

Socialist student runs for mayor

by Allen Young

In Edmonton, corporate profit comes before human needs, says mayoralty candidate Don Tapscott.

Tapscott, 30, is the candidate fielded by the newly formed pan-Canadian socialist organization, the Revolutionary Workers League. He is presently at the U of A writing his master's thesis in the area of research methodology.

"It is ironic," Tapscott said in a *Gateway* interview Friday, that in Edmonton, the oil capital of Canada, a tiny handful of persons profit while, for the vast majority, standards of living, quality of life, and democratic principles are being eroded."

He pointed to attacks on the labour movement, cutbacks in social services spending, inordinately low apartment vacancy rates, land speculation and police strike breaking as illustrations of this.

The Public Services Employees Relations Act, Bill 41, basically denies 20,000 Edmonton provincial workers their basic bargaining rights, he said. Working conditions are so bad in

city hall that the yearly staff turnover is 40 per cent.

Tapscott cited the Parkland nursing home contract dispute as a case of police breaking strikes. He said the major Parkland share holder, Edmonton millionaire, Charles Allard, has used injunctions and has convicted picketers to prevent the workers from winning their first contract.

Wage controls, he said, were readily supported by Council although city library employees considering to support the Oct. 14 day of protest were threatened with dismissal by Alderman Ron Hayter.

"This is just the first volley by governments at all levels to undermine the union movement, particularly the public unions. City council has not opposed the growing campaign to deny Edmonton workers basic bargaining rights; it has led it."

As solutions to the problems mentioned above, Tapscott suggested first the unconditional right of labor to organize, strike, and picket be upheld. Bill 41 should be repealed, he said, and there should be no government interference with the unions. He

also suggested the Parkland nursing home should be nationalized; there should be no "contracting out" on the part of city hall, and an 8 hour shift be instituted for ETS bus drivers to replace the regular 12 hour shift with no loss of pay.

Tapscott commented on the situation facing women in Edmonton. Edmonton has one of the highest percentages of women in the work force, he

said, but across the range of occupations since 1974, their job prospects, and relative wage position has deteriorated.

City Council has supported cutbacks in the number of abortions performed in Edmonton hospitals. He said, a Calgary doctor recently complained about Edmonton women having to travel to Calgary for abortions.

More than one-third of Edmonton children below school age have working mothers, he said. Edmonton Social Services most conservative estimate of the number of children needing daycare is 22,000, yet all government subsidized daycare centres in the city combined, hold only 832 children.

"What we have is a burning need for daycare. Then last week we had the spectacle of council voting against renovating a daycare building."

There should be a massive program of high-quality, free, 24 hour child care centers, controlled by those who use them, he said.

There should be equal pay and job opportunities for women, and access for females to

the "traditionally male" jobs. Restrictions on abortions at city hospitals should be ended, he said.

On Franco-Albertans, Tapscott pointed out that 6 per cent of Edmontonians are French speaking. Yet there are no exclusively French schools, and only one French high school. French students, he said, are turned away from these schools every year because they are full.

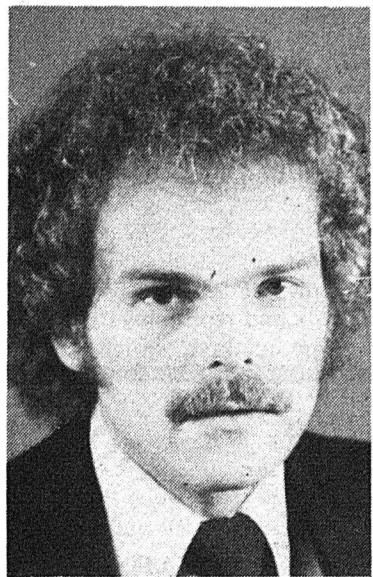
Tapscott sees the recent increase in tuition for foreign students as "a wedge for increased tuition for all students."

He said it is part of an austerity program limiting the accessibility of people to education.

Unemployment among teachers is also a result of the program of austerity, he said. Even in Edmonton, which is booming, 3,000 teachers are out of work. He said that 2.6 million dollars have been cut from the Edmonton public school board budget since 1975.

In a recent press release, Tapscott argued that the New Democratic Party should field a slate of candidates. "The NDP is

turn to page 2.



Candidate Don Tapscott

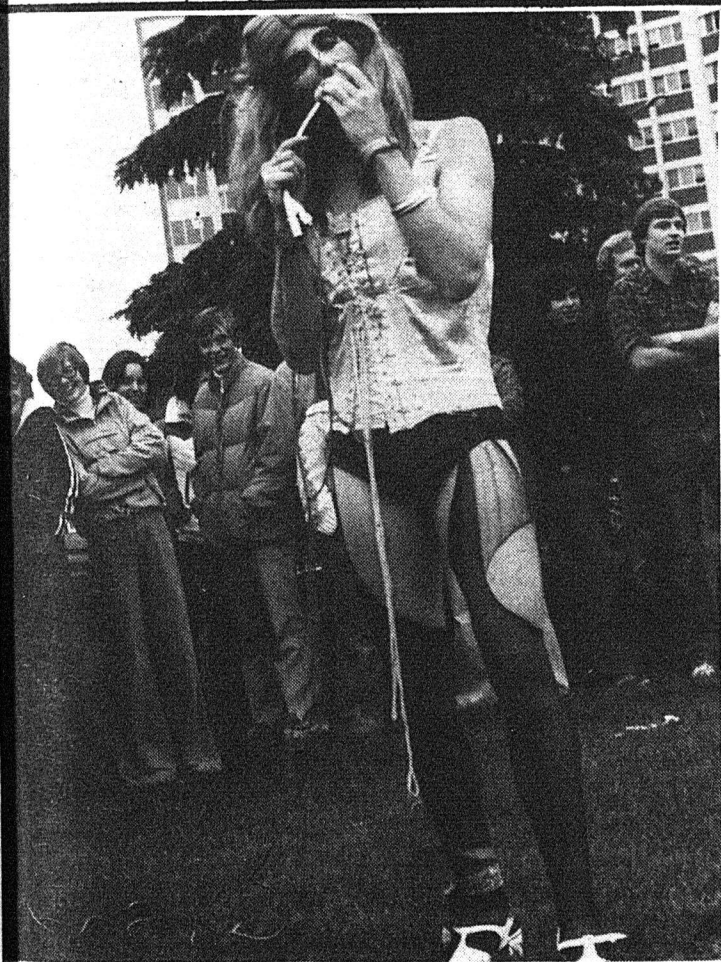
Treason doth never prosper: what's the reason?

The Gateway

For if it prosper, none dare call it treason
Sir John Harington

VOL. LXVIII, NO. 4. THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, EDMONTON, CANADA.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1977. SIXTEEN PAGES.



And you thought life in Res was straight? This kinky, campy kook is singing an amplified green apple — part of last weekend's Mac Country Fair

SU refuses to debate

In a letter to the *Gateway* yesterday, Students' Union president Jay Spark said the SU will not debate its current labour dispute at a public forum with members of CUPE 1368.

The letter goes on to state it is not unusual for union teams to suggest a public forum, and that such a course only sensationalizes a dispute.

The SU feels the purpose of the forum is "to bring pressure to bear on the other negotiating team," and will result in negotiations shifting further away, (sic) from the bargaining table.

The letter concludes with a request from Mr. Spark for those wishing to learn the Students' Union position to see him, Room 259E SUB.

Vern Barte, CUPE representative, called the refusal "Ridiculous" and said he couldn't understand why the SU would have turned down a chance to convince the public the SU's terms are reasonable.

"It's as though they're trying to force us into a strike to prove their contention we were always going to go on strike. Negotiations have gone nowhere since July."

Barte said the SU mailed a letter stating they were ready to negotiate and CUPE replied they would meet with the SU at SU's convenience. No further word has been forthcoming.

"Unfortunately we may have to go on strike to get a contract," he concluded.

Night watch to security

Night Watch may be taken over by Campus Security this year if a recommendation from the General Faculties Council (GFC) executive committee is ratified by full council.

Night Watch is an evening patrol instituted last winter when concern developed over alleged sexual assaults on campus.

Dr. Jean Lauber, of the

Safe Campus Committee which oversees the operation of Night Watch, said at the executive meeting Monday the Safe Campus Committee felt Campus Security could cover the function of Night Watch, but she emphasized there should be male and female students on the patrols at all times.

Security Director Gordon

Perry said Campus Security force has been increased this year from nine to about 26 members and that it would be able to meet the requirements suggested by the Safe Campus Committee.

The Executive recommended GFC endorse the concept of walking patrols, and that the walking patrols be taken over by Campus Security.

Hohol's laws squeeze grads

CALGARY — Foreign first year graduate students at the University of Calgary will have to pay the extra \$300 differential tuition fee, even though they were not informed of the increase until arriving at the University two weeks ago.

The graduate student tender, which lists tuition fees, was printed before the Alberta Government legislated the increase.

The students received no

subsequent notification of the increase.

Early reports said the Calgary Board of Governors had waived the increase and were allowing the students to attend university for last year's tuition. The B of G has no such powers, however.

Despite the efforts of Harry Hobb, president of the U of C graduate students' association, and members of the Students' Union who met with the Board

of Governors to discuss the implications of the administrative oversight, the students will have to pay the increase.

Only those foreign students who have received teaching assistantships and research assistantships are immune to the increase. The T.A.'s and research assistants will have their fees remitted in total, as is the policy with all grad students in those categories.

Have you ever seen a student newspaper editor grovel? No? Well, here's your chance! Come to the *Gateway* Rookie Night, Thursday, September 22 at 7 p.m. in Rm. 282 SUB, and grovel we will.

You see, gang — as many of you have pointed out — we need help. In every department — including writing, graphics, and layout. Our editors and staff will be glad to help you see your way to helping us. We'll give you all the choicest propaganda concern-

ing the area of your interest, conduct tours of our *gasp* spacious offices and, of course, liquid refreshments will be the order of the day.

Come and learn the masochistic pleasures of student journalism. All those ready, willing (and thirsty) are welcome to attend. Pity us, gang. We get awful lonesome around here. That's the *Gateway* offices — the all-new 1977 Rookie Night Bonanza.