

Higgins or Theriault? or don't you care ?

By MAURICE GAUTHIER

The results of Leadership Conventions can seldom be predicted with any amount of certainty. This is especially true about the NB Liberal Convention which is being held here today and tomorrow. At the time of publication, they are still five candidates entered in the race: Robert Higgins (Saint John); Norbert Theriault (Northumberland County); John Bryden (Fredericton); H.H. Williamson (Bathurst) and Maurice Harquail (Campbellton). This field could be easily narrowed down to the first two candidates without any serious loss of

leadership qualities, but the support that Bryden and Williamson command could be a decisive factor in determining who will eventually gain control of the party.

As in other Leadership Conventions, the new leader requires fifty percent of the delegates' votes plus one vote. Balloting continues until a candidate is agreed upon, the one with the least number of votes dropped after each round. As previously mentioned, the contest should be primarily between Robert Higgins and Norbert Theriault and the voting could go something like this:

ROUND 1: Higgins should receive the highest number of votes, followed by Theriault, Bryden, Williamson and Harquail. It seems very unlikely that Higgins will get over half of the seventeen hundred - odd votes and Maurice Harquail would subsequently be dropped from the race. This should come as a surprise to no one, least of all Harquail. If his

performance at the Liberal Debate held in Tilley Hall two weeks ago is any indication of his ability, thank God for the democratic system.

ROUND 2: Again, the same

order should prevail: Higgins, Theriault, Bryden and Williamson. It is doubtful that Harquail's supporters would have been numerous enough to give Higgins the required majority even if a unanimous Harquail. Higgins switch had occurred Williamson would be dropped in this round. This series of votes should also be very revealing as concerns the loyalty of Bryden's supporters. Their unanimous loyalty after the first ballot would place him in a "king-maker's" position as he would possess the tie-breaking votes which could give either Higgins or Theriault a majority. Bryden's best bet at this point would be to "sell" his support to either of the contending candidates for a position in their party hierarchy.

ROUND 3: This could prove

to be the most decisive round for whoever leads the pack after this ballot should go on to win. If Bryden remains in the running, he should be dropped in this ballot. There is a strong possibility that Williamson has more support than many experts assume. If this hypothetical delegation remains pro-establishment and unanimously votes for Theriault, then the latter would have enough backing to pull ahead of Higgins in this ballot. Otherwise, Higgins would remain with the most votes and Theriault would be a strong second.

ROUND 4: If the voting extends this far, the winner would have to be determined in this round.

This outline is quite sketchy as there still remains many unknown variables. The delegates' loyalty after the first ballot will be of prime importance as will be the Acadian vote.

Whatever happens, the Liberal Party should have a new leader by Saturday evening, a leader whose major task will be to reinstate his party over the Conservatives at the next Provincial election. If you were a Liberal Delegate, dear reader, who would you choose to run against Richard Hatfield: Robert Higgins, or Norbert Theriault? Or don't you care?

Social Club opens again

By STEVE BELDING

The College Hill Social Club incorporated opened Oct. 2, 1971 for the year. A brainchild of the SUB Board of Directors it was formed approximately two year ago operating in the third floor, Rm. 208 of the SUB. It is a separate entity from the SUB and ideally will be a self-sustained profit organization.

Membership is open to any student over 21 years of age. Fee is \$5.00. At present there are 130 paid memberships, with

this year's membership expiring Aug. 31, 1972.

The club employs six students: 2 bartenders, 1 bar assistant and 3 gents rotating on the door and General Mgr. Doug McConnell.

Activities include socials in ballroom and social evenings thrice weekly in Room 208. Rm. 208 provides quiet social atmosphere where members can play cards or engage in conversation with fellow members or guest.

Lounge facilities are avail-

able. Generally "the purpose of the club is to bring those together who wish to be sociable," said Doug McConnell when interviewed by the Bruns.

As to limits of membership McConnell said "I have no idea" but that it would be an issue worked out by the executive members. Provisions in the constitution (corporated April 1970) are provided for an executive which is to be elected during the first general meeting probably within the next couple



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