

Tiemann means 'more'

Governor Norbert Tiemann is a very smooth politician — polished in performance and expert in delivery.

J. J. Exon, his challenger, is more rough hewn in his approach — given to homilies and earthy, homespun diction.

But more than a difference in sophistication became evident at their debate Wednesday night. Tiemann displayed a depth of understanding when speaking about specific events at this University and University-related matters that Exon lacked.

When questioned about his opinion of the Spelts' Commission Report, Exon dealt solely with legal aspects and complained that he had yet to see action taken against the students who were involved. Tiemann, however, pointed out that the student strike was an indication of a greater problem in society when he said, "We must turn our attention to understand the reasons and treat the causes."

Asked about the Scranton Commission Report, Exon spoke to the issue of the proper use of force to handle campus disruptions. Tiemann also spoke on this point, delineating a plan for response that calls for action by the city police, state police and the national guard only when the campus police cannot handle a matter and request help. But Tiemann again continued where Exon did not, to point out that the main emphasis of the Report is a call for reconciliation between youth and adults.

Just after Exon finished talking about "moving in with force" when there is "danger to the person because of the use of knives, machine guns or snipers," Tiemann struck a responsive chord and drew the loudest applause of the evening by stating, "The principle reason there was no violence last spring was not because of any act of the governor's. It was because of the responsible student leadership you have here — you are responsible students who have come to the University to learn, not to riot or loot."

Claiming to be a man who "lays it on the line," Exon drew audible groans and gasps from the audience with his frank and sometimes inaccurate statements. Perhaps calling Nebraska University "one of the finest institutions in the nation" is an approach that will work with tax-minded citizens who have little contact with the University, but it set the student audience murmuring.

Likewise, Exon's comment that the strike prevented some students from attending class may be a myth that is popular with those who don't understand the strike, but it drew an audible response of disbelief and shock that the man was so ill-informed.

Tiemann enjoyed a greater rapport with the audience than Exon, and it was one that improved after each Exon faux pas. Tiemann displayed a greater sensitivity to the problems of the University than Exon did and he demonstrated a depth of understanding and analysis that Exon could not match.

Perhaps Exon summed it up best when he said, "If Jim Exon is elected, you won't get as much as you will if Governor Tiemann is re-elected."

THE NEBRASKAN

Telephones: Editor: 472-2588, Business: 472-2589, News: 472-2590. Second class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.
Subscription rates are \$5 per semester or \$8.50 per year. Published Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school year except during vacations and exam periods. Member of the Intercollegiate Press, National Educational Advertising Service.
The Nebraskan is a student publication, independent of the University of Nebraska's administration, faculty and student government.
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Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

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Swing to the right? Wrong.

by FRANK MANKIEWICZ
and TOM BRADEN

DEFIANCE, Ohio — In the flat farmland around here, there is almost as much concern about the blight that has caused a drop in corn production as there is about the election, and the talk turns political slowly. But when it does, here and elsewhere, it looks as though Ohio — like so many other states — is resisting the heralded "turn to the right."

IT'S A FUNNY THING, this shift to the right. Everyone talks about it — but in some other state. The political analysts have read — or, more likely, read about — "The Real Majority" by Richard Scammon and Ben Wattenberg and have grasped that it is Washington's chic book-of-the-season and that conservative candidates are the wave of the '70s.

The only thing wrong with this theory is that the election trends are the other way. Here in Ohio, for example, Howard Metzenbaum, a virtual unknown six months ago, is gaining ground in his Senate race against Republican Rep. Robert A. Taft Jr., about as far from an unknown as you can get. As of this week, the respected Columbus Dispatch poll shows Metzenbaum ahead of Taft 48.4% to 43%, with only 6% undecided.

OHIO, OF COURSE, is the home state of Scammon and Wattenberg's Average Voter, the mythical 47-year-old

housewife from the Dayton suburbs whose husband is a machinist, whose brother-in-law is a policeman and who is worried about what the authors call the Social Issue, shorthand for violence, drugs, pornography and, of course, race.

But in Ohio the collective ladies from Dayton aren't talking much about the Social Issue. What has preoccupied them — and their fellow-Ohioans — for some time is another "social issue," corruption. Ever since it was revealed earlier this year that a number of state officials in Republican Gov. James Rhodes' cabinet — some of whom are on the GOP ticket — had profited personally from payoffs arising out of a state loan program, the Republicans here have been in trouble.

IN THE RACE for governor the only question seems to be the ultimate size of the majority to be run up by liberal Democrat John J. Gilligan.

Another social issue unmentioned by the political seers in putting together the "real majority" is unemployment. In Ohio it is climbing with the national total. In addition, the decline in machine-tool orders presages a gloomy winter in Ohio's industrial centers.

CONGRESSMAN T A F T, trying hard to remain aloof and clean and free of the local Republican scandal, is not above a little social issue-ing of his own. In a fit of work which

would have done credit to Sen. Joe McCarthy, if McCarthy had had a good press secretary, the Taft camp leaked to a few national columnists that they had "information locked in the files" which would link Metzenbaum with "left-wing" activities in the '40s.

The columnists took the bait and tried to convey the impression that straight old Bob Taft wouldn't use the information. If true, Taft has a very loose hold on his organization because his men were leaking the "secret information" all over the state.

THE "LEFT-WING ACTIVITY" finally turned out to be something called the Ohio School of Social Sciences. Metzenbaum had indeed been an incorporator in 1944, along with Gov. Rhodes' present director of industrial relations and the executive director of the Cleveland Baptist Assn.

The smear may have damaged the Taft image of rectitude more than Metzenbaum. On the same day, Metzenbaum was endorsed by the Cleveland Press and its sister papers, the Columbus Citizen-Journal and the Cincinnati Post and Times-Star.

Taft may yet win, but if he squeaks by in normally Republican Ohio it will hardly confirm any conservative trend. The corn blight and a depressed economy sound familiar, and the voters don't need theorists to help understand them.