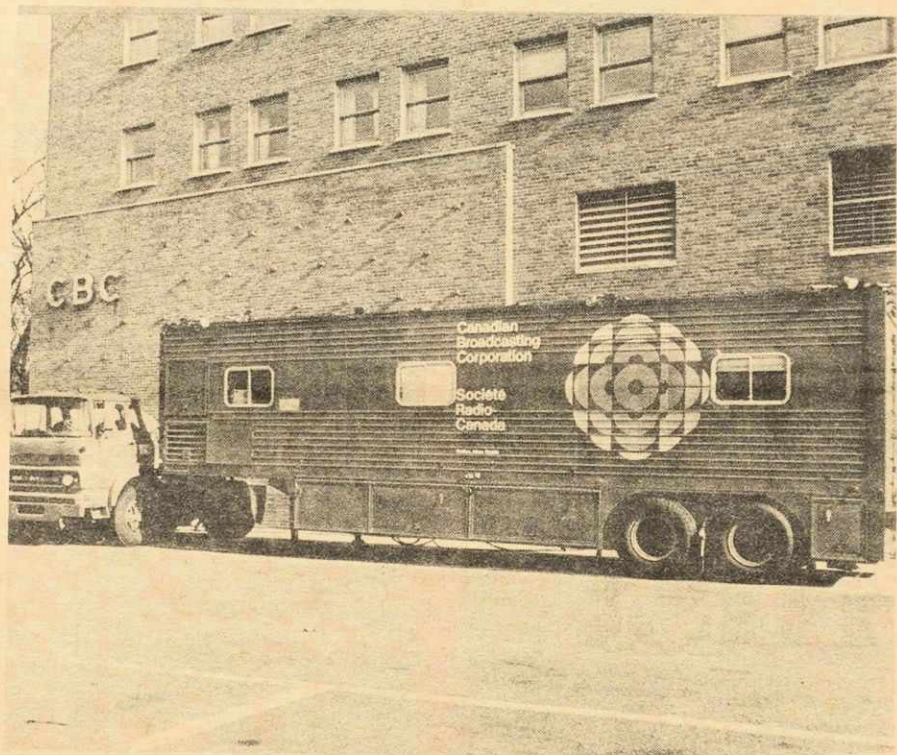
John MacEwan, director of radio for the Maritimes, told the *Gazette* that the decision from Ottawa did not surprise him. After CBC agreed to examine the matter, discussions and arguments took place where it appeared to be evident that CBC's position would not change.

"Public Service Announcements for GAE are too controversial to run." Apparently, Birthright, an anti-abortion organization no longer has PSAs on CBH for a similar reason.

When asked if the CUP boycott on CBC radio advertising was having any effect, MacEwan replied that, "students are no longer receiving information that they are entitled to have." He doesn't feel that the boycott is having any effect on CBC policy.

The CRTC has yet to renew CBH's license but MacEwan says the delay is due to a deficiency in the CBH's coverage, rather than the GAE matter.

MacEwan stated that he feels the issue is over for the time-being. His only comment on the proposed gay demonstrations is that it is their "right".



Dal Photo/Douma

Manitoban boycotts CBC

WINNIPEG (CUP) -- The student newspaper at the University of Manitoba will reject paid advertising from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) because of the network's refusal to air public service announcements for gay organizations.

The recent decision by Manitoban staff followed confirmation of the CBC's actions by Norm Cown of the CBC public relations office.

The network's written policy states it is "the considered CBC view that Canadian Society is not ready at the present time to condone homosexuality as socially acceptable. Because of that fact, it is controversial activity. Under the CBC policy, controversial (subjects are reported) in programs rather than in public service announcements."

Cown said the CBC's intention was to re-evaluate the policy regarding gays at least once a year. He did not know when the next review would be made, but, he said, the issue is not dead.

"We like to think we are very open on these subjects and willing to look at them again," he said.

The CBC's policy first became an

issue last fall in Nova Scotia when the *Dalhousie Gazette* learned the Gay Alliance for Equality was not able to have its public service announcements aired on CBC's Halifax radio station.

During the annual December Canadian University Press conference held in Vancouver, delegates from member newspapers across Canada passed a resolution stating "that individual paper staffs...be encouraged to examine this issue and boycott CBC radio advertising."

The decision taken by Manitoban staff, however, includes both radio or television advertising.

Chris Boget, a spokesperson for the local Gays for Equality welcomed the Manitoban's decision. He said the announcements rejected by the CBC gave information about counselling services provided by the organization.

They wanted these services widely publicized, he said, because there was a need for the counselling which had helped many individuals overcome the guilt and humiliation they had been made to feel because of societal prejudice against homosexuals.

UBC publishers interfere

VANCOUVER (CUP) -- The University of British Columbia student administrative commission (SAC) has directed that no advertisements be refused by the student newspaper, the *Ubysey*, without prior permission from SAC.

The motion, introduced Jan. 18, resulted from the *Ubysey*'s refusal to carry a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) ad, according to services director Brent Tynan.

The *Ubysey* was acting in accordance with a recent Canadian University Press decision that all CUP members boycott CBC ads because the CBC has refused to carry public service announcements on its Halifax radio station for the Halifax Gay Alliance for Equality.

Tynan said the paper's editorial staff should not make decisions about what kind of ads are carried in the paper.

"I think there are two basic aspects to the *Ubysey*. One is the editorial comment expressed by the staff -- that makes up the content of the *Ubysey* and it's printed accordingly. We don't interfere with that," he said.

"There's also the financial aspect of the *Ubysey*. That aspect is the responsibility of the publishers, it always is."

Tynan said the *Ubysey* would have "every right to complain" in cases in which an ad is itself offensive. But, he said, the rejected CBC ad, for a locally-produced radio humor show, was not.

"The policy of the CBC in Halifax has nothing to do with the operation and financial success of the *Ubysey*," he said.

"The whole thing is so far removed from our operation here."