

Election fever starts

# Four candidates for Halton East

The strange lure of politics worked overtime in the new Halton East Provincial riding this week as two Liberals and two Progressive Conservatives announced their candidacy for their party's nomination.

The riding, a result of provincial redistribution in 1965, consists of Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and Esqueping Township as far north as lot 22 in each concession.

The sudden rise in interest stems from a Toronto announcement that a Provincial

election is likely to be called by Premier John Robarts for late spring. So far Oakville Liberals Murray Haesler and Robin Skuce and Oakville P.C.'s William B. Sargent and Bill Bateman have tossed their political hats into the ring.

However, the field is still wide open and there's speculation that as many as five or six will seek each of the old line parties' nomination.

So far there has been no announcement of a candidate for the New Democratic Party. Councilor William Gillies of Oakville was the party's candidate in the last provincial election held in the fall of 1963.

Halton's current representative George Kerr, P.C., of Burlington is expected to seek re-election, but in the new riding of Halton West. Halton West consists of Burlington, Nassagawaga Township, Acton and the upper portion of Esqueping Township. As yet there has been no announcement of possible candidates for either the New Democratic or Liberal parties in that riding.

William B. Sargent, a 22-year-old University of Guelph student started the political ball rolling late last week with the announcement that he would seek the Progressive Conservative nomination in the new riding of Halton East.

A graduate of T. A. Blake-lock High School and a second year student in a Recreation Director's course at the U. of G., Mr. Sargent declared, "I'm close to the youth of the riding and I think I could interpret their problems. I have been given encouragement by older party members and I have no intention of trying to pit the young guard against the old guard. The youth of this country wants to help and they will, if given the opportunity."

Although born in Hamilton, Mr. Sargent was raised and still lives in South-West Oakville (Bronte). He's a member of the Church of the Epiphany (Anglican) in Oakville and is an associate editor of the Ontarian (the University newspaper). He manages the inter-collegiate hockey team and is an assistant Scoutmaster in Guelph.

Mr. Sargent hopes to follow in the footsteps of the late Stan Hall and Mr. Kerr (present Halton member George Kerr) in providing good representation for the riding.

Although he couldn't make an "accurate guess" of when the election might be, he did hope "it isn't in April — that's

when I'll be writing my final exams." If however, he is nominated, "I'll campaign diligently and if elected I'll devote full time to representing the riding," he said.

Murray J. Haesler, a Toronto-born criminal lawyer said, "I've always thought I'd like to seek a political office and I decided three months ago to try for the Liberal nomination in this riding."

An Oakville resident for the past four years, Mr. Haesler was elected to Oakville council for a two-year term in 1965. The 29-year-old Osgoode Hall graduate is a father of three and received his high school education in Mimico and his college education at the University of Toronto.

"This is a new riding and our party will need someone who can do something at the polls. I think I can," he reported. Mr. Haesler believed, "the foremost problem facing the government will be to get closer to the people. The provincial government might as well be in Ottawa, it is as hard to reach."

He declared he would be actively seeking the nomination and plans a press conference for this week. The probable date for the election would be the first week in June, he indicated.

ination convention would be held in mid-February and noted, "the Association is trying to line up Bob Nixon (newly named Ontario Liberal Leader) as guest speaker." It is understood the convention will be arranged to fit in with Mr. Nixon's schedule.

Mr. Skuce's education includes two years at Trinity College in Dublin, two years at the University of Toronto — he graduated with honors from a modern language course — two years of post graduate work in Edinburgh, Scotland and two years at Victoria College in Toronto where he was ordained in the United Church.

His five years in the ministry included appointments to churches in Northern Ontario and Toronto as well as being a chaplain in the Canadian Army Reserve.

In 1963 he moved to Oakville to teach at Appleby College and since that time has been active in Halton Children's Aid Society work and community boys' work.

Mr. Skuce said he first started to think seriously about running for the nomination two weeks ago. He indicated he had been approached by active riding Liberals.

William Bateman of Oakville, business administrator of the Oakville Board of Parks Management, is the second P.C. to enter that party's race for the nomination. He is first vice-president of the Oakville Progressive Conservative Association and has been active in county politics for several years.

Although Mr. Bateman says he is "very definitely interested in running," he was waiting to check with his employers before making a final commitment to enter the race. The Parks Board was just being appointed this week and he wanted to discuss his ambitions with its members.

A native of Toronto, he is married and has two children, aged eight and five. He is 34 years old.

Mr. Bateman worked for the Trafalgar Township Parks Board until it was amalgamated with Oakville eight years ago.

Centennial services planned in all 12 Eramosa churches

The 12 churches in Eramosa township will all be participating in holding special services during 1967. A church organization section of the Eramosa township centennial committee has announced a schedule of services.

The first will be at Barrie Hill church on January 29 when Prof. Theakston will give an illustrated lecture on Expo 67 and there will be a short musical program.

In the ensuing months, the other 11 churches will organize



WALKER LODGE A.F. & A.M. officers for 1967 took over during the first meeting of the year recently. Front row left to right are secretary W. Bro. Herb Ritchie; Senior Warden, George Lee; Worshipful Master, E. G. Franklin; Junior Warden, Don VanFleet and Director of Ceremonies, H. B. Ramsden. Second row left to right are Senior Deacon, Vic Patrick; Senior

Steward, Ray Thompson; Junior Deacon, Alf Doby; Junior Steward, Ray Mason and Organist J. Lowrie. Back row is Inner Guard C. L. Rogvaldson. Missing when photo was taken were Chaplain George Musselle, treasurer, R. H. Elliott, Tyler S. J. Joe and I.P.M. T. S. Newton.

## Centennial services planned in all 12 Eramosa churches

services to be attended by the general public during the year: February, Eden Mills Presbyterian Church; March, Eden Mills United Church; April, Everton Disciples Church; May, Mimosa United Church; June, Oustic Roman Catholic Church; July, Rockwood Anglican Church; August, Rockwood Presbyterian Church; September, Rockwood Roman Catholic Church; October, Rockwood United Church; November, Speedside Church; December, Stone United Church.

## First fire in '67 car on Cobble Hill

Action Firefighters answered their first call in '67 Friday afternoon when they raced to a car fire on Cobble Hill Road.

When they arrived at the scene the fire had been extinguished. It is believed the car was driven by Ralph Mathews and had backfired causing a fire under the hood.

If you dip the roasting fork in butter before sliding the marshmallow on it and hold the fork level while toasting, the marshmallows will slip easily off the fork.

## Village history, skits, music in town hall centennial show

Rockwood—Mrs. Max Milne of Rockwood is not depending on anyone else to begin a Centennial project, but has her own all well planned. In the Rockwood town hall on the evenings of February 3 and 4, local talent and others who once claimed Rockwood as their home town, will join to bring two full evenings of enjoyment.

Mrs. Milne has contacted and been contacted by many who are more than willing to help in any way to make the project a success. A short history of Rockwood will be prepared and with readings, vocal solos, instrumentals, skits, group singing and square dancing, the program offers wide variety.

A prize will be given for the best costumed performer (1800's) and the best old-time number. Several other prizes have also been donated. The program will begin each night at 8 p.m. Part of the proceeds will go toward a large bench which will be placed near the cenotaph. This is hoped to be especially beneficial to senior citizens. The remainder of the

fund will buy sweaters for Pee Wee and Squirt ball teams in Eramosa township.

Mrs. Milne has done a wonderful job in putting together this event and is thrilled at the co-operation she has received. Anyone wishing transportation, please phone 856-9948 and it will be readily provided.

Frank Allsup will be master of ceremonies with Mrs. Allsup as pianist. Others assisting are T. D. McCutcheon, Dick Dupuis, L. Deebank, Frank Schnell

and Mrs. F. Taylor, the chairman of Eramosa Township Centennial Committee.

Mrs. Milne would like as many as possible of the audience to be in costume as well, but no prizes have as yet been donated for this. For further information, please call 856-9948 or 856-9942. Make your plans include both February 3 and 4 at the town hall. A different program will be presented each evening.

## Field secretaries annual conference

Twenty-two blind field secretaries from all over Ontario met in Toronto recently for their annual conference on future benefits for the blind of the province. With the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, these men are responsible for the CNIB service program on a community level.

W. K. Lawson, the local CNIB representative for Halton County, reported that the conference focused attention on the position of the blind in modern society.

The group examined the CNIB aid to 130 blind university students in Canada. They are studying a variety of subjects including Electrical Engineering and Comparative European Literature.

Some students with residual vision read inkprint books with special magnifiers provided by the CNIB. Others use the CNIB library, which provides recorded and Braille books transcribed by volunteers.

Mr. Lawson reported that 33 blind Ontarians were newly employed in industry alone during the last fiscal year, bringing the total to over 215 blind workers in manufacturing plants outside the CNIB. The field man was proud of eight blind people in a new career — computer programming.

This is a field with a future for the blind as great as the broadening horizons of modern science. In the field of rehabilitation, the CNIB helped 28 newly blind persons this year through the specialized Adjustment Training Course, where they learned skills for daily living such as typing, Braille and travel-training.

Among the many duties of the majority of field men is the administration of one of 10 district residences which provide a home atmosphere and recreation for 512 elderly people.

The conference studied expansion of services for them. Prevention of blindness was a topic of active discussion. Last year, 2,771 had sight saved or improved through eye examinations, operations, or

some other type of assistance provided by the CNIB here in Ontario.

"Through prevention of blindness and promotion of eye safety, the CNIB serves not only the 8,000 blind of the province, but the whole population," the CNIB man concluded.

## Life sentence for murder

Charged with capital murder of an 18-year-old Burlington girl on September 27, a Hamilton man was convicted of non-capital murder by the Supreme Court jury in Milton Monday night. Mr. Justice D. R. Morand sentenced the 31-year-old to life imprisonment.

The court case caused widespread interest during the past week. It was the first murder trial held in the Halton Court House in several years.

It was opened Tuesday of last week and ended Monday night when the jury brought in its verdict. Special arrangements had been made to house the 12 male jurors in a motel several miles from Milton, and they were bussed to and from the court each day while the trial was being held.

In the fall of 1964, three manslaughter cases were heard in the Halton Supreme Court sittings. Two of the accused were sentenced to three and 10 year terms and the third was freed. At least two others facing murder charges in recent years have been found insane during preliminary hearings, and unfit to stand trial.

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MURRAY HAESLER

Mr. Haesler and his law partner operate offices in both Oakville and Toronto. He, his wife and three children, aged five, four and one-year, live in Oakville. He has been practicing law for the past four years.

Robin Skuce, 29-year-old native of Ireland and father of three, stated he would seek the nomination for the Liberal Party in Halton East.

Mr. Skuce, elected president of the Halton East Liberals late last fall, said he has already sent in a letter of resignation to the Association. He has been in Canada for 10 years — the last three as head of the French Department at Appleby College, Oakville.

The candidate for the Liberal nomination indicated, "my best guess is the election will be held in the spring, probably May or June." He said it was expected the riding's nom-



BILL BATEMAN

ago. Prior to that he was with the building development department of Toronto Township, the Ontario Department of Mines for three years and the water engineering department of Metro/Toronto for two years. "All my life has been spent in municipal work of one kind or another and I feel this experience will be valuable to me," he indicated.

Unlike the other three announced candidates, Mr. Bateman did not think the election would be held in the spring or summer of this year, but in the fall. On the Provincial level, he feels the government has been running smoothly but several farming matters should be cleared up in the near future.

One other possible candidate rumored to be seeking a Halton East nomination was Mayor McLean Anderson of Oakville. But on Monday he emphatically denied the rumor,

stating he was too busy with municipal work in Oakville to devote the time to a Provincial member's work.

Several others are rumored to be in the race for either Liberal or Conservative nominations but at press time today could not be contacted or were still "thinking" about their decision.



ROBIN SKUCE

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**Not driving**

A story in last week's Free Press indicated an accident on the Kelso Road, January 7 involved a car "driven" by Leroy McIsaac of R.R. 4, Acton. Actually, Mr. McIsaac's car was parked on the side of the road at the time of the accident. The other car, driven by a Milton man, Patrick Carr, skidded and collided with the parked McIsaac car while the driver was trying to avoid an upcoming car.