

Forestry great debate

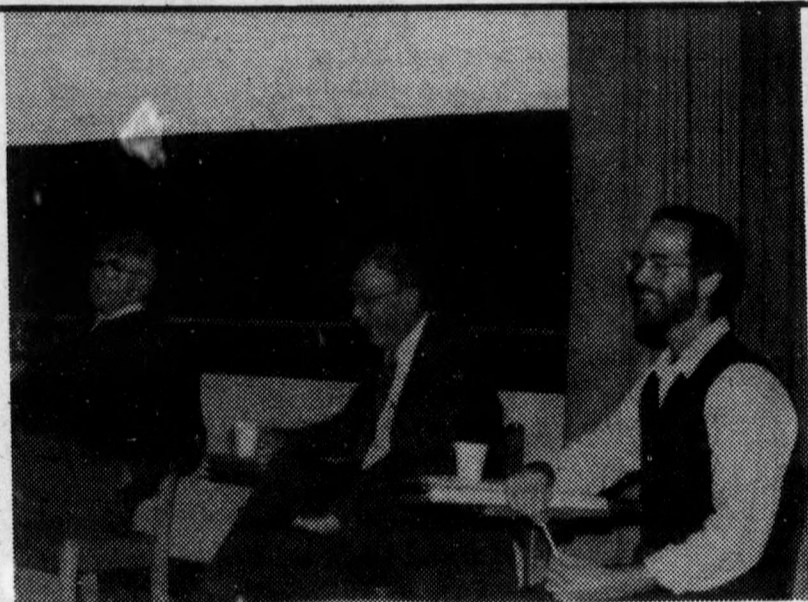
BY CHRIS CHAPMAN
Brunswickan Staff

A necessity to educate the public about forest management was the only conclusion reached by three panelists at this year's Great Debate, sponsored annually by the UNB Forestry Association. The question asked was "Should woodlot owners be primary wood suppliers?"

Speakers were the Dean of the UNB Forestry Faculty, Dr. Gordon Baskerville, who represented the Crown, Mr. David Curtis of the New Brunswick Federation of Woodlot Producers

Mr. Curtis, representing the woodlot owners, noted the issue has been important since the mid 1960's, and the solution for him is to remove the Crown as competition. Wood should be negotiated for in a set order, beginning with the woodlot owners, and leaving the Crown as the residual supplier. Mr. Curtis favors arbitration to settle disputes between companies and the marketing boards.

Mr. O'Neill took industry's position, and condemned the idea of having his primary wood supply



The panel: (left to right)

Mr. Joe O'Neill, of Acadia Forest Products, Dr. Gordon Baskerville, Dean of Forestry, and Mr. David Curtis, of the N.B. Federation of Woodlot Producers.

(Photo: Chris Chapman)

Inc., and Mr. Joe O'Neill, the vice-president (Woodlands) of Acadia Forest Products. Dr. Alex Dickson of the Forestry Faculty moderated the discussion.

Dr. Baskerville began by introducing the Crown Lands and Forest Act, which provides legislative authority to deal with Crown land. The act limits the access industry has to use all Crown land by examining each wood processing plant, and defining the quantity of timber which may be cut.

In so doing, the legislature also defines where each plant will obtain its wood. Plants are directed to buy a set proportion from private owners, usually small woodlot owners, and have to buy this wood before any access to Crown land is permitted. The Act, said Baskerville, is not intended to be a marketing act; it is more "a blunt instrument" used to gain stability and consistency in market, prices, and supply.

come from private owners. There is no control over what is done on private land. Two thirds of the owners will not sell their wood, and the vast majority of those who will have no management plan. This essentially means that there is no protection from budworm, and there is no cutting priority. The wood which is meant to be industry's primary supply simply does not exist, claims O'Neill.

Everyone agrees there is a problem, although each perceives it differently. The solution appears to be a commonly held view that education of all concerned parties is vital. Those owners and contractors who would provide a primary wood supply must learn to practice coherent management, including the salvage of diseased or dead stands, protection from budworm, and proper restocking after cutting. Industry must accept some new rules, and take an active role in this education.

Orientation summary

Hi there:

The executive of Orientation '84 are accessing and reviewing Orientation '83. We feel your help in filling out this questionnaire will make next year's Orientation even more successful. Please take the time to fillout this questionnaire, clip it out and return it via Campus Mail to:

Orientation Executive
S.R.C. Office
U.N.B.

You do not need a stamp if you send it Campus Mail. If you live off campus, just drop it off in the S.R.C. Office in the S.U.B. or at the Post Office in the basement of the Old Arts Building.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Sincerely
Larry Fox, Chairman, Orientation '84

ORIENTATION '83 SURVEY

Did you participate in these Orientation events?

ORIENTATION EVENTS:

1. Sale of Frosh Packs
2. Frosh Dance
3. Outdoor/Indoor Concert
4. Casino Nite
5. All Nite Movies
6. Scavenger Hunt
7. Beach Party
8. Shinerama
9. Barn Dance
10. Frosh Ball

What did you think of the frosh packs?

EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR POOR

What items would you like to see included in them?

Do you want to have a social event for the Frosh in the future? YES NO

What other event would you like to see added to Orientation Week?

Do you have any additional comments about Orientation?

What did you like/dislike about each event?

Yes/No

Rate Events
Scale; 1/10
-10-best, 1-least