SRC held external affairs votes in the past

By CAMPBELL MORRISON
Brunswickan Staff

A group of fifty or sixty engineers disrupted an SRC meeting fifteen years ago. The incident was reported in the February 15, 1968, issue of the *Brunswickan*. The engineers disrupted a discussion on the motion to ask the Canadian government to help stop the bombing of North Vietnam. It was the result of John McKeen's and Doug Robertson's actions the previous week.

The issue was whether or not Council had the right to legislate an opinion on affairs outside the university community on behalf of the students. The American bombing of North Vietnam sparked the controversy. Council had drafted a motion supporting and urging the Canadian government's opposition to the war, but had failed to pass it. Upon further protest by engineers a referendum was held on February 22.

Eric Champion, Chairman of EUS, after an emergency meeting attended by 130 of 700 members, said; "In international affairs it should be the student's right to dictate his own conscience." The SRC, only on the strength of a popular election, could not mirror the opinion on campus.

John Oliver, who proposed the motion, pointed to the declaration of student responsibilities accepted by Council two years before. "The declaration states that the student has the duty to be concerned about his fellow citizens and the responsibilities to promote human rights and understanding." (Quotation from *Bruns*, Feb. 1, 1968, p. 5) Rob Asprey, Chairman of the SRC meeting, agreed; so, the SRC had the responsibility to voice student opinion.

In retrospect, the American involvement in Vietnam was, although understandable given the circumstances, unjustified; and the bombing of North Vietnam, and especially of the Trail, was a futile attempt to win a guerrilla war. But, that was not the issue being debated. The issue was the SRC's right to legislate opinions in international affairs.

The SRC is elected just like any other democratic institution. The Canadian government is an elected body, and their power to legislate opinions is not disputed, even though they represent a much more diversified group of people than the SRC. The difference between the SRC and the Canadian government is only a difference of power. The SRC has no military. The SRC has much less money. The difference in power directly influences the platform on which the members are elected, and so the SRC did not campaign on the war in Vietnam. By the right of their democratic election, the SRC has the right to voice campus opinion. Also, democratic functions exist within the SRC as each member has one vote with which to influence policy. An unpopular motion will not be ratified by Council while the democratic machine works. So, based on democratic principles the SRC has the right to legislate student opinion.

In the case of the bombing of North Vietnam Council was forced to a referendum. The referendum was held February 22 and results were printed in the March 7 issue of the *Brunswickan*.

"Should the Canadian government continue to call for a halt to the bombing of North Vietnam? Yes 413, No 610, Undecided 113.

Should the Canadian government use all of its diplomatic resources to achieve the convening of a peace convention? Yes 873, No 212, Undecided 47.

Does the SRC have the right to make representations to the Canadian government in international affairs? Yes 234, No 895, Undecided 34.

So, although I disagree with their referendum results, except for the second question, the democratic process resolved the issue.

Liberal leader Young interviewed

by ANDREW HARVEY
Brunswickan Staff

New Brunswick Liberal Party Leader Douglas Young was interviewed on an open line talk show on Tuesday Feb 8. Young discussed his political career, his future, and the future of the Liberal Party. The past election campaign was frequently mentioned.

One issue raised was the role of the press during the election. There were ads that were criticized by the CRTC and a news director, but the ads were continuously broadcast by the radio stations for the Liberal Party. Young felt that this showed the stature of the news director within his own organization.

When questioned about the caucus coup that led to Joe Daigle's resignation, Young stated that Daigle resigned on his own and the caucus had no legal authority to dump the leader. Throughout the campaign, Young was haunted by this caucus coup and the press showed Young as a back stabbing leader, who could not respect loyalty from the Liberal Party.

Young suggested the press catch up on political history. He noted Premier Hatfield's lack of loyalty toward Joe Clark during the election campaign by trying to dissociate himself from the federal Conservatives. He also referred to Dalton Camp, advisor to Hatfield, who started the leadership review process for the federal Conservatives and used this to dump the leader at the time, John Diefenbaker.

Young feels the people of New Brunswick need a strong press core, who have different view points. The people need to be reassured that they have a counter-balance to the Irving controlled Media.

Young praised Hatfield for his commitment to politics and hopes Hatfield will live up to his campaign promises and be responsible to the people. He added the government must be stupid or lying if they do not follow campaign promises. Their projected deficit has increased substantially since the election. They do have the experience necessary, so there can be no excuses for variation from their platform. Young feels the P.C.'s will be talking tough times in the first session, with the appointment of Harold Fanjoy as Treasury Board Chairman and John Baxter as Finance Minister. Both of these Ministers are from "safe" Kings County seats. Young feels Hatfeld's expanded cabinet of four ministers was not a sound economic decision in times of restraint. These new Cabinet posts will need deputy ministers, department officials and staff. The bureaucratic system continues to grow.

Young was questioned on educational services. Community colleges and universities need a balance of payments. He viewed young people today, as very advanced and need the educational services to realize their full potential. He proposed government become more involved in education.

Young feels his main job now is to provide effective opposition to the government, and to protect the citizens, educational system, and social values. he said the NDP cannot become a strong third party until they establish their policy and program and follow it through.

Young stated he will resign within two years and a leadership convention will be held. He rejects the principle of leadership reviews, as they create disunity and open new wounds. He believes a leader has to resign if he is a hinderance to his party.

Young thinks the Liberal Party can rebound and he plans to listen to all Liberals in order to achieve this. He has recently appointed Conde Grondin, UNB political science professor to be his executive assistant. He feels politics has evolved to where one needs professional people at certain levels. Grondin will be serving a 14 month term, commencing after the academic year.

Young felt Joe Clark should not have resigned and he sees Brian Mulroney as the front runner followed by Peter Lougheed or William Davis. On the federal Liberal scene he sees John Turner as the favorite, but he could be challenged by a number of Liberals.

Young stated politics is only one of his goals. New Brunswick needs capable politicians for the people, as politicians are a reflection of society. He hopes Mr. Hatfield will lead a good government for all of New Brunswick.

Campus Ministry

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In this column the Campus Ministry Team (Barry Hollowell 454-3275; Monte Peters 457-2733 or 454-3525; and Marilyn Rose 454-1093) want to inform you, the student, of various events happening in our area churches. We hope there will be something to interest you.

Saturday, February 19th - A pancake breakfast sponsored by the St. Andrew's Saints hockey team will be held from 8-10 am in the Church Hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 512 Charlotte St.

Sunday, February 20th - The 5th film in the six part film series "His Stubborn Love", by Joyce Landorf, will be shown at 6:30 at Marysville United Baptist Church, 389 Canada St.

Friday, March 4th and Saturday, March 5th - A prospective student weekend at Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, N.S. will be held March 4th and 5th. This weekend seminar conference on vocation, calling and Christian ministry, is especially geared to those who feel God may be calling them to full-time ministry and who would like to explore the possibility. It is open to any prospective student who is within two years of possible enrolment at seminary. For further details on costs and program contact Rev. Hugh McNally at 455-6083.

Friday, March 4th to Sunday, March 6th - An engaged encounter weekend will be held from March 4th - 6th. This is a weekend designed to give couples planning marriage an opportunity for an intensive and honest look at their commitment to one another. Through the atmosphere of the weekend, a couple has the chance to discuss with each other their desires, ambitions, goals, and attitudes about money, sex, children, family, and their role in the church and society. The cost is $80.00 per couple which includes room and board for the weekend. To register, please call St. Dunstan's Rectory at 454-5537.

Program will employ

The Summer Canada program is an interesting employment development program that supports career-related jobs for students.

The projects are intended to provide productive employment for students while producing specific and immediate benefits to the community. In our area, for example, a neighbourhood park on Regent Street was designed and created by students on a Summer Canada project. Internships, on the other hand, allow students to apprentice within an established organization for up to three consecutive summers, through a series of planned career-related assignments.

To be considered for funding, employers must create at least one full time job, lasting for 6-18 weeks, during the summer months. The federal government will provide funds toward student salaries at the provincial minimum wage rate, and make additional contributions toward statutory employee benefits.

Eligible employees include secondary and post-secondary students who intend to return to school in the fall and are legally entitled to work in Canada.