

Notley supports increased funding

by Allison Annesley

New Democratic Party leader Grant Notley received two standing ovations during a spirited forum by NDP candidates in SUB Theatre yesterday.

The main issue Notley stressed before 350 concerned students was the erosion of post-secondary funding. The importance of a strong provincial opposition and some strong criticisms of the present government also received attention from the party leader.

Notley immediately embraced the topic of post-secondary education. He pointed out that students are not eligible for the Tory program of shielded interest rates available to homeowners, small businessmen, and farmers. Students were then urged to express their anger at the exclusion by defeating university (Strathcona and Parkallen) riding Tory candidates.

When asked his opinion of the Tory participation study, Notley recited the NDP's stand on accessibility. "The price tag which has barred (potential students) from attending university has got to be removed. We had a better loan and grant system in the fifties than we do now."

Eventually Notley would like to

see free tuition for students who meet certain academic standards.

Notley satirized the Tory promise of "new leadership", referring to Peter Trynchy's support of the annexation affecting land that he owned. Trynchy's explanation, Notley said, was that he "forgot where he had the land." Trynchy represents "part of the new dynamic Peter Lougheed team," Notley said.

Continuing to slam past Tory blunders, Notley mentioned the party's inconsistency. Even after Vegreville MLA John Batiuk had moved to withdraw from the Wheat Board, says Notley, Lougheed took credit for a board decision bringing in large Russian wheat sales revenue.

Notley justified speaking to oil companies after he was accused of courting the industry. "I only outlined the energy policy. I don't care who I speak to." Then, "I think Peter Lougheed ought to have the guts to come and speak to students," Notley said.

Once again Notley issued a challenge to the Premier for a public debate.

When confronted by an angry pro-life supporter in the audience, Notley was forced to differentiate

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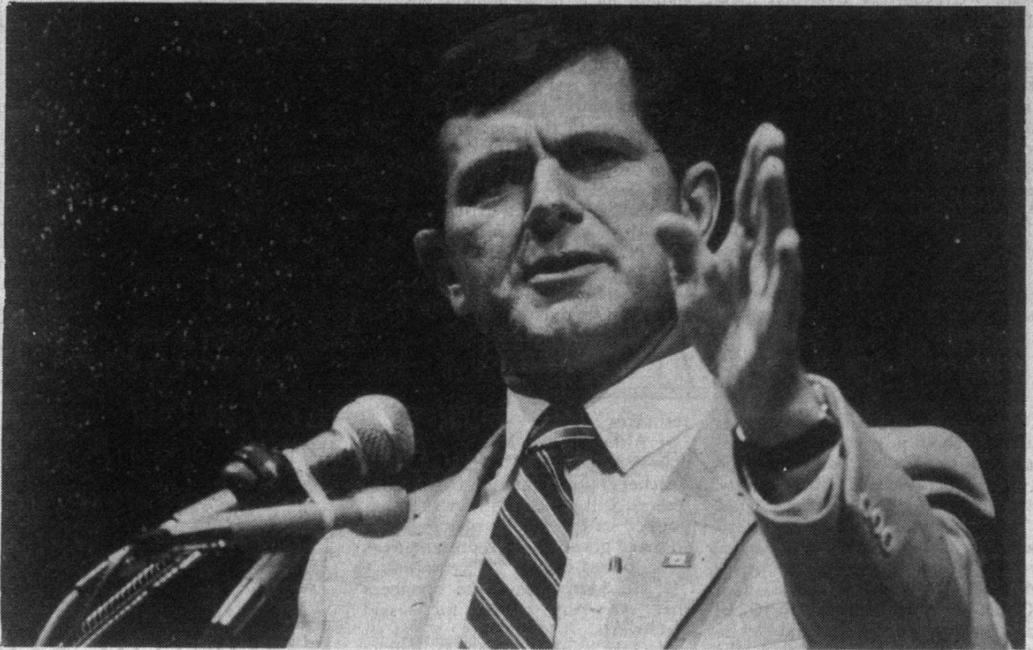


photo by Bill Inglee

NDP leader Grant Notley voiced the platform of his party in SUB theatre yesterday.

gateway

Thursday-Oct. 21, 1982

Don't follow leaders
-Dylan, 1965

Gotta serve somebody
-Dylan, 1978

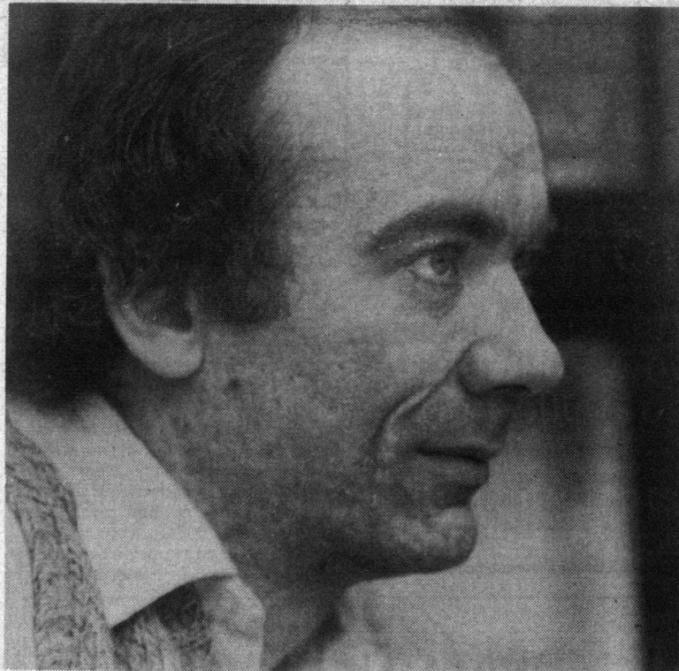


photo by Zane Harker

Communist candidate Joe Hill told all about his party.

Communists ask questions

by Richard Watts

Recently the *Gateway* spoke with the Communist Party of Alberta candidate for Edmonton Strathcona, Joe Hill.

In a province largely dominated by right-wing policies we tend to forget the leftist proposals to deal with some of our problems.

The Communist Party holds no illusions of winning seats in the legislature but they are fielding candidates for other reasons.

"We're running because somebody has to raise questions that aren't being asked and pose solutions that aren't being considered," said Hill.

The communists are running on a basic platform of three main issues which they feel the other parties are not paying enough attention to.

Their first and most pressing concern is diversification of the economy, which leads into the second issue; the shift to the right in Alberta politics which the communists say is a threat to economic diversification.

The third issue is the one of

world peace. This issue is most visible in the testing of the Cruise missile in Cold Lake.

The first issue, the need for Alberta to diversify its economy, the communists say, has yet to be accomplished.

Hill said this cannot be accomplished if the major industries are not publicly owned and democratically controlled.

Hill said the control of secondary industries necessary for diversification of the economy exists in the hands of multi-national corporations whose interests are not the interests of the people of Alberta.

The communists say that without public ownership of the major resources in Alberta there can be no public control over the investment of the profits. Without public control over investment secondary industry will not develop.

Hill admits the biggest problem with the development of secondary industry in Alberta is the distance from major markets for the products produced.

"But that problem is offset by the advantages we have in our close proximity to the primary resources and the highly skilled labor force we have in Alberta," said Hill.

The second major issue for the Communists is what they perceive as a massive swing to the right in Alberta politics.

"The Calgary oilmen have given the WCC a boost of respectability. To combat the threat from the WCC the other major parties moved to the

right," said Hill.

Hill continued, "Even the NDP have moved to the right and now you can't call them much more than a more humane version of the Tories."

Hill said "This shift to the right with the WCC providing the focus poses a serious threat to education, medical care, and labor."

The communists say that unless something is done to balance this right-wing direction, business is going to suffer as large companies with a huge amount of capital gobble up smaller businesses that can't compete.

"It's important for groups like the NDP, the communists, farmers' organization, tenants' organizations to pose progressive solutions to some of our problems," said Hill.

The third issue, the one of world-peace, is being ignored by the other parties, the communists say.

"In a time when people are trying to reach terms on mutually agreed arms reduction we think the provincial government should be using its influence to oppose the testing of new weapons like the Cruise missile in Alberta," said Hill.

Hill said the Communist Party of Alberta suffered a major setback last week when their leader, Bill Toomey, died.

"It was a major blow to the party and it is difficult to act without a leader, it set us back about a week and we've only just begun to campaign seriously now," said Hill.

Joe Hill is manager of Charing Cross Books in HUB Mall.

New vp starts from hole

by Andrew Watts

New v.p. Academic, Wes Sawatsky, views his job as a "caretaker position."

Since he feels that valuable preparation time has been lost, Sawatsky thinks that he can best serve his position by overseeing issues that already are in motion.

"The major program is usually done in September and we've already lost that," Sawatsky explains. Although Sawatsky is hampered by coming into office 5 and one-half months late, he thinks he can accomplish a lot this year and he even has some new ideas for the job.

"I would like to see the academics job be taken farther than would normally be done," Sawatsky continues. "I think that it could get into more research of current issues."

Sawatsky explains that for the first week of his job he has just been familiarizing himself with the re-

quirements of office. The boards and committees he must sit on include: Academic Affairs Board (AAB), Academic Development Committee (ADC), and Council Of Student Service (COSS), and General Faculties Council (GFC). He feels that his first priority is policy initiative coming before ADC. One of these policies concerns the releasing of final exams to students for inspection. At present no such policy exists.

"I know most professors will let you see your final exams, but I think this policy should be enacted through GFC."

ADC formulates the academic policy that is eventually presented to GFC. Although Sawatsky admits that student input is low on ADC (two members) he still thinks student concerns can be expressed.

"You have to be prepared for the issues and then you voice them in committee," says Sawatsky. Sawatsky

thinks that the preparation and research must come from his office but that the students should be made aware of the issues examined. Such issues include library under-funding and lack of study space.

He admits that he has not given much thought as to how students should be made aware however.

Another area that Sawatsky wants to tackle is the student representation on GFC which, at present, is sadly lacking.

"Right now we have nine vacancies on GFC (out of 30 positions) and those who are on GFC, only about 8-10 ever show up," comments Sawatsky.

Sawatsky wants to get on with the job of contacting the derelict members and getting them out to meetings and filling the vacancies.

An issue that also concerns the new v.p., is being raised over the

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