

SOCRED NOMINATIONS

Strachan, Heinrich win

A vote for the Western Canada Concept (WCC) is a vote for the NDP, members of the Prince George North and Prince George South Social Credit riding associations were told Friday.

About 150 members of the two organizations got the warning from Jack Kempf, Socred MLA for the Omenica riding, after a joint meeting at which Municipal Affairs Minister Jack Heinrich and deputy speaker Bruce Strachan were nominated to contest the two Prince George seats in the next provincial election.

Both Heinrich, MLA for Prince George North and Strachan, MLA for Prince George South, won by acclamation.

Kempf, chairman at the nominating meeting, warned party faithful to be "super-cautious about that which you do and that which you talk to your neighbors about, between now and when the next election is called."

WCC supporters are free enterprisers who left the Socreds because they felt "we were too far left," Kempf said, adding they think they can turn the situation around, but are fighting their "federal battle" in the wrong place.

"All they'll do is make it easier for the socialists to get into office," Kempf said. "That would be some victory for free enterprisers who think we should be further to the right."

If Socred supporters want to retain the way of life they've worked and fought for, they will have to do more than "cast ballots", they'll have to work and work hard, Kempf said.

"You've got to get out and talk to your neighbors and friends and tell them what will happen if they vote for the WCC."

If the socialists are allowed to govern the province again it won't be as easy to get rid of them as it was the last time (1975) because they've attempted to take on the "good guy" role, Kempf said.

"They want to be the good guy (in the next election) and one thing you're going to have to be is very cautious."

"We know what the province can expect from yet another socialist government... we've experienced it once and we won't let that happen again."

In his acceptance speech Heinrich reviewed his three and one-half years as labor minister and said it's great "no longer being public enemy number one."

He supported his government's policies on restraint, electoral boundary reform and mortgage assistance, attacking the NDP for talking too much in the Legislature and then supporting the government when it came to the vote.

Heinrich said he's prepared to take a hard swing in the next election and he warned party supporters to take nothing for granted.

"We (the Socred party) can come through it well... but not without your support."

Strachan told the group that criticizing the NDP was a "good motivator" in the 1979 election, but it's a form of "political

archeology" that won't work now.

He said Socreds today face a sophisticated enemy — the middle-of-the-road NDP image — but it won't wash, because the NDP is the same bunch of socialists it's been all along.

Strachan said the attendance and manner in which the NDP handles itself in the house is "dismal", adding this is a malady that hasn't gone away and if the NDP were re-elected, the province would have "the same thing (that it had in 1972) again."

Socred party president Bernie Smith, guest speaker at the nominating meeting, told party members that the emphasis of Socred party politics has shifted "from the grassroots to the professionals" since 1979, when the party recog-

nized the psychology and emphasis of provincial politics had shifted.

"It's not something to be ashamed of. This party has counted on solid responsible government, but we need the professionals to guide the ship," Smith said.

"The ship is still ours and (Premier) Bill Bennett is still the captain... you are the crew and we've taken on pilots to get us through some bumpy waters, so we can return to Victoria as the government after the next election."

Smith challenged party members to get out and sell the job the Socred government has been doing for the past three and one-half years, so "all the people will know the good news."

"Take the message to the people of B.C.," Smith urged them.

Robbery nets jail

Two Prince George men were handed jail sentences Friday in county court for robbery with violence.

Murray Winters, 29, was sentenced to 20 months in jail and Martin Scholten, 26, was sentenced to two years for robbing a Prince George man of \$450 Nov. 23, 1981.

Gilbert Walters, 23, told court he had just left the rear entrance of the Columbus Hotel around 9:30 p.m. when he heard a click and turned to see a knife pointed at his stomach.

Walters said when he grabbed the knife to protect himself he dropped the money he was holding.

He identified Winters as the man wielding the knife and Scholten as the one who made off with the money.

The victim said just before the robbery he had removed the money from his pocket to count it while making a telephone call in the hotel lobby and had noticed the two accused standing nearby.

council

Today is move day for city council: a film on construction aggregates (gravel) is scheduled for the afternoon meeting today.

Council is studying ways to plan ahead for gravel pit locations both for city and provincial government use. The film is meant to aid aldermen in understanding the qualities needed, depending on the uses to which the gravel is put.

Also on the afternoon agenda is discussion of a proposed expansion of the Fourth Avenue-Patricia Boulevard city yard facilities at a cost of \$32,500.

The project is for interim use only, because of current economic restraint preventing permanent construction elsewhere.

Public hearings from 7 p.m. are concerned with rezoning of 7788 Hart Highway from urban residential to administration, health and safety; amendment to an existing land use contract at Highway 16 and Range Road; amendment of a land use contract at 20th Avenue and Redwood Street to allow construction of a manager's suite in an apartment complex; rezoning land on Arabian Road from urban residential to allow subdivision for single-family dwelling and mobile homes; and changes in the zoning bylaw within C-1 zoning district to withdraw demands for off-street parking for multi-family dwelling developments.



Referee Dale Schlogl mediates a split decision between her cat Samantha and the mature grouse the cat brought home — alive and kicking. Eleven-year-old Samantha received a stern warning about this year's hunting regulations as reward for her predatory efforts.

Citizen photo by Doug Weller

Cats will be cats

Arts festival delayed year

KAMLOOPS, B.C. (CP) — The B.C. Festival of the Arts will not be staged in 1983, but will be resurrected the following year, Provincial Secretary Jim Chabot said Thursday.

"The government will continue its support of the arts and will hire a general manager and set up an office in Victoria within the next few months to co-ordinate the 1984 festival," he said.

Organizers of the 1982 festival in this city convinced the government that a lead time of at least a year is needed to stage the event, which involves thousands of artists from throughout the province.

Chabot said the government will be accepting bids for the 1984 festival from potential host communities, and "in addition, appropriate staff are essential if the festival is going to meet the high expectations of both the arts community and the government."

Teachers eye shorter year

VICTORIA (CP) — Premier Bill Bennett will have to overrule his education minister if he wants to slash school spending without cutting jobs or programs, the B.C. School Trustees' Association said Saturday.

"The only way he can achieve that is with legislation that shortens the school year," said association president Gary Begin. "And since (Education Minister Bill) Vander Zalm has already rejected that idea, Bennett would be showing he has taken charge."

After meeting Friday with trustees and teachers, Bennett said he intends to quickly resolve the impasse over the \$60-million education cuts.

He said that a solution is likely to involve legislation, possibly to be introduced this week. But he refused to say whether the school year would be shortened or if there would simply be measures giving school boards greater flexibility in cutting their budgets.

Larry Kuehn, president of the B.C. Teachers' Federation, said Bennett can do nothing to appease the teachers unless he reverses his stand on school funding.

Kuehn promised to apply political pressure with a series of media advertisements which start today on television.

Fire damages city residence

A Sunday morning fire gutted the living room and damaged the roof of a Harper Street residence before fire fighters brought the blaze under control.

The fire department says careless use of smoking materials caused the fire.

Occupants suffered minor cuts escaping the burning house.



Rivers Day

The reason for B.C. Rivers Day became all too real for the Northwest Brigade Canoe Club, whose members collected all this garbage in the short distance from Miworth to Fort George Park along the Nechako and Fraser rivers. The club, along with other groups and individuals were promoting the government-sponsored event Sunday and later displayed their bounty at the park.

Citizen photo by Brock Gablt

Court hears rape account

A Prince George female taxi owner identified her attacker in B.C. Supreme Court Friday when she testified about a rape incident.

The woman pointed out Timothy Charles Findlay as the man who raped her Aug. 1, 1981, in an off-highway area between Stone Creek and Hixon.

Findlay, 25, of Prince George is charged with five counts of rape involving five women in or near Prince George between July 14 and Sept. 13, 1981.

The taxi driver told court of answering a dispatch call around 2 a.m. in the downtown area and how her male passenger paid her to hold the cab while he sought a prostitute in various night spots around town.

She said when he had no luck he directed her to drive south on highway 97.

She told court when she became fearful and attempted to turn the cab back to Prince George, the man attacked her, ripping off her T-shirt and neck chains.

She said there was a farmhouse nearby, but no one came when she blew the taxi horn.

She said a 20-minute struggle of "punching each other out and pulling hair" ended when he took over the driving and parked in a less-inhabited area.

She said after a further struggle lasting more than two hours the man "had his way."

Defence counsel E.J. Horembala, in cross examination, suggested the victim had previously known Findlay and had taken him for a ride in the country where she consented to sexual intercourse for money.

The woman denied the accusation. "You're sick," she said to Horembala.

When asked why she didn't use the cab radio to call for help she replied, "I never had a chance," and explained she removed a fuse from the radio to stop her assailant from smashing the radio equipment.

Four more women complainants, ranging from 15 to 45 years, are scheduled to testify at the continuing trial.

Slow upturn seen

VANCOUVER (CP) — The shift from recession to recovery has begun in B.C.'s forest industry, but B.C. lumber producers must be prepared to fight for a continuing share of the U.S. market, says Mike Aspey, B.C.'s Deputy Minister of Forests.

But Aspey, speaking last week at an international exhibition of forest industries equipment, cautioned that a long-term upturn is not expected until next year in the U.S. so the recovery will be neither smooth nor speedy.

"The competition in world markets will be keener than ever," he said.

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