

Convention-organized confusion

Young Liberals decide the world's future



Jay Bell, president of the York student liberals club, makes an incisive point as Prime Minister Trudeau listens in rapt attention, hanging on every word. "My God," thinks Margaret. "Did I marry the wrong man?"

Jay Bell, 22, President of the York Student Liberal Club recently attended the national convention of the Liberal Party of Canada. An active member of the party, ace? journalist A.J. Gizzie decided to ask Bell his impressions of the three day event.

A.J. What were your first overall impressions of the convention?

Bell: At first it was little more than organized confusion with 7,000 delegates wandering about, wondering what was happening. Yet, after a short time you began to meet people you hadn't seen since the last convention and then things began to develop.

A.J. Did you make any type of preparation

prior to your going to the convention?

Bell: I firmly believe that if you go to the conventions with nothing prepared you will accomplish absolutely nothing. I looked at the format, picked out the areas in which I felt I could make a contribution, and then concentrated my efforts from that point. You must remember that you only have a few days and you must make them count.

A.J. Where did you decide to concentrate your efforts?

Bell: The policy areas of Canadian identity, that is the future content restrictions of U.S. products; the livable city in which housing and the ecological-social relationship between the city and urban society were discussed; and

bilingualism.

A.J. What came out of the issue of bilingualism?

Bell: I found that many delegates did not see it as an issue. It was not argued, just accepted. There were more important areas to be dealt with.

A.J. Since this country is suffering under the weight of high prices and inflation, what did the Liberal party offer in terms of policy to help alleviate the present situation?

Bell: Trudeau repeated what he said previously. To fight inflation you must increase supply. Wage and price controls will only bring about shortages. The party as a whole felt this was sound judgement.

A.J. How do you feel about this policy?

Bell: I feel that more incentives must be given to framers to produce more. I know that a woman has to pay high prices for her meat, yet she forgets that people on the other side of the world who were at one time starving now have a little more and they want this comfort and luxury also. We have a moral obligation to come to grips with the problem of world-wide shortages. If we fail I would not be surprised if there was a third world war between the have and have-not countries.

A.J. Your answer does little to settle the questions surrounding the problems here in Canada. The man on the street may be having a difficult time feeding his family. He does not care about inflation.

Bell: Yes, but this man on the street won't accept limits on prices or wages either. The government can continue to put limits on exports as they are now doing, but they can also help by producing more food for all. Technology is painted as a monster by some but it can still be used to produce more, if there is a will to do so.

A.J. And whose will might that be?

Bell: Government and private industry. We especially have to depend on those in government.

A.J. You do not actually feel the Liberals share this attitude of world-wide salvation?

Bell: I don't think any government in the

western world does. Yet I do feel it is easier for me and those who share these goals to work through a viable and open organization like the Liberals than through other means.

A.J. On a different topic, how do you feel about the NDP-Liberal alliance. What did others at the convention think about the under-the-table concessions made by the Liberals.

Bell: As a left-of-centre liberal I wouldn't say the Liberals made any concessions. But the right-of-centre Liberals are not happy with the present situation. However, since the government functions only day by day it is inhibited from making long-term problems.

A.J. One of the long-term problems must certainly be the future of Quebec. What are the feelings of the delegates concerning the possible victory by the Parti Quebecois in the upcoming provincial election?

Bell: I talked to the leader of the Quebec Youth Liberal Club and he feels that the PQ have peaked. They may be the official opposition but so may the Creditistes. Yet there is general confidence that the Liberals will win.

A.J. Concerning our own provincial politics, what behind-the-door happenings went on concerning the Ontario Liberal leadership?

Bell: Both candidates Don Deacon and Bob Nixon were campaigning hard but quietly. There were a lot of buttons and a lot of pressure. There is a strong tension because there are many uncommitted delegates, and if another candidate enters the picture it will be a whole new ball game.

A.J. What role did the youth of the Liberal Party play at the convention?

Bell: Because of the formation of a new organization, the Canadian Student Liberal Youth Committee, there are five students on the National Executive of the Liberal Party. Young people can now be elected to positions of importance and relevance. The fact that 1/5th of the voters in the last election voted for the first time demonstrates that we have political clout, and we are going to use it. We have a greater stake in the future for the future is ours. Anyone who has the desire and ability can make a contribution now.

YORK STUDENT FEDERATION

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1972 COUNCIL OF THE YORK STUDENT FEDERATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS at December 31, 1972*

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash on hand in bank	\$18,742
Accounts receivable — University grant	3,392 31,933
Accounts receivable	
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	3,253 39
Inventories — at lower of cost or net realizable value	257
Total Current Assets	\$51,071
Other Assets	
Incorporation expense	750
	<u>\$51,821</u>
LIABILITIES AND RETAINED EARNINGS	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 150
Grants payable	17,004
Payable to York University	31,956
Total Current Liabilities	\$49,110
Retained Earnings	
Balance Sheet January 1, 1972	\$(4,049)
Subtract: Net income for the year	6,760
Balance December 31, 1972	<u>\$ 2,711</u>
	<u>\$51,821</u>

* Note: Figures as at December 31, 1971 were not available and hence these statements are qualified to the extent that opening figures had to be derived.

STATEMENT OF INCOME

For the year ended December 31, 1972

Income:	
Grant from York University	\$89,177
Special Events — Winter Carnival	33,280
— Orientation	309
Sales — "George" Coffee Shop	10,115
Association of Student Councils (A.O.S.C.)	5,865
Year Book advertising	2,385
Sundry	6,704
	<u>\$147,835</u>
Expenses:	
Purchases — "George" Coffee Shop	\$ 5,765
Salaries — full-time	19,054
— part-time	7,880
Grants — Excalibur	18,000
— Radio York	7,000
— Service Organizations	8,310
— Clubs	5,320
Publications — Counter Calendar	9,486
— Manus	3,327
Special Events — Winter Carnival	39,285
— Orientation	16,50
— Other	332
Photocopying and Duplicating	3,400
Conferences	2,369
Memberships	1,615
Postage	2,732
Stationery and Office Supplies	1,124
Advertising	739
Telephone and Telegraph	772
A.O.S.C. Travel — I.D. Cards	792
Elections	478
Bank charges and interest	438
Legal and Audit	829
Sundry	1,163
Bad debts recovered	(785)
	<u>\$141,075</u>
Net income for the year	<u>\$ 6,760</u>