

Free Press District Page

Decentralization, assessment reform are necessary, Blake tells supporters

Decentralization of government, inequitable re-assessment and the high cost of education and housing were among the topics touched on when Liberal candidate for Halton East P. R. (Bob) Blake spoke to 85 Liberals at a fund raising dinner in Oakville.

Blake criticized the Tory government for centralization of power around a group of experts in the civil service. He urged decentralization of government away from Toronto and pointed out a need for a more powerful legislature and less powerful civil service.

He outlined the problems in re-assessment, calling for the province to pay the price for the mistakes it has made. He said Halton and Peel municipalities would be held liable for rebates to property owners authorized by the province.

Blake said farm land should have been assessed on the soil value rather than market value. He attacked the government for not accepting this view until an election was under way.

Blake said a Liberal

government would take a fairer approach to regional government and other issues. "Instead of dropping it on the municipalities' lap and anything this is the way it will be, we will seek comment and the feeling of the people before imposing regional government."

Pay 80 per cent

He said a Liberal government would assume 80 per cent of the cost of education in the next four years and leave funds available for the municipalities that are now spent on education.

He indicated Ontario Municipal Board's power should be limited. He said changes to official plans should be made at a local level once the plan has been approved by the OMB.

Eighty-five people attended the \$25 per plate dinner from various parts of the riding. Bud Whiting and Harry Harley were patrons and lawyer Murray Haesler organized the dinner. Oakville Mayor MacLean was master of ceremonies. Milton Mayor Brian Best and his wife were among those attending the function.



THE PAST, the present and the future in the Liberal organization got together to take a look at the Liberal Blueprint for Government Thursday at Bob Blake's fund raising dinner at Holiday Inn in Oakville. Harry Harley, former Halton MP and MP Rud Whiting look over Blake's shoulder as he studies the Liberal platform.—(Staff Photo)

Ospringle

Presentations held for Robertson family

By Doris Fines
A large number of friends and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Robertson and Brian, met in the school auditorium Friday evening, to bid them farewell on their departure from the neighborhood.

This was a double event, it being Dave and Phyllis' 47th wedding anniversary. It was also their son Douglas' birthday, who was also present from Guelph with his wife and family.

While the people were arriving, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Aitken showed two film strips, "The Four Seasons" taken in the Gatineau and "Cattle Ranch". Bobby Pankratz played two accordion selections. A reading was given by Mrs. Ward Bruce, tap dancing by Donnie Woodward, and accordion solos by Susan Bradford.

Given furniture
Mr. and Mrs. Robertson and Brian were called to the platform. Mr. H. R. Howard read the address and Gordon and Anna Aitken, Ross and Orma Ferguson, Pete and Abbie Fisher, Len and Marg Buck, Fred and Arlene Archibald, presented them on behalf of their friends, with red-wood lawn furniture, comprising of, table and

umbrella, four chairs and chaise longue.

Brian was also presented with an attaché case, Dave a wallet and Phyllis a dozen red rose buds, Linda Pankratz, Kathy Rudder and Donnie Woodward. Mrs. Robertson and Brian replied, thanking everyone and extending an invitation to visit them at 153 Tildey Avenue, Acton.

Visitors
Rev. E. D. Snelgrove and Mrs. Snelgrove of Gores Landing,

Ospringle writer welcomed

The Free Press welcomes Doris Fines to our family of correspondents. She will be writing the news from Ospringle, replacing Mrs. D. G. Robertson, our longest-standing correspondent. The Robertsons moved to Acton.

Everyone in the area is asked to contact Miss Fines if they have items of interest.

spent a couple of days calling on friends in Erin vicinity, and visited with Mrs. Thos. Fines and Doris.

Norman Buck has commenced his studies at Mohawk College, Hamilton.

Local Queen
Congratulations to Brenda Bruce who was chosen Miss Acton Fair 1971. 17 year old Brenda was picked from 14 and district contestants at the Friday night performance of the fair. She is a grade 12 student at Erin District High School.

Mrs. A. E. Smith of Vancouver, B.C. is visiting this week with her sister-in-law Mrs. Thos. Fines and Doris.

Ladies' Aid

Mrs. Byron Bruce was hostess to the Ladies' Aid for their September meeting, with nine ladies present. The roll call was answered with "A Memory of School Events". The devotional was taken by Mrs. G. Aitken, using media in missions on how to communicate. Mrs. G. Lang played a record by the Saint Thomas Anglican Choir from Moosomin, Ontario. The meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. B. Bruce. Lunch was served by Mrs. B. Clark and Mrs. G. Aitken, assisted by the hostess.

Ballinafad

Students, house, bikes stoop in district news

By Mrs. R. Shortill
Many from this area enjoyed the pleasant day at Acton Fair. Congratulations to those from around Ballinafad who won prizes and awards.

Miss Maggie Given, has begun her second year of training as a legal secretary at Sheridan College, Oakville.

Miss Julie Eckert is also going to Sheridan College this year taking Graphic Arts.

Members of the Sinclair family attended the Delaney-Brennan wedding in Erin United Church week before Saturday.

Mrs. Outler has resumed her position as caterer at Sheridan College, Brampton.

The Junior choir favored with a number at church Sunday morning under Mrs. Kerr's direction.

Miss Kathryn Sinclair has returned to Waterloo University to continue her studies.

New house
A new house is being built on the Eighth Line and Town Line corner by Mr. and Mrs. John Kanusko who have purchased a lot from the Lloyd Marshall farm.

A special phone call was received by Mr. and Mrs. Ernie McEnery this week from Edmonton. It was from son Bill and his wife Cheryl just wanting to hear "Mother" and "Dad's" voice and to know all was well.

Not too much is known about the "Bicycle thon" which passed through here on Saturday. The mileage recorder seemed to be set up at the cemetery corner. We gather the young people were cycling for a benefit. It looked rather hazardous for their safety on this busy highway.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Beswick, Mrs. Dick and Marie Dick of Hamilton, also Mrs. Cleave of

Acton were recent guests of the McLean's.

The orange benches form a handy place for a chat on Ballinafad store stoop. Many years ago this was a favorite meeting place for young and old to watch the people go by and to wave to the familiar ones. Horse shoe pitching passed the time and the local gossip and jokes passed along were an attraction. We can remember a former pastor who lived at the manse and who kept a huge pair of overalls to don when he joined the "boys" at the corner. He also could pass a joke as well as the next one.

The Yemen Reunion was held at the Community Centre on Sunday when members of this pioneer family and their relatives met to enjoy a "get together". Several members of the McEnery family attended also the Coles as well as many others from a distance.

Two Acton youths hurt

Two Acton youths were injured in a single car accident on Third Line, Esquesing near Given Road, early Saturday morning. Ronald McGuin, 17, of 113 Poplar Ave., and Sidney Barends, 17, of 140 Mill St., sustained injuries. McGuin suffered a lacerated right wrist and arm while Barends sustained injuries to his right hand and shoulder. A spokesman at Milton OPP reported the car left the road. Damage to the automobile was estimated at \$400.

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Eden Mills

Straw hat, overalls presented to farmer

By Mrs. R. Wright
Friends and neighbors gathered in the community hall on Friday evening to extend best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Ross Campbell who are leaving the village to make their home near Sundridge in Northern Ontario. It is with regret we see them go as a life-time had been spent among us.

Norman Marshall Jr. read the address and the couple were presented with a bridge table and four chairs.

Farming is to be their hobby on a 200 acre farm so some equipment was needed. Lela was presented with a milking stool and hayfork and Ross with a straw hat and overalls! The couple thanked everyone and extended an invitation to come and enjoy their hospitality.

Two anniversaries
Anniversaries services were conducted in Eden Mills United Church on Sunday when the Rev. W. Sinn, a former minister, was

guest speaker morning and evening. Special music was provided at both services and a social half hour was enjoyed after the service in evening. Rev. and Mrs. Sinn's 29th wedding anniversary happened to be that day.

Successful sale
The Ladies' Aid of Eden Mills Presbyterian Church held a successful bake sale, penny table and rummage sale in the community hall on Wednesday evening last.

McGrath will run

Richard McGrath, a 24-year-old Oakville university student will contest the provincial election in Halton East riding as an independent candidate. McGrath is protesting the party system as being defunct and he feels by running as an independent he offers a legitimate alternative.

McGrath states he is against the principal of large bureaucracies and the lack of Canadian control of the economy. McGrath has a master's degree from McMaster and is studying law at the University of Toronto.

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