

In order to give voters in Halton West a better idea of the issues in this provincial election, The Free Press asked the three candidates to state their views for readers. All three candidates co-operated. Below are the opinions expressed by each in the K. L. M. contest. If you've got questions to ask from this outline you will have a chance at a Meet the Candidates night at the high school auditorium Thursday night.

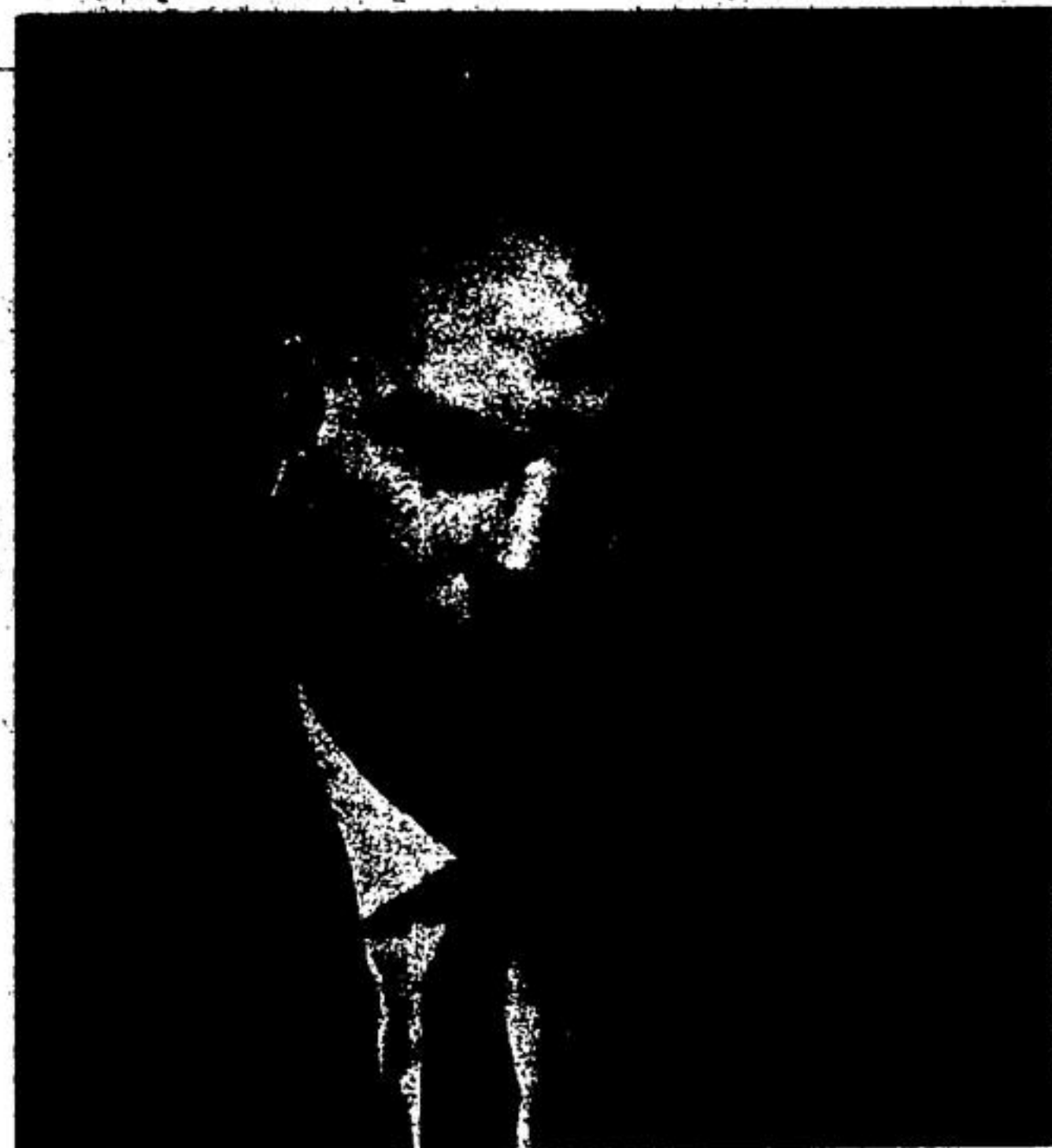
# The Acton Free Press

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Second Section

## Will it be Kerr, Lush or MacDonald Tuesday?



### George Kerr

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE

It has been my privilege to be your Progressive Conservative candidate for the Ontario Legislature. I have had the honor of serving you as Member for the last four years and I sincerely hope the progress we have made has earned your continuing support. The record of the Roberts Government is one of achievement and is reflected in the rapid growth of the Burlington and Halton area.

The next four years is a crucial time for our Province and many important decisions will have to be made in the fields of Education, Tax Reform, Municipal Government, Water and Air Pollution, Housing, etc. This will require men and women with experience and proven ability.

During my term of office I have been working actively in your interests. It has been my privilege to serve on select committees on conservation and consumer credit. I have been chairman of committees on government commissions, municipal affairs and legal bills.

As your Member I've worked for you in many ways including: Promoting highway improvements on Highway 403, Queen Elizabeth Way and Highway 25. Hospital expansion and conservation in this area.

Since 1963 the most modern school and hospital for deaf children on the continent has been opened in Milton to serve Western Ontario.

A community college for Halton and Peel Counties will soon be built in this area.

A regional detention and rehabilitation centre will be built to replace ancient county jails. A driver examination centre has been opened in Burlington. Halton Region Conservation Authority has been established

and substantial grants received for reservoirs, flood control and parks.

The Home for the Aged for county residents has been doubled in size. Ontario Housing Corporation projects are underway in Burlington and Oakville.

My remarks and stand in this campaign have been that Ontario Government has a good record of service during the past four years, and we have reached our main goal of maintaining high employment, and a decent standard of living for our people. We have done this not only by launching a massive trade crusade and co-operating with industry in all its ramifications, but also by providing the necessary government services such as educational facilities, highways, social legislation, anti-discrimination, legislation, minimum wage legislation, agricultural programs and assistance for agriculture, labour legislation, securities legislation, consumer protection, medical health insurance, etc.

I recognize that we have some problems which are the result of our tremendous growth, population increase and the trend toward urbanization. Such things as pollution, municipal taxes and a housing shortage are caused by such growth and change.

However, I submit that the Ontario Government is doing something about these problems. In the field of pollution we have Conservation Authorities, the Ontario Water Resources Commission, and the Air Pollution Control Act under the Provincial Department of Health. Industries are told they must co-operate and adopt anti-pollution devices and stop disposing of their raw waste in our rivers and streams. Industries which do not co-operate

are penalized. The same applies to air pollution and any industry which obtains a permit to build must adopt the latest anti-pollution equipment.

The Ontario Housing Corporation and the HOME program are helping to ease the housing crisis and if it had the co-operation of the Federal Government, particularly in the field of financing and low cost loans the situation would be much better than it is now.

However, the Federal Government Program of using housing as a barometer, and the fluctuation of interest rates and the complete lack of low cost financing is aggravating the housing situation.

I hope that the Smith Report on Taxation will be implemented at least partially so that the inequities in our tax system, particularly taxes on real estate will be changed, and I feel of course that the adoption by the Provincial Government of the basic exemption home grant of up to two thousand dollars of assessment will assist homeowners next year.

Also, of course, the adoption of the total cost of administration of justice by the province will help our municipalities in their financing and should ease mill rates next year.

During the Progressive Conservative's term of office Ontario has expanded immensely. More jobs - average wages are 18 per cent higher than anywhere else in Canada - make our province a good place to work. Here, personal endeavour is recognized and rewarded.

Since 1963, 9,000 new hospital beds have been made available. We financially assisted up to two thirds of the cost of building and equipping new hospitals.

You've heard a lot about education lately. For the past five years an average of one and a half new schools have been opened every day and a brand new secondary school every two weeks. Grants have increased 600 per cent. Five new universities have been formed since 1963. I believe the Roberts government is creating the educational facilities and opportunities everyone in the province needs in these times.

Taxes we must pay - but the Roberts Government is concerned with keeping them down, and spreading the burden fairly. The 1967 budget showed no increase in taxes at all. What's more, two proposals of the Smith Report on Taxation have already been endorsed to reduce your local tax bill. One gives an allowance of up to the first \$2,000 of assessment on property whether rented or owned; the other shifts the entire cost of justice from the municipality to the Province.

Four thousand miles of highways have been built or rebuilt in the last four years. Fifty-two miles of GO system (first government-sponsored commuter service on the North American continent) have been created with more to come. And our 98

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### Jack Lush

Liberal candidate

On Tuesday, October 17th, we go to the polls to decide the future of Ontario and more particularly that of Halton West. In my judgment anything that is good for Halton West is good for the rest of Ontario. My Conservative counterpart apparently does not think this way. In his four years in office, he has done nothing constructive for Acton or the rest of our riding.

The Ontario Government's Go-Train service originally was to have Burlington as its Western terminal. Hamilton's Mayor objected to this and, as a result, that City received token service. This resulted in Burlington being limited to two trains, in the morning and evening. This is a far cry from the initial schedule intended for Burlington.

Failure of our sitting member to voice objection to this arbitrary change has deprived Burlington residents of a much needed service. It takes approximately one hour to travel from Burlington to downtown Toronto, about equal to the time required for residents of Toronto who live in the north, east and west ends of the city, to reach their downtown. I wonder what this has cost our local merchants in new business from people who would like to live in the best town in Canada had we better train service.

The two year delay in the Provincial Government's approval for the extension of the Joseph Brant Hospital has seriously affected hospital services for the citizens of this riding. A concentrated effort by the sitting member could have resulted in earlier approval. It is obvious that he is either unconcerned about the needs of his constituents, or is lacking in ability to do a proper job on their behalf.

I am not satisfied that the health of the children and parents of Bridgeview Survey be allowed to deteriorate through the

pollution or lack of water while the Provincial Government stands idly by.

I pledge that my efforts in Queen's Park will be for the benefit of residents of our riding first and foremost on the promise that, what is good for Halton West, in turn, is good for Ontario.

The present member has made extensive use in his campaign of a twelve page publication entitled "Queens Park Report". This report is printed under the official Ontario Crest. I, therefore, assume that it is a Government publication printed with the taxpayer's money. This is one more example of the Tory policy of using your tax dollars in an attempt to buy your vote.

The Liberal Party's platform is designed to ease the burden of taxes on the citizens of Ontario. Real property taxes are high simply because local municipalities have a large portion of the high cost of education. A Liberal Government will get to the root of this problem by relieving the Municipalities of 80% of these costs. Safeguards will be set up to ensure that these savings, when implemented, will result in a real decrease in property taxes.

A banking policy that requires a person to match dollar for dollar to borrow money is not in step with the times. This drives many people into the clutches of lenders who charge exorbitant interest rates. A person's reputation and future potential must and should be a major consideration when borrowing money at reasonable interest rates.

The Liberal Party stands behind this philosophy and will offer low cost second mortgages to assist in financing the purchase of a home. We will spark urban renewal through a program of lost cost housing and assist and encourage municipalities to service new

lands in areas where housing should be developed.

The cost of living continues to soar. Our party will take concrete steps to halt creeping inflation which hurts our senior citizens to a greater extent than anyone else. We will initiate a Consumer Affairs Committee to review price increases and the reasons behind them. We will initiate government supervision of auto insurance rates and classification. To lower the cost of government, we propose to reduce the number of government departments from the present 21 to 15.

We will fight water and air pollution by enforcing province wide standards to curb same. We will assist municipalities and industries to purchase and develop pollution control equipment by providing long term, low interest loans for this purpose.

A Liberal Government will enact the Agricultural Industry Act to integrate all Government programs of assistance and subsidies and will provide a well financed program to help farmers meet the problems of automation. Less than 12% of our population are farmers. They are vital to the health and prosperity of our province. They must and will be protected.

My business and investment background is needed in government to ensure that our tax dollars are spent wisely. Increasing taxes to help pay for urgently needed programs is not the answer. A sound business approach is needed instead. I intend to propose legislation that will result in additional service worth \$50,000,000 without increasing the present tax load. This will be achieved by eliminating costly programs which serve no useful purpose.

As an example, I suggest the following: Eliminate Grade 13. Grade 13 started in the depression era, and we and parts of British Columbia are still living with it. Even other provinces permit their children to enter University with a Grade 12 matriculation. Grade 13 is costing the taxpayers of Ontario millions of dollars annually.

Three thousand secondary school teachers are employed in approximately 600 secondary schools, teaching the various subjects required to complete Grade 13. The salaries of these teachers alone account for an expenditure of over \$30,000,000 each year.

Leading University Presidents and Secondary School Educators agree that Grade 13 can be bypassed out. Surely they are the experts in this field. I, as a businessman, want to get the job done. Why not let me start NOW. Standardization of textbooks in our school system would result in a saving of over \$10,000,000 per year.

There are many other areas in the educational field where substantial savings can be effected without impairing our education standards.

Government today is no different than any other business, except that it is lacking in representation of men like myself, who are experienced in effectively running private enterprise.

I am proud to be a resident of Halton West and intend to see that our riding receives the recognition that it rightfully deserves.

I earnestly seek YOUR support on October 17th.

**H. S. HOLDEN**  
OPTOMETRIST  
36 Cork St. East  
GUELPH  
Phone TA 2-7159



### Ted MacDonald

New Democratic candidate

In Halton West your New Democratic candidate is Ted MacDonald. He is an educator and a family man who has a unique devotion to the problems of this riding.

Ted MacDonald was born in Southern Saskatchewan in what is known as the dust bowl region. He took a teachers' training course at Moose Jaw Normal School and taught for one year before joining the Royal Canadian Air Force. After serving 3 1/2 years in the RCAF he was honourably discharged and returned to further his education.

In 1949 Ted graduated from Queen's University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Until 1958 he was the manager of the farm equipment department of United Cooperatives of Ontario but because this position entailed a great deal of travel and he had a young family, he returned to his previous interest of teaching. For seven years he taught at Burlington Central High School.

At this point in his career he was approached to teach at the Ontario College of Education in Toronto. This opportunity took him professionally from Burlington and he now teaches at O.C.E. and is the head of the geography department at Alderwood Collegiate. His home and public interests are still in Halton West where he continues to live with his wife Joan and their three children - Gary, Heather and Janice at 5283 Spruce Avenue in Burlington. He is an energetic member of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation and is a leading member of Appleby United Church.

Ted MacDonald's wife Joan shares his concern and interest in the community. She serves in an executive capacity on the Home and School Association and the Cub and Scout Auxiliary. She also teaches Sunday school and is an active member of the Halton Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association.

The MacDonalds have already personally canvassed 3,200 homes throughout the riding from Acton to Burlington. Before the October 17 election they will have talked to nearly 5,000 households on this door-to-door, person-to-person campaign. In their canvassing, this husband and wife team have found a tremendous surge of sympathy for the N.D.P. The Tories apparently are aware of this since the Conservative press has once more begun to make oblique references to Mr. Kerr, the Conservative incumbent, receiving a cabinet post.

This, of course, is sheer nonsense. Based on contributions to debate in the legislature the Conservative candidate is so far down on the list of Tory hopefuls to the cabinet as to make these hints almost ludicrous. Why did the Conservative press drop this obviously cynical remark? Was it to bribe the electors of Halton West? If so, the Conservative party is impressed by the N.D.P. strength and is clearly clutching at straws. Are they afraid that the present cabinet will be so shattered that they are now scraping the bottom of the barrel?

It is unworthy of a once great party to stoop to such ends in order to attempt to elect one of their weaker brethren. Sympathy must be extended to the electorate, who despite this red herring, have to dig out the basic issues of this election.

The foremost issue in this campaign is that it is time for a change. The present government has given the residents of Ontario programs that are always too little and too late. There is much to be done and they give us little hope that they are willing to do it. For they simply claim that Ontario is prospering and so why rock the boat? But this is a province in which an employer can still legally get away with paying his worker a dollar an hour.

In this province the cost of drugs during a medical crisis can make paupers of a middle class family. For two decades there have been empty promises to solve the recognized housing problem but still thousands of hardworking men and women have no adequate housing for their families. The problem has steadily worsened and is now gaining momentum. It will take guts and imagination to solve it. The present government has done nothing to show that it has either.

Ontario is also a province where the privileged are protected and the public ignored. It allowed a financial colossus to collapse to nobody's detriment but the small shareholders. This province has been run by a political dynasty whose motto has always been "Do nothing at all about anything until you're pushed to the wall and then do as little as possible".

If it were not for the vigilance of Donald MacDonald and his dedicated band of progressives the little would be much less.

It is also a concern of the N. D. P. that the government has been using the Smith Report as an excuse for inactivity. As so frequently happens, the recommendations of this report have been some of those urged by the N. D. P. in the legislature. However, we in the N. D. P. are most

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## MEET THE CANDIDATES "NIGHT"

THURSDAY, OCT. 12th

7.30 P.M.

AT

Acton High School Auditorium

3 CANDIDATES

GEORGE KERR - JACK LUSH - TED MacDonald

(CONSERVATIVE)

(LIBERAL)

(NEW DEMOCRAT)

Come Out and Listen and Ask Questions

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