

# Do Nothing Government Lives Up To Reputation

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employment program never materialized.

A spokesman for the Premier's office mumbled only about inheriting a province with an over extended budget, when asked about these increases, and could give no specific details about the vague summer employment program. He said he was aware that there was such a program but was unable to shed any light on it. Manpower has not yet discerned the number of students employed last summer, although the unemployment rate among students in August was a whopping 13.7%.

Liberal Leader Gerald Regan stated the Buchanan government's position on tuition increases was "a hypocritical one", citing Education Minister Terry Donahue's broken promise as an example. Regan admitted the task of finding finances for education is never an easy one. He stated that Nova Scotia is a richer province than New Brunswick and since we have always been able to equal them in the past, if they can find the finances, we should be able to do so as well.

Besides the obvious failure to alleviate student unemployment, the Tory government has also failed to change provincial unemployment as a whole. Although Buchanan promised to cut the rate of unemployment in half, the provincial rate has climbed from 9% in September 1978 to 9.6% for August 1979, and even the worst of mathematicians is able to realize this as an increase, not a cut.

Instead of stressing continual long term job creation, the PC's seem to be emphasizing short term job creation and task force "investigation into the problem" NDP sources said, due to inadequate funding and poor administration, these programs are often cut short because the money runs out, employing people barely long enough to qualify for Unemployment Insurance Benefits.

The Tory proposal concerning the Trade Union legislation is a recent example of John Buchanan's misunderstanding and mismanagement of the labour situation in Nova Scotia. If Labour minister Ken Streach succeeds in putting through this legislation, the two Michelin plants in the province will be unionized together, facilitating union negotiation for the company at the expense of the workers. It is worth noting that this idea for joint unionization is a so far unheard of one in Nova Scotia, where separate plants have always had separate unions.

Energy, a worldwide concern, is a very real one in Nova Scotia, where electricity rates have been steadily climbing with no relief in sight. When the Tories took office, they removed the one year freeze put on electricity rates by the Liberal government before the year was even up. The last increase by the Government controlled Nova Scotia Power Corporation was promised to be less than the increase in the cost of living, yet it was substantially higher.

The Conservatives maintain that they have made good their pledge to hold the subsidy on power rates and point to long term solutions as the key. On Friday the province will finally learn the details of the Premier's long-awaited energy policy, designed to alleviate Nova Scotia's reliance on foreign oil. Besides tidal power and nuclear power, the main area of concentration will be on liquification of low-grade coal for a possible oil substitute. Construction of the Donkin and Lingan coal mines were begun under the Liberal government and Gerald Regan stated if their opening proved feasible, the Conservatives would no doubt take all the credit. None of the proposed measures would give any relief in the near future, despite Mr. Buchanan's promise last September for "immediate relief."

Another key area outlined in Mr. Buchanan's election plat-

form was social injustices, and he cited specially the need for improvement and aid to Day Care Services in the province. Last June, several Halifax Day Care Centres were close to closing due to severe financial difficulties. The Conservatives set up a Task force to 'study the problem' and announced last Thursday that assistance has been approved in principle, but they were awaiting a decision on federal cost sharing. Mr. Regan accuses the Tories of "passing the buck to Ottawa," while the NDPs call the Task force ploy merely a smokescreen to diffuse criticism.

NDP Leader Jerry Akerman introduced a resolution into legislature asking for a grant of \$170,000 to cover the Day Care operational deficit, the same figure suggested by the Nova Scotia Child Care Council. Even if this proposal were passed, it would only be an interim measure. More funding is needed, not only on the basis of the present financial need, but for the future.

Mr. Buchanan's office pointed out that they were going to undertake improvements to facilities, certainly a necessary concern, but if mothers are unable to afford to send their children to Day Care Centres, this will certainly be of no use.

All in all it's a pretty dismal track record. All the Tories have to say about their first year's failings is that it's only been a year after all. Give us time. They reflect on the first year as being a time spent "building a solid base with which to implement their program." They stress their re-organization of government and creation of such organizations as the Policy Board and the Management Board to

improve the administration of government to make it better able to deal with problems. More concrete results are promised in the coming year.

For a government that seems so pre-occupied with organization, the Buchanan government are going a pretty poor job organizing themselves.

They seem to be heading politicians back to the evils of unfulfilled promises rather than toward establishing their

credibility and responsibility. Perhaps it is all as Liberal Leader Gerald Regan states, a political ploy to do everything in their last year in office and make the people of Nova Scotia forget all the bad things they have done, or things they have neglected to do. Let's just hope for the sake of the citizens of Nova Scotia that things don't get worse before they get better.

(In two weeks time, a review of the Liberals will appear.)

## CUP Briefs

### "None of the Above" Runs for Governor

BATON ROUGE (ZNS)—In 1968 it was "Nobody" for president in the American presidential race. In 1979 its "None of the Above" for governor of Louisiana.

One of the candidates in the October election for governor in Louisiana has legally changed his name to "None of the Above". And he wants it listed that way on the ballot.

The candidate, whose name used to be Luther Devine Knox, has petitioned state election officials to print his new name, not his old one, on the October 27th ballot.

Knox claims that the voters have never had a completely free election in America because, "They have not had the opportunity to reject them all."

At last report, the state of Louisiana was refusing to go along with "None of the Above's" request.

In 1968, a man who changed his name to Nobody ran for president, promising that, "Nobody keeps his promises, Nobody cuts taxes, Nobody is an honest politician," etc.

### UFO for Real

SAN FRANCISCO (ZNS)—A magazine poll has reportedly found that 62 per cent of their engineering and scientific readers believe in the existence of UFO's.

The poll was conducted by **Industrial Research and Development Magazine**, a trade publication that goes to about 100,000 readers with predominantly scientific and engineering backgrounds.

Forty-four per cent of the readers responding to the poll said they believe that UFO's come from outer space, while 28 per cent suggested that they are probably caused by natural phenomena.

Fifty-one per cent of the readers responding said the U.S. Government should further investigate the UFO phenomena. Eight per cent said they had actually seen a UFO, while an additional 1 per cent reported they had seen something that was "perhaps" a UFO.

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