

## Election analysis . . .

Reasons for the Liberal party's success in the general election last week are being bandied about by experts of every political stripe.

Some suppose that Pierre Elliott Trudeau's magnetic personality and charm wooed the electorate so successfully that they voted for him and his party despite any convictions they might have held previously. Others hold the quality of the opposition left something to be desired and an intelligent vote could only go one way — to the Liberals.

There are others who supposed some of the recent legislation on divorce and abortion proposed by Mr. Trudeau reached a smouldering climax in the heavy Liberal vote.

Doubtless there were many influences working on the choices Canadians made at the polls but the most sensible one, the one which exerted the most weight, was the simple need for a majority government. People are sick of the constant bickering in the House of Commons over legislation. The electorate would like some action after years of petty quarrels between factions.

There was not political hokum involved. Voters went, in the words of

the song, where the action is. Trudeau's party and his straight from the shoulder approach, promised the voter action.

It is unfortunate, however, that some of the ablest men in the Conservative party went down to defeat. Tommy Douglas, too, the star of the "Great Debate" and certainly a dedicated man with a profound knowledge of Canada's social ills was beaten by a comparative unknown.

The New Democratic Party's poor showing after some optimistic forecasts points out the futility of a multi-party House of Commons. With no hope of forming a government, the N.D.P. funnelled off votes which could have made issue clearer.

Certainly the example of other countries with multi-party systems is enough to make the average voter take thought. Compare them to countries with a two party system.

Good ideas, legislation and social action now muted by lack of a majority could influence the thought of two large parties. Radical ideas could be tempered by moderates before they even got as far as the Commons.

The two party system is one leaf we could well take out of the United States book.



DOMINION DAY IN PROSPECT PARK was ideal for bathing beauties and girl watchers alike. Over 200 swimmers enjoyed the beach on the sizzling Monday holiday. (Staff Photo)

## Controversial Hall Report . . .

Are the recommendations of the Hall report on Education a step forward or do they represent a betrayal of the system of schooling in Ontario?

The Georgetown Herald makes no bones about sympathy with the latter view. In a bitter editorial assailing the report, the Herald says the proposals would be as deadly as a Communist takeover.

The Herald editorial: "Sometimes in business it's better to absorb your losses, start over again and forget you ever made a bad move."

"This is our advice to the Ontario government, and education minister Bill Davis in particular.

"We're talking about the Hall report on education — released last week. Cost, according to daily newspaper estimates, was about a quarter of a million dollars.

"It recommends completely ungraded education in the whole elementary school systems, permissive studies (choose what you like, drop what you don't), no examinations, no report cards — and on and on and on.

"Was this compiled by a group of crackpots?

"The only answer can be 'yes' despite an imposing list of credentials which include university presidents, school teachers, businessmen, lawyers.

"Are they out of their minds? Carried away with wild theories, some of which may look good on paper, but which would lead to a 'lost generation' if those in positions of authority decide to implement the report?

"Again 'yes'.

"They have completely lost sight of the fact that our world is a disciplined one, and that one does not acquire this by magic, but by a long

process of learning — from parents, teachers and playmates.

"Already our school system has gone too far in freedom of choice, in dropping final exams and departmentals, in bowing to student demands for a say in school administration.

"The end result of the Hall report would be for a student to go through the entire school system, with student, parent, and teacher completely unaware of what he can do, and completely unprepared to enter this hard world of business.

"We talk a lot in our democracy of guarding against iron curtain infiltration. A school system such as the report proposes would be as deadly and as final as any Communist takeover could ever be."

We think The Herald is being extreme in its views of the report but think there are some points on which the editorial scores.

If the recommendations mean a breakdown in the self-discipline of students, well then there is reason to fear it. If they herald an era where students will know or be taught at only one branch of the tree of knowledge to the exclusion of all else, then it will be a catastrophe.

The way we understand it, however, is that the report is attempting to correct weaknesses in the present educational structure.

Although some educators have been guilty of woolly thinking in the past and will likely continue in the future, there is merit in the Report's attempt to do something for those who are ill-fitted for the present system. The philosophy behind the Report could be called radical but it remains to be seen whether it will work or not.

The only way to find out is to implement the ideas. If it is impractical and shows signs of being a backward step for education then we can surely return to the less radical philosophy.



NOTHING LIKE whomping up a few bars of soap when you're running short. These pioneer women had to depend on soap recipes handed down by their mothers because it wasn't available on

grocery shelves in years gone by. Photo by the late R. R. Swallows of Goderich, a noted cameraman of early life in Ontario.

## Free Press Editorial Page

### Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley



This is being written before the national election. And there's nothing more exhilarating than going out on a limb.

It begins when you're very little, when you eat a worm to see if he'll really stay alive inside you, or pick up a toad to see whether you'll wind up covered with warts.

Later, it might be climbing out on a long, shaly tree limb over a deep pool, when you can't swim. Or it might be caught up in a tree, shirt stuffed with apples, while the voice of Geo. J. Jehovan thunders from beneath, "Come down, ye little devils; I know yer up there and I'll whale the tar out of yer and the police'll put yer away for life."

Or it might be caught in the act of swiping corn and racing through backyards and over fences, with the cobs dropping and your heart thumping and the shotgun going off into the sky.

Or it might be, about age 12, smoking butts with the hoboes in the "jungle" beside the railroad tracks, and having a drunk with a gallon of wine come up and start terrifying you with all sorts of obscurities you don't understand.

Or it might be, about 14 and spotted like a hyena with pimples, having to ask a girl to a party, knowing that you are the most repulsive, awkward booby in town. This is a rotten limb to be out on.

It could be saying, "Don't you say that about my mother!" to the bully of your age and sailing into him, yourself outweighed 20 pounds, but your fists and feet and teeth going like a windmill.

Or it could be a swimmingly exhilarating moment, like the day when I was in high school and kissed my French teacher up in an apple tree. She was a spinster and six years older than I, but if I recall, it was a swooning experience and I think we both wound up hanging by our knees from the limb.

These are some of the limbs I've been out on. Lots of other limbs, crooked limbs, rotten limbs, smooth ones, brittle limbs, sturdy ones. We have all gone out on a limb.

When you're young, you don't really know the difference, or you just don't care. It's climbing out on the thing that matters.

Even at 20 I was climbing out on a limb, trying desperately to make the grade as a fighter pilot, sweating blood so that I could climb out on the fragile wing of a Spitfire and be killed. What an irony! Those who didn't make it were broken-hearted.

And then there's the limb of marriage. Most males will climb out on the first limb that is endowed with long eyelashes or trim ankles or a big bust. Even though

they know it's a very green one, or a very brittle one, out they go.

I was lucky. The limb I climbed out on was firm but yielding, green but not brittle. And I darn soon discovered that when you climbed out on that particular limb, you didn't carry a saw, but a parachute and an iron-bound ally.

However, what I started out to say was that, as we get older, we climb out on shorter and shorter limbs, and for safer limbs, until we are finally left, clutching the tree-trunk, even though we're only two feet off the ground.

The old limbs (or the young limbs) creaked and swayed and cracked and dipped. They are replaced by the limbs of safety and conformity and security and enough life insurance.

And the sad part is that these are the limbs we want our children to climb out on, no farther than two feet from the trunk and no higher than two feet from the ground. While they want to climb on the swinging limbs that will sail them to the skies or break and let them fall.

All this, of course, is a preamble to the fact that I'm still willing to go out on a limb. If somebody will fetch me a step-ladder to help me get started up the tree, I repeat this is written before the national election.

There's going to be a landslide. It may be in Quebec or Ontario, but it's more likely to happen in the Rockies.

## Free Press back issues

### 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 1, 1948.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Dills, Acton, artistically decorated with pink roses, unadorned and large baskets of pink and white peonies was the setting for the pretty wedding on Saturday of Frances Elizabeth Dills B.A. only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Artof Dills to Clarence Rodrick Prosser, B.A., elder son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Prosser of Kirkland Lake. Louis Pickering performed the ceremony. The wedding music was played by Mr. Frank Daley of Toronto.

It would appear since the elections in Saskatchewan that the CCF 'ism' on the upward swing where it has been on trial. Ontario electors may well wonder when they were fed such glowing reports from Saskatchewan why the CCF lost over a dozen seats last week.

Ray, Father Morgan left Acton this week and sailed from New York today on a two month's visit to Ireland and the British Isles.

James Dills left this morning for Sherwood Forest, boys camp in Haliburton, where he will be a counsellor for two months.

Fred James who for several years past has been Chief Press Officer, Dominion Department of Agriculture retired on June 8th.

Miss Dorothy Pallant has been successful in her second year examinations in her course in Occupational Therapy.

Four boys from Acton High School left this morning for a ten day Cadet Camp at Ipperwash.

### 75 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 6, 1893.

The reduction of the rate of postage to Newfoundland from five to three cents is one of those things which should have been done long ago. It is absurd to send a letter to Texas for three cents and yet to ask two more cents to an island lying right in the mouth of the St. Lawrence. The next reform should be a reduction in the rate of postage to Britain.

Why Some People Like Dominion Day — Because one may get dizzy and be forgiven. Because it's so much nearer to the next holiday. Because the troublesome small boys have a chance to kill themselves. Because it gives them a whole day for lovemaking and love's ineffable ineffableness.

The Acton Tanning Co. closed their tannery last Friday for a couple of weeks. Most of the men take the opportunity of visiting friends out of town during the recess.

Kingston, July 2 — Yesterday a sad accident occurred near Loughboro Lake. A girl, two-years-old, daughter of John Johnson, while playing on a milk can, tumbled into it and was drowned in the milk before her father knew it.

Hamilton, July 4 — The Natural Gas Company's boring machine has not yet struck gas below the surface of the lot in Cheover St., but yesterday afternoon the drill entered a salt well, or something very like it, at a depth of 450 feet. There was such a copious flow of brine that the shaft had to be piped.

It is expected that the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier will address a series of meetings throughout Ontario in the latter part of August and the first part of September.

### 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, July 4, 1918.

Two little girls were told by their teacher to design a specimen of millinery. When both drawings were finished, one child whispered to the other, "How do you spell 'millinery'?"

"I ain't a-takin' no chances," came the whispered response. "I'm just a-goin' to put down 'h-a-t'."

Acton is not yet as loyal to the flag as is desirable in these days of crisis. On a day like Dominion Day every home and every business place in town should display the colors. Not one half of these had flags flying on Monday. Let us make an effort to improve on this and give our country a manifestation of our loyalty to the empire and our love for the flag.

William Johnston was summoned to Court at Owen Sound under the anti-loafing law and given a week to start work.

A Toronto man was fined for trying to drive a car and buy a girl at the same time. The country stands for no manner of "wast" these days.

The Acton Red Cross Society shipped last week a box of supplies to the Army Medical Corps containing 54 pyjama suits, 9 cushions, 7 caps, 75 handkerchiefs, 182 pairs of socks have been knitted and sent to the men in France during the past three months. Mr. and Mrs. George Dills spent the holiday with Toronto friends.

### 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, Milton, July 21, 1864.

We are informed that it is proposed in Wellington Square to have a promenade Concert and Strawberry fête at Wellington Square on the evening of Tuesday the 7th of July, for the purpose of raising means to replace the altar cloth that was recently stolen from St. Luke's Church by some sacrilegious hands, and making some necessary improvement in the interior of the Church. Several of our best amateurs have agreed to give their services on the occasion, and as we understand that a steambot will leave the Square after the Concert and return to Hamilton by moonlight, we have no doubt that many of our readers will avail themselves of the opportunity to pay a visit to the favorite summer resort of Hamiltonians.

We have to thank R. S. Hall, Esq. of Hornby for the materials of a Dominion pie, in the shape of some enormous walks of the Victoria Rhubarb, imported from England. They are of great weight and size, being about two and one-half feet long, and to the tip of the leaf, five feet. We measured the leaf and found it to be 15 feet in circumference! Who can beat it?

## Free Press Church Notices

- THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN**  
Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Drive  
Rev. H. J. Dawson, B.A., B.Th.  
SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1968  
Trinity IV  
10.00 a.m.—Mattins.  
Lay Reader — Leslie Duby.
- BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
Minister — Rev. P. Brouwer, B.A. B.D.  
Acton, Ontario.  
SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1968  
10.00 a.m.—English Service.  
11.10 a.m.—Sunday School.  
2.30 p.m.—Alternating Dutch and English Service.  
Saturday — Bible Classes 10 - 12 a.m.  
Everyone Welcome
- EVANGEL PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE**  
P.A.O.C. 33 Churchhill Road  
Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor, 853-2715.  
SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1968  
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
7.00 p.m.—Evangelistic Service.  
Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Prayer Service and Bible Study.  
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Christ Ambassadors.  
John 3: 3 — "Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.'"
- TRINITY CHURCH (THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA)**  
Minister:  
Rev. Gordon B. Turner, B.A., B.D.  
Director of Music:  
Organist: Mr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.
- SIXTH SEASON — COMBINED SUMMER SERVICES IN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**  
Preacher, Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie.  
SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1968  
10.00 a.m. — Divine Worship.  
Sermon theme: "Fresh Every Morning."
- ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Founded 1842  
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Gammon  
Res., 144 Tidey Ave., Phone 853-1615.  
SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1968  
9.45 a.m.—Church School and Adult Bible Class.  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
No Evening Service.  
Wednesday, 7.30 — Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.  
Thursday, 8 p.m. — Choir Practice.  
"He that hath the Son, hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." 1 John 5: 12.
- MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
81 Maple Ave., Georgetown  
Pastor: Rev. Robert C. Lohnes  
SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1968  
Here is our sincere invitation to the whole family to attend church.  
9.45 a.m.—Sunday School. All ages.  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Service.  
7.00 p.m.—Evening Evangel.  
7.45 p.m.—Wednesday, prayer meeting.  
Acton 853-1956 Georgetown 877-6645  
This is an invitation to attend the Church of your choice on Sunday.
- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON**  
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. Minister  
Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A. Organist and Choir Master

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