

rs Conference

be shut down.

Mungo: Okay, so you count that as a Council failure?

Robert: While Council, I think, made the wrong decision, I think they were being financially responsible. But the idea of a salary cut for the executives is a knee-jerk reaction.

Bev: No, I'm sorry Robert, it is not a knee-jerk reaction.

Mungo: Bev, I have to agree with Robert on that.

Bev: Argue all you want but it's not knee-jerk. We've been working on this idea for four months, and we've figured it out down to the last penny.

Robert: If I could just comment on what we've done with finances and the financial situation.

This year I think the finances have been turned around.

Okay, you could probably say \$100,000 is due to an increased student fee and a greater increase in student fees. But I was a little bit disturbed to read in the Therrien pamphlet this idea of selling the bookstore space. And I'll tell you the two reasons I was concerned.

One reason is that this isn't a new idea. We submitted a proposal for \$750,000.

Bev: No formal negotiations have gone on. We have consulted with all members of the executive and administration.

Mungo: You can't just go and sell part of a building that you've got a mortgage on. You've got to be realistic. The people holding our mortgage won't allow us to sell it.

Bev: Obviously, this is a contentious point. Perhaps I can explain.

Robert: Well I would like to say why I find it disturbing. One, on December 7th, a formal proposal was made to the University to sell the Bookstore space to the University.

Bev: A formal proposal but no negotiations...

Robert: A formal proposal which will be completed by the end of this year's executive's term.

It would be irresponsible for any person running, to claim to be about to do something which is already being done by this year's executive. That disturbs me Bev.

Bev: Well now that we've had that little spurt I'll go and explain just what the whole thing is about.

Okay, during Council this summer, it was mentioned a couple of times that it might be better to sell the space rather than rent it. And at that point in time, the executive said this was too speculative. Our slate took up these facts and had them confirmed by a good source. We asked if there were any formal negotiations going on and we were told no, emphatically by the executive and by various members of the administration. I don't think it's irresponsible for us to say we're going to pursue something that will help the Students' Union.

Also I don't think the five dollars should be implemented unless necessary. The five dollar increase will be used solely for debt reduction and not an expansion of services.

Mungo: You wasted five lines in your pamphlet there.

Bev: Well, I didn't think it was a waste.

Mungo: Obviously the sale isn't finalized yet and I'm a realistic thinker and I doubt whether this sale would go through.

Bev: How do you know? I mean, I don't know, none of our slate knows...

Mungo: Because you just don't go and sell a part of your building that easily.

There's legal things. There's the mortgage. A mortgage holder is not allowed to sell out the space. What happens if the Students' Union does go bankrupt and the mortgage company forecloses? What happens to the people who've bought the space?

Bev: Well our banker is the University.

Mungo: Well I'm just telling you how things are and you just can't do it.

Gateway: No matter who proposed it in the first place, why sell off something that you own?

Robert: I would like to comment again on something you've ignored Bev. You're putting forward something as part of your financial policy, something that is being done by this year's executive.

Bev: I know you called and we have talked about this but it's a fact that no formal negotiations have taken place. You would first need permission from Council to pursue this and you haven't got it. This year's executive cannot take credit for it right now. It would have to go through Council and it hasn't.

Mungo: I think we've really wasted a lot of time here on who should get credit and so on.

Bev: Good point. Maybe you'd like to bring something else up.

Mungo: Yes. I think we're not focussing on the whole reason why we're here. This is why we haven't put anything too specific in our pamphlet and this is for a purpose. We're running our campaign on how people feel about us and the way we approach things. We're innovative thinkers and we can face these things during the time we're in office.

Robert: Yes, perhaps we could comment on the larger issues...But we're dealing with an opportunity to eliminate our deficit. I don't think it's a small issue. I think it's a major issue.

Mungo: But let's not get wrapped up in this. Robert, you've got us at a disadvantage because you've got all the facts and figures.

Bev: Yes, I agree.

Mungo: Let's get back to the issue of who's best to run the SU.

Your problem, Robert, is that you get too wrapped up in the political things - like that nuclear disarmament motion.

Robert: I must admit that there are other aspects of student government that weren't dealt with. It's because of that I decided to run for a second term.

Mungo: Hey, I've got a question I want to ask you. What have you done with the administration and all that?

Robert: You think the management has been bad this year?

Mungo: I think it could have been better. You've cut a lot of things.

Robert: Two things were cut this year. One was the Art Gallery, two was the Student Advocate.

Mungo: Is that it? Has there been anything added?

Robert: Ummmmm. Yeah, there's been expansion in L'Express and reductions of prices. There's been improvements to RATT. There was the bringing in of Java Jive and Mmmmmarvelous Muffins and Charlies, there was the restoration to the furniture in SUB.

Mungo: Everything we're discussing is administrative and should be kept up by the Students' Union Business Manager.

Robert: What we're discussing is broad policy decisions which were made by last year's executive. I don't think students can see the type of structural changes that have been made this year. What we have to

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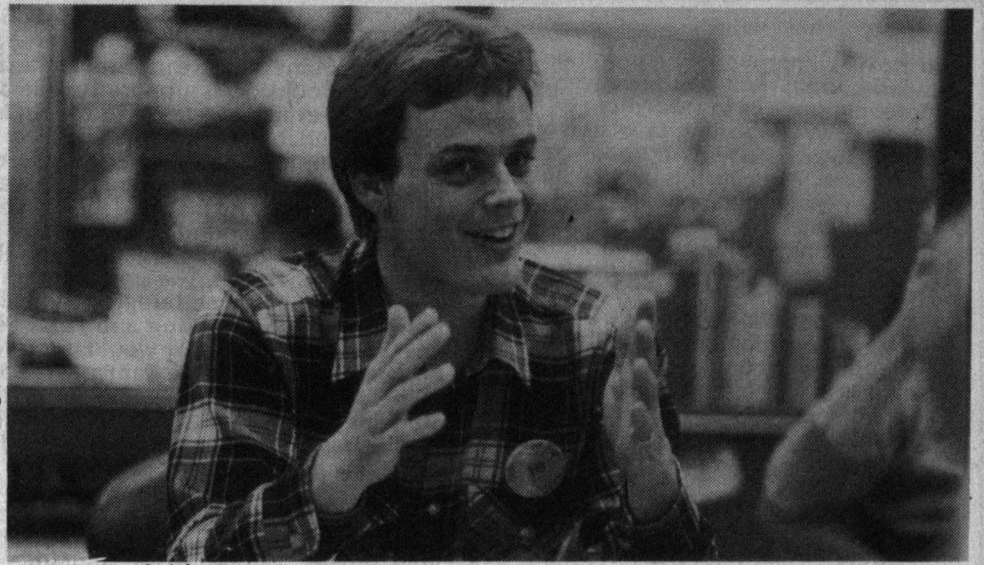


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