

TORIES WIN TWO HALTON RIDINGS

G. Kerr sweeps Halton West by big majority

Following the trend in most of the province, incumbent Halton M.P.P. George Kerr swept into a commanding lead early and went on to capture the new seat of Halton West for the Progressive Conservatives in yesterday's provincial election.

It was evident less than an hour after polls closed that George Kerr's popularity with the voters had not waned and he would be returned to office by a substantial margin. Both N.D.P. candidate Ted MacDonald, who ran second in his first bid for office, and Liberal standard bearer Jack Lush conceded defeat an hour and a half after the ballot count started.

Halton West Returning Officer Don McMillan had the final compilation of the results by 10.30 p.m. Tuesday night and a good picture of what was happening as early as 8.30 p.m.

George Kerr tallied 13,791 votes in the 176 polls, made up of 169 regular and seven advance polls. Runner-up Ted MacDonald was accorded 7,858 votes and Liberal Jack Lush chalked up 6,395.

Kerr's big margin was in Burlington where he counted 12,501 votes, which exceeded the combined total of the other two candidates. MacDonald got 7,005 votes from the same polls while Lush garnered 5,423 from the 149 polling stations.

In Acton, 1,541 voters from 10 polls gave Kerr 608 votes, MacDonald 475 and Lush 458 as 67 per cent. of the 2,319 eligible turned out to cast ballots.

Nassagaweya's six polling stations drew 960 of a possible 1,485 voters and they gave the incumbent P.C. 421 votes while Jack Lush came in second with 289 and Ted MacDonald assumed the last post with 250. Sixty-five per cent. of the township voters braved drenching rain which soaked the entire riding all day to give Kerr a big margin.

Esquusing township electors also gave George Kerr a mandate from four polls in the north end of the township. He received 261 votes, Lush had 225 put an X beside his name and Ted MacDonald trailed well behind with 128. Fifty-seven per cent. of the eligible Esquusing voters cast a ballot — 614 of a possible 1,090. Confusion about new electoral boundary

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HALTON M.P.P. GEORGE A. KERR, Burlington was swept back to office in Tuesday's Provincial Election. He polled 13,791 votes, which was almost as much as the combined total of his

two challengers. Here Mr. Kerr, left, is shown with the challengers Liberal Jack Lush and N.D.P. Ted MacDonald as they offer him congratulations at Tuesday night's victory party.

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ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1967

Sixteen Pages.—Ten Cents.

Two Brookville students die in tragic city fire

Two young children from this area died in a fire at a Toronto home early Sunday morning despite frantic efforts by parents to rescue them.

Dead are Dorothy McLaren, 10, and her sister, Debbie 5; daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McLaren, R.R. 2, Rockwood.

The fire also snuffed out the lives of Sheryl Harris, 12, and her sister, Carol, 10, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Harris, Fairmount Crescent, Toronto.

The McLaren family had just moved during the summer to Nassagaweya township from Brampton, and have built a new house there.

Debbie is in kindergarten at Brookville school and Dorothy is in grade four.

Kenneth Trowbridge, principal of the school, said the girls' tragic death was hard to accept. "They will be missed by everybody who knew them."

The two families, who sometimes went camping together, were spending the weekend together in the Harris home on Fairmount Crescent in Toronto. The four girls were trapped in a bedroom on the third floor. Another couple were also visiting the home.

Mr. McLaren, who attempted to fight the fire with water in a futile attempt, was treated for burned hands. His wife Eve was treated for shock. Four firemen were also injured.

The funeral services is at the Rumley-Shoemaker funeral home, Acton, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday.

How Halton voted

The following are unofficial tabulations of Tuesday's voting in Halton East and Halton West ridings. Figures were supplied by the returning officers in each riding, and are subject to change and clarification at a later date.

The Halton East figures were visibly mixed up, due to errors made by the deputy returning officers who filed their reports by telephone. A recount of ballots in this riding has been hinted.

	KERR	LUSH	MacDONALD
NASSAGAWEYA	421	289	250
ACTON	608	458	475
BURLINGTON	12,501	5,423	7,858
ESQUISING	261	225	128
TOTAL	13,791	6,395	7,858

	SNOW	SKUCE	GILLIES
OAKVILLE	6,624	6,824	4,392
GEORGETOWN	1,359	1,259	1,048
MILTON	1,014	967	562
ESQUISING	813	658	383
TOTAL	9,810	9,708	6,385

John Root keeps seat

Redistribution produced the new riding of Wellington-Dufferin, which long-time Member of Parliament John Root contested to victory Tuesday.

Allan Rimmer, Hillsburg, the N.D.P. candidate, and Maxwell Johnson, Grand Valley, the Liberal candidate, conceded the election early in the evening.

Receive over 100 calls for election night results

With Heller and Co. phone line added to the two in the Free Press office, calls tried in on staffers who were reading out the latest information all Tuesday evening.

Four Free Press and sister-paper Canadian Champion reporters were at returning officers' quarters and campaign headquarters during the evening, phoning back Halton East and Halton West results as they were given to returning officers Don McMillan for Halton West in Burlington and Allan Masson for Halton East in Oakville.

Jim Mills took the calls in a Milton Main St. office, ferried them to the Champion office where both lines were constantly busy, and phoned them in to Acton over Heller's line.

Bringing into use two business lines not required in the daytime speeded the forwarding of news from previous years when busy lines caused a delay.

The first call - a wasted one - came at ten minutes after eight. It was a little optimistic, with the polls only closing at 8. A second query was five minutes later.

The first results for both Halton West and Halton East came at 8.30, and additions to the figures and inquiries came thick and fast thereafter. Over 100 calls were answered in the Free Press news office giving Kerr-ent events.

The two Wellington riding results were given, too. "It looks like Kerr's going to get it," some of the first callers prophesied.

Of 2,300 eligible voters in ten polls in Acton, 1539 cast votes Tuesday and in the advance poll, or almost 67 per cent.

Some expected even lower due to the day-long drenching rain-fall.

The campaign hadn't generated particular enthusiasm; the Meet

the Candidates Night brought only 80 out-provincial leaders weren't met by crowds of citizens. Still the response was better than in some elections.

Acton headquarters rooms were noisy, but the excitement was contained. Final results were in there for Acton and Esquising about 8.45 p.m., and callers came in out of the rain to hear the news while phones rang intermittently.

For a critical few hours in the middle of voting day, the phone in the Conservative rooms was out-of-order. The people manning the booth noticed the calls for information and rides stopped suddenly.

The repairman - who'd reportedly been stuck in the mud - made repairs before the evening's returns started coming in.

What did one IBM card say to the other? I'm holier than thou.



WITH A BIG HUG for his wife Barbara and son Jim Jr., Halton East's new M.P.P. Jim Snow celebrates his close victory in Tuesday's election. It was a neck-and-neck race for most of Tuesday evening as results from 167 polling

stations in the riding were received. Snow finally took the lead and won by 102 votes over Liberal candidate Robin Skuce.

(Staff Photo)

Second place - again for Mayor Les Duby this time for plowing

Placing second got to be a habit with Mayor Les Duby on the weekend.

After coming a close second in the mayors' Thanksgiving walking race in Guelph, he repeated the bridesmaid-over-the-brid performance at the international plowing match.

He was entered, with 21 other mayors, in the special mayors' class on Saturday at the Joe Cochrane farm near Barrie.

Wearing a heavy sweater with buffalo design and French-Canadian toque, Acton's Mayor, who went alone, discovered many of the other mayors had able coaches along with them.

He ruefully recalled his plowing experience - almost nil. He did used to borrow Bert Davidson's tractor to plow his acre - but that was all the practice he got...and that was 17 years ago! Well, he met Albert Gray, an old Rockwood plowman, who started to give Mr. Duby a series of hints that likely made the vital difference between crooked and straight furrows.

After he drew positions and land, he started in alone, while others called to their coaches and even patted the earth.

The judges, to Mr. Duby's surprise, narrowed the winners down to three - and he was one of them.



Finally, after difficulty, they handed the trophy to Allan Pietz, the mayor of Welland.

Second place - and a hearty handshake - went to Acton's jovial entrant: Third (and another handshake) to Charles Landy of Dunville.

Halton varden Bill Counter was entered in the wardens' class Wednesday.

There was a big crowd at the match on the final day, with five helicopters circling overhead.

Phone calls hoax

Reports have been received by The Free Press of someone impersonating a reporter phoning for news stories and advertising over the weekend.

Unless something has happened on your doorstep or you are familiar with an incident it isn't likely anyone from this newspaper would contact someone over the weekend.

We advise readers to be cautious about such calls and notify police if you suspect it is merely a dodge to find out if someone is at home.

Harry Worton back as M.P.P.

Liberal incumbent Harry Worton was returned as M.P.P. for Wellington South with 11,614 votes. P.C. Norm Jary polled 8,234 followed by Dr. Eugene Benson of the N.D.P. with 6,134 votes.

Recount possible in Halton East

In an election night "battle of the ballots" that literally see-sawed for close to three hours, Progressive Conservative candidate James E. "Jim" Snow emerged as the probable winner of the Ontario Legislature seat in the new Halton East riding on Tuesday evening.

The latest figures available from returning officer Allan M. Masson's office in Oakville showed Snow held a slim 102-vote lead over his closest rival, Liberal candidate Robin Skuce. The totals—unofficial until they are checked over more thoroughly by the returning officer and his staff—showed Snow with 9,810 votes and Skuce with 9,708.

Third man in the race, N.D.P. standard bearer William Gillies, had a total of 6,385 votes. The spoiled ballots brought the total vote to approximately 26,000. Over 40,000 were eligible.

Questioned early this morning (Wednesday) about the possibility of a recount being demanded, Skuce said he was not yet sure but "it is a distinct possibility." He explained there were no actual figures on the spoiled ballots, but it was believed there were around 100. He also heard from his scrutineers that in polling booths in the north end of the county, tick marks were not allowed; yet the deputy returning officers counted ticks as good ballots in some of the Oakville polls.

"There certainly was a difference in the figures," he said. "At one point in the evening Mr. Masson telephoned our committee rooms to see what figures we had."

It was a shaky victory for Jim Snow, but a victory, nevertheless, and Conservative supporters whooped it up at his Hornby home well into the wee hours of Wednesday morning. While the victory party was starting, Mr. Snow was standing around the returning officer's headquarters in the Oakville Town Hall, watching as clerks tallied and re-tallied the results.

When the final polling booth was heard from shortly before 11 p.m., the unofficial figures showed Snow held a 160-vote lead. However soon afterward clerks at the returning officer's found 40 more Skuce votes in the figures received from a Milton poll. In checking this out, they found another error that narrowed the Tories' lead to 102.

For a brand new riding, it was probably the most exciting election night that will ever be witnessed. Throughout the evening the two leading candidates staged a see-saw battle of votes.

Election return centre in Oakville's municipal building was a hive of activity. Telephones rang to report results from the 167 polls around the riding in one room, I.B.M. machines punched out the tabulations in the next, and in a third room a group of ladies answered voters' queries and passed on results.

Tabulations were rushed into the council chambers, where the press room was full of newspaper and radio reporters who leaped for the telephones each time new results were posted on the blackboard.

The first poll to report was the advance poll from Milton, telephoned in at 8.05 p.m., which gave Snow 45, Skuce 22 and Gillies one vote. Pundits in the audience quickly assessed the results as an indication of the outcome, but they were soon proven wrong.

Twenty minutes later, a total of 22 polls had Skuce leading Snow by 13 votes. The Liberal lead disappeared seven minutes later when clerks posted the total of 43 polls - giving Snow a 26-vote margin. Skuce jumped back into the lead once more just three minutes later when 54 polls tallied him a 33-vote lead. Again, by 8.42 p.m. with 70 polls heard from, Skuce's lead diminished to a mere six votes.

Snow finally took over the lead at nine o'clock, and never really relinquished it. With 105 polls of the 163 reported by an hour after the polls closed, Snow's lead was 40 votes. It dropped to 10 votes after 121 polls, rose to 36 after 135, leaped to 137 after 141, up again to 264 after 141, dropped to 185 after 149, and fell again to 162 after 156 polls were heard from.

Gillies, meanwhile, trailed miserably. He won out in about 25 of the voting districts but fell down badly in many of the polls. Georgetown voters put him within 200 votes of Skuce, who only trailed Snow by 60 votes in that municipality.

Skuce and Snow, at the same time, were trading victories in individual polls. Snow won 7-3 in the Esquising polls, and Skuce won 10-7 in the Milton polls. In Georgetown,

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