

Family Watches as Kerr Sworn in as Minister

Larry Kerr found out about his father's appointment to the Ontario cabinet when he came downstairs one morning last week and discovered a champagne bottle.

"The whole thing is unreal. It's hard to believe right now," he said.

Mrs. George Kerr, 15 year old Larry, 12 year old Margot and nine year old Jamey were present when Kerr was sworn in as the Minister of Energy and Resources at Queen's Park Thursday.

The new minister's attractive wife, dressed for the occasion in a fashionable grey suit and lace trimmed blouse, said, "I'm very pleased and happy about my husband's appointment, although it's all a little frightening now. It happened so suddenly."

Mrs. Kerr said she has been interested in politics since she was a student at the University of New Brunswick where she met her husband. After graduation, she went into law at Dalhousie University but she did not take her bar examinations.

Bar Examinations
She said she would like to take her bar exams some day but this will have to wait until the children are grown-up. "I'm a little nervous about going back to studying."

When her husband became deeply involved in politics Mrs. Kerr began working full time at his law office in Burlington. Kerr was elected to the provincial legislature six years ago.

Mrs. Kerr said, "I enjoyed politics even before I met my husband although I've never run for office myself. I think the backroom political stuff is fun and you meet very interesting people."

Between working full-time and raising three children Mrs. Kerr doesn't have much time for other activities although she does belong to the University Women's Club in Burlington. "I do a bit of knitting and sewing but mostly I read in my spare time."

She says she hopes her husband's new position will not change their life radically although she "might have to spend more time in the office."

News Released
Margot said "I think daddy's new job is great but I hope he's not going to be away all the time. We were excited when we heard about it and we told our friends before we were supposed to. Mommy had to phone everyone and tell them to be quiet until the Prime Minister announced the news."

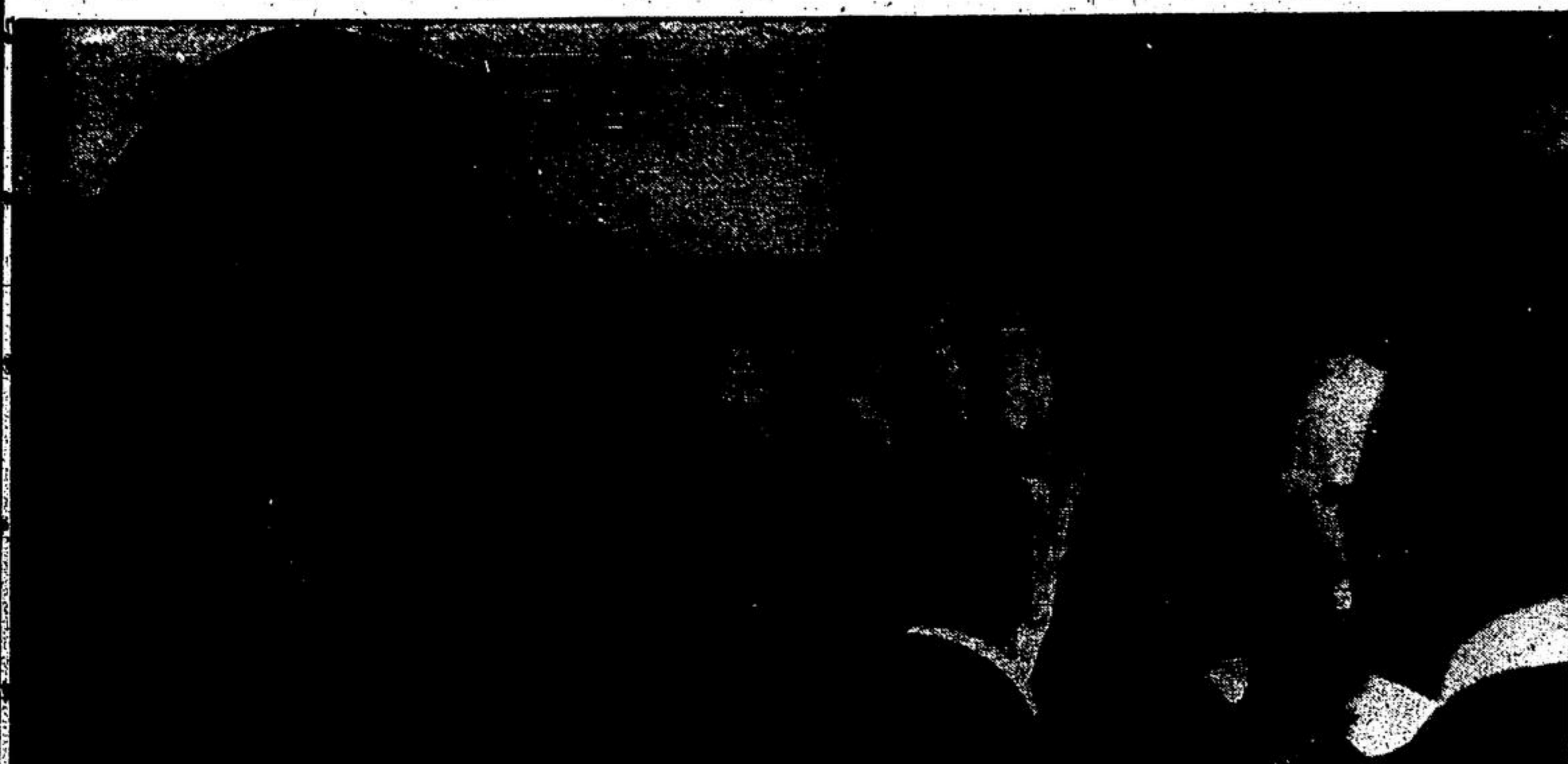
Former Town Resident Accounting Graduate

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Timpson, of 53 McIntyre Crescent attended the graduation ceremonies of a former Georgetown resident Karl Brundle who graduated from the Society of Industrial Accountants of Ontario on Saturday, May 31, at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

The class of 341 was the largest graduating class in the history of the society. A dinner and dance followed the ceremony.

Mr. Timpson was in the 1962-63 graduating class with its convocation in Hamilton.

Mr. Brundle his wife Margaret, and children Steven and Sandra are now living in Stratford where he is employed with Standard Products.



Halton West MPP George Kerr, named to the provincial cabinet by Ontario premier John Robarts, tells his first press conference he will give high priority to fighting pollution in the province.



Mr. and Mrs. George Kerr hold hands as they await Kerr's turn to be sworn in as the new Minister of Energy and Resources at Queen's Park in Toronto on Thursday. Beside them is their son Jamey, and in the row behind children Margot and Larry. In the back row from left, Mrs. G. S. Kerr, mother of George Kerr, and Mrs. Gordon Lawson, sister of the minister.

Halton West's Kerr Joins Ontario Cabinet

Ontario Premier John Robarts picked backbencher George A. Kerr, 45, of Halton West riding to fill a key cabinet post, Thursday and in doing so also filled a promise he made during the 1967 provincial election campaign.

During the campaign Robarts promised a Halton political rally "If you send George Kerr back to Queen's Park he will find a place in the cabinet."

Robarts chose the Halton MPP for his energy and resources minister.

Kerr will take over from J.R. Simonett.

Kerr becomes Halton's first provincial cabinet minister.

Kerr, born in Montreal and educated in New Brunswick, is a lawyer whose riding touches on Hamilton Bay, one of the most difficult pollution problem areas in the province.

His knowledge of the causes and effects of pollution will serve him well in a portfolio which already has responsibility for water pollution control.

Elected in 1963
Kerr, first elected to the legislature in 1963 after several years' experience on Burlington town council, has been chairman of the legislature's committee on government commissions, municipal affairs and has served on five other committees.

Kerr was the MPP for Halton riding prior to the election of 1967 when the county was divided in half by redistribution.

Kerr then ran in Halton West which includes his hometown of Burlington.

Kerr won his seat originally by beating Burlington Mayor Owen Mullen, the Liberal candidate.

Kerr was nominated as Halton PC candidate after retirement of veteran Tory MPP Stanley Hall of North Halton.

The new riding of Halton East is represented by newcomer MPP James Snow, also a Progressive Conservative. He won his first election in 1967, beating Liberal candidate Robin Skuce.

Pollution a Main Concern For Newest Cabinet Minister

The main task facing George Kerr, Ontario's new minister of Energy and Resources, is the fight against pollution.

"It's not a fight against the industries, municipalities or motorboat owners," said the Halton West MPP this week. "It's a fight against pollution itself."

Kerr said pollution in Ontario will have to be controlled "either by gentle persuasion or arm-twisting" of the culprits.

The responsibility of pollution control in the province may fall on his shoulders if legislation currently being considered transfers the responsibility from the Department of Health to the Department of Energy and Resources.

"When we first came to the area I took my wife and children down to the beach near Grimby to see the lake, some thing we naturally had to do," he said.

"And what was the first thing we saw? A dead fish floating on the water," he said.

Kerr also told newsmen he believed the present fines for pollution are adequate but that "too many magistrates levy only the minimum when a stiffer fine is in order."

Big Battle

"We've got to get the full co-operation of all these sources."

Music Appreciation Topic of Sorority

Zeta Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held a recent meeting at the home of Mrs. Terry Richards, 25 Charles Street. Following the meeting a Ritual of Jewels ceremony was held for Mrs. Dorothy McCarthy who was transferred here from Windsor.

The program for the evening was given by Mrs. Iris Usher. It was entitled, Enjoyment of Music. She spoke of two early composers and played tapes of a couple of the compositions.

The last meeting of the season will be held at the home of Mrs. Usher, 4 Jessop Court.

A windup social in the form of a barbecue will be held at the home of the president, Mrs. Mary Ann Corbett, June 20.

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BALLINAFAD NEWS

Mr. E. Barnes attended the annual Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada Diocese of Toronto in Toronto the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of June. One subject discussed was the union between the United Church and the Anglican and some headway was made but still many important issues to be resolved not the least of which is Inter-Communion. A resolution was passed that the Diocese conduct a stewardship campaign in order to raise money for the war on poverty.

Mr. and Mrs. Siessoraites spent the weekend in Windsor, while there they attended the 25th wedding anniversary of friends.

— Winnifred Smith

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