

BIDDING FOR POWER

place. That stimulates growth on the part of business which will create jobs.

Q: Regarding the Veterinary College, there is a proposal which states that anyone entering the college would have to have a degree from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. This proposal obviously detracts students from taking an undergraduate degree at UPEI. How do you view the situation?

Some people are talking about bringing in capital punishment for murder of policemen and for prison guards. It would seem to me that if I was going to take a job as a policeman or a prison guard, I would know what the problems are associated with that job, and that if that was one of the things bothering me, I wouldn't take the job. I come back to the original point, I don't believe in taking human life - only one entity

people in the form of new oil resources and/or dividends, perhaps to the public treasury so that Canadians can have better services or maybe even lower taxes.

Q: My last question deals with abortion. What are your personal feelings toward this?
Birt: I don't agree with abortion on demand at all. I don't really think that abortion is worthy of the civilized state we have today. It is not the answer to the problem that exists in the

world. I think we are attacking the problem from the wrong end.

In certain circumstances there may be reason for abortion, but they are only rare. Where the life of the mother is at stake, I think it's important to have a look at it then, but in most cases, medical science is at such a level that it can carry most women through a pregnancy without any great problem at all.

I don't feel Capital Punishment has a place in any civilized society. I think it's a barbaric type of punishment. No man has the right to take another man's life regardless of what the situation is.

Birt: Well it is my understanding that people going to the veterinary colleges in other parts of Canada now do not need a degree from the N.S. Agricultural College. They have a 2 year pre-vet course there, which is, I assume, a diploma type course, and from there they go into veterinary college. I wouldn't see the requirements changing if a veterinary college were established at UPEI.

Q: Would you comment on the party policy on the legalization of marijuana and, if you choose, your personal opinion.

Birt: I would rather give you my own personal viewpoint on that. Legalization of marijuana I don't really think is absolutely necessary. If you're talking about decriminalization in terms of individuals who are caught with marijuana, in other words, charged with possession, I would say that in 999 cases out of 1000, on a first offense, the judge lets them off or dismisses the case. There is no criminal record on anybody's file at all. So, on that basis, I would not see decriminalizing marijuana as being a big issue at all. However, if people are going to push marijuana, those are the people we should be going after.

Q: What is your opinion on Capital Punishment?

Birt: I don't feel Capital Punishment has a place in any civilized society. I think it's a barbaric type of punishment. No man has the right to take another man's life regardless of what the situation is.

can do that.

Q: Assuming the Liberal Party win the election, will Trudeau fulfill the term or will we end up with a Prime Minister we didn't vote for?

Birt: Mr. Trudeau has given a commitment to the Party and to the Canadian People that he will lead the Party in this election. He has also given a commitment that he will stay on as long as is necessary to get this country going again. He did really want to quit. He was asked to continue. He was prevailed upon to continue. I think he saw a duty to Canada and the people of Canada to do that.

When it comes to a leadership change in the Liberal Party, it will be done under the rules and regulations of the Party itself and will not be to the detriment of the country. I can see Mr. Trudeau staying on, if he gets a majority government, for 3 or even close to 4 years. But he said himself, he will not lead the Party in another election.

Q: Would you comment on the issue of Petro-Can?

Birt: Petro-Can to me is one of the most important keystones in our total energy policy. I think we need a company, such as Petro-Can, which is owned by the Canadian people and is operated in their best interests. I see Petro-Can as the most important entity in our exploration for oil resources, and our delivery of those resources to the Canadian people. I think this can be a very profitable enterprise, obviously, and the profits should go back to the Canadian

