

# Candidates field questions, discuss issues

By GORDON LOANE

A near-capacity audience at the Playhouse Wednesday night listened intently as the five candidates running in the York-Sunbury constituency in the February 18 election made their pitch for support. The candidates fielded various questions from the audience including those on energy, employment, the status of women, uranium mining and the problem of separatism.

Liberal candidate Dan Hurlley, a law professor at UNB, in his opening remarks blamed the calling of this election on the Clark government's budget.

"The budget was clearly unacceptable to the opposition and to the nation", said Hurlley. The Tories deliberately introduced the budget to bring about their own defeat he said. Hurlley claimed the Clark government had lost the confidence of the Canadian people.

If the Tories are re-elected, he said, "They will introduce the same type of policies that were totally unacceptable to the people previously." The Liberals would first and foremost establish good government for Canada, he said; Liberals will provide leadership, and bring the deficit under control.

York-Sunbury M.P. and Conservative candidate Bob Howie said the election was called because of the defeat of the budget. Howie said it was an act of "political opportunism" on the part of the Liberals because they were favored in the public opinion polls.

The defeat of this budget means that tax agreements to create new jobs have been lost and capital gains tax relief for farmers was delayed, Howie said.

Aid to the small fisherman was cancelled and a scheme to aid small business by allowing salaries paid to a spouse to be tax deductible was nixed. Howie said the Conservatives in their short term in office tried to reduce "ten years of federal deficits" he said.

Howie said a high deficit was a serious situation. I feel sorry for senior citizens who are denied much-needed new programs because we cannot really afford them due to the high deficit position," he said.

Howie said it was Conservative policy to make Canada self-sufficient in energy by 1990. We import 300,000 barrels of oil every day in Atlantic Canada and 90,000 barrels of oil a day just in N.B. The cost of oil is high but government subsidies at \$10 a barrel mean total subsidies in N.B. alone total \$900,000 per day.

Independent candidate Harry Marshall said he was not running on any party policy. He was running in this campaign, he said, because in travelling the riding he

felt the problems of energy, inflation, unemployment and high interest rates were the most serious issues to be dealt with.

Libertarian candidate Jay Nauss expounded on his party's platform. "We believe in the separation of the economy from government," he said.

The party, formed seven years ago, believes in the free market system. "The government that governs least governs best," he said.

All public land should be

abolished and the present banking system dismantled. The economy is controlled too much by big government, Nauss concluded.

New Democratic Candidate Phil Booker expounded on what he felt were the real issues in this campaign. The number one issue is energy, said Booker because it affects everyone.

The number two issue, he said, is economic leadership. "We need an industrial strategy for the nation," said Booker.

"We need jobs for the youth

especially and for the nearly one million Canadians who are out of work.

Higher taxes were not the answer to the problem, he said. A top issue, according to Booker, is housing. Inflation needs to be brought under control and the erosion of our medicare program is a serious problem, he said.

All candidates appeared to answer questions from the audience with ease. The "All Candidates Night" was sponsored by the Fredericton Jaycees and lasted approximately 2 1/2 hours.

## Bartlett's report

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of people all doing one assignment. It is my impression (however I may be completely wrong) that new staffers are quickly overloaded and back-off to go back to something which is not so all-time consuming.

There is information that students should be getting about campus and world events. But this is the land of the Irving papers and some stories are not told. Many readers do not find the Brunswickan credible.

(I had to learn this, because I always read it and often became upset. However when I voiced my concern to friends and acquaintances I was told that nobody reads the editorials or in fact a lot of the paper.

Students should be reading their paper and it should be relevant to them. This is apparently not the case). The unfortunate thing about U.N.B. is that there are probably no Pulitzer-Prize winning stories to write about. Opinion is much easier to write than well-researched fact (this final report is a good example) and often the Brunswickan is a paper full of opinion.

In future, more and more students will be older and/or part-timers. Student services must start to meet these changing needs as I think the move to CHSR-FM reflects.

In the last year there have been some members of the S.R.C. who have wondered just what it is, they are supposed to do. What is their job? I do not know what the original intent was but realistically they now act as a 'watch-dog' over the executive. They at one time

may have actually represented their faculties but I am not aware this ever occurred in a meaningful manner. I see many parallels between the S.R.C. set-up and that of the University Senate. On the Senate, there is an expectation of some committee work. Unquestionably, they do not attempt to do all of their job during the meetings. Where does this lead? The conclusion that I make is this; the S.R.C. should have fewer meetings per month and develop committees to do some real leg work which would then report back to the council.

Even if new committees are not formed, there appears to be little need of weekly general meetings. A week is not a long-time so consequently the meetings are boring and very likely waste the time of those attending. If the function of the council is that of a watch-dog, they should be able to do this with fewer meetings per month in conjunction with new and easier ways to call special meetings. The future of the students appears to be more of a "pay-your own way" philosophy. The M.P.H.E.C. has made it clear to educators as the government has made it clear to the M.P.H.E.C. that education is a high priority but not that high in terms of where tax dollars will be spent. The past year has been largely a 'house-keeping year'. (I can see the headlines already). While we're still on the ground, lets look around and see where we are, "Firesign Theatre: I Think We're All Bozos On This Bus". That quote has taken on a new meaning for me in the last year. I have personally learned a lot in the last year (which probably has little or nothing to do with the state of the Union). I have enjoyed working with many dedicated student services people whom I will not mention here. (No final report is complete without some mention of N.U.S. "National Union of Students").

I make the third President in a row to recommend not rejoining N.U.S. However they do evolve and may at some future date represent us more meaningfully. We should stay abreast of changes in their organization and their policies. There are now and will be policies that as students of U.N.B. we should oppose. Our opposition should be made known to them. This report respectfully submitted January 21, 1980.

David Bartlett

Editor's note; tempting though it may be, the Brunswickan is not going to take this opportunity to pick apart Mr. Bartlett's report and try to make him look like a fool. We believe he does that well enough himself. While we are perhaps not qualified to comment on everything in the report, we feel it is essential to reply to his comments about our humble publication. Simply put, Mr. Bartlett is misinformed about our organization and many of the statements that he makes are unjustifiable. We also think that someone who writes as horribly as David Bartlett has no place criticizing our journalistic procedures. But then again, what do we know?

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