

Seven candidates seek victory

Predict record vote in Halton

Thursday is E-Day in Halton County and across Ontario as voters head for the polls to elect their provincial government. Officials predict a record turnout in both Halton East and Halton West ridings and voters are warned to either vote early in the day, or face lengthy line-ups.

A total of 105,000 voters are eligible to cast ballots for candidates in the two Halton ridings. Halton East comprises Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and the lower 22 lots in Esqueping Township and has a record 50,000 eligible to mark their "X" tomorrow. Halton West includes Burlington, Nassagaweya, Acton and the northern most 10 lots in Esqueping Township and officials estimate there are 55,000 eligible to vote.

In Halton West, 47-year-old MPP George Kerr, recently named Minister of the Environment, is the incumbent. He was first elected to represent Halton riding in 1963 and won the county seat in 1967 when the county was split into East and West ridings. His opponents are Robert McNutt, 34, for the Liberals, an assistant professor in geography at McMaster University; and the NDP's Walter Mulkevic, 31, a high school teacher. All three men are Burlington residents.

Halton East has 159 polling stations, many of them split into

A and B sections, while the Halton West riding has 214 polls. Three challengers are attempting to oust the incumbent Progressive Conservative MPP and Minister without Portfolio Jim Snow in the Halton West riding—the Liberals named P. R. (Bob) Blake and the NDP selected Kenneth Gelok as standard-bearer, while a lone independent candidate Richard McGrath has also thrown his hat into the ring.

Snow, 41, has just completed his first four-year term in the Ontario Legislature.

Blake, 35-year-old vice-president of a Streetsville brick

plant, is making his first stab at a seat in the legislature although he has been an active behind-the-scenes worker in past provincial and federal elections. Gelok is a machinist, 26, and it is his first try at a provincial seat. McGrath, a university student in Hamilton by day and a security guard by night, ran in one previous election in Halton but was defeated. All three challengers are residents of Oakville.

Polls are open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at all polling stations. As soon as the polls close the deputy returning officers, poll clerks and scrutineers appointed by the Conservatives

and Liberals will begin the task of counting and checking the ballots.

New ballots

New ballots and new ballot boxes are in use in this election for the first time. The ballots will indicate the names of the men running for seats but will NOT list their political affiliations. (If you plan to vote for the party, you'd better check to make sure who the local candidate is. The ballot won't give you a clue.)

All it takes is a simple "X" on the ballot, beside the name of one man. On leaving the polling booth fold your ballot and hand it to the DRO, who will place it in the

ballot box. New pink boxes are being used for the first time.

Following is a list of 12 polling places in Acton.

No. 198, Scout Hall, Mrs. Maurice Staley; No. 199, Scout Hall, Mrs. Fred New; No. 200, Knox Church, Mrs. Mick Holmes; No. 201, Knox Church, Mrs. Lloyd McIntyre; No. 202, St. Alban's Parish Hall, Mrs. Laura Dittrich; No. 203 Trinity United Church, Mrs. Ted Pratt; No. 204, Trinity United, Mrs. Stella Brunelle; No. 205, St. Alban's, Mrs. Jack Pink; No. 206, Acton Music Centre, Mrs. Les Duby; No. 207, Music Centre, Mrs. Ray Mason; No. 208, Bethel Christian Reformed Church, Fyfe Sommerville; No. 209, Christian Reformed Church, Mrs. Rudolph Spielvogel.



Norman J. Braid

Beardmore head dies

Acton lost one of its most prominent citizens and industrialists when Norman J. Braid died at Guelph General Hospital Saturday, October 16, after a brief illness.

President and general manager of Acton's largest manufacturing company, Beardmore, Norm Braid's death came as a shock to the community and his associates in the leather industry, where he was very well known.

He made many trips to Europe and the various leather capitals of the world as an envoy of the company, which closed all day Monday out of respect for the loss of the president and general manager.

Norman Braid was born in Bracebridge on January 17, 1920, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Braid. The family moved to Acton when Beardmore and Co. consolidated and he was raised in the community taking an active part in social and sports activities including a high degree of musical accomplishment which was also extended as a member of St. Joseph's Church choir.

During World War II he served in the army as a member of the Queens York Rangers from 1941-45, marrying Reta Allison in June, 1946, after becoming established at Beardmore and Co. where he was first employed in 1938. He rose steadily in the company spending some time in a dual role as executive of the Corona Shoe Co., which has since dissolved. He was elected a director of Beardmore and Co. in 1960 and president in 1968.

The funeral for Norman Braid was held from St. Joseph's Church, Monday morning where requiem high mass was celebrated by pastor Rev. Father J. J. Gillen. The lessons were read by Father Michael Bennett of Walkerton, a family friend and former neighbor and the graveside service was conducted by former pastor Father V. J. Morgan.

St. Joseph's church was packed for the funeral with friends and business associates. Interment was in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers were S. G. Bennett, G. H. Dickson vice-president of Canada Packers, J. H. Creighton, C. R. Heard and R. L. Evelan. Active pallbearers were P. F. Dunham, L. E. Youngblut, J. E. Lareau, L. J. Cabana, J. G. Griefeneder and G. S. Ross, all associates of the company.

Left to mourn are his wife, Reta Allison; four children, Mrs. Richard Coe (Linda), Paul, Anita and Eugene; a brother Nino; two sisters, Elma and Rena (Mrs. Ray Arbic); and father Eugene all of Acton.

M.P. hears problems

Federal Member of Parliament Rud Whiting was pleased with the response, when he came to Acton Saturday specifically to aid people here with their problems. There were several people already waiting when he arrived at the council chambers at 10 a.m.

Mr. Whiting explained the problems brought to him included immigration, unemployment insurance, veterans' pensions, housing and postal problems.

Contact later

He took the necessary information and will be in contact with people concerned later.

He even met a group of children, somewhat confused, who came in to see "Mr. McNutt... and Mr. Kerr, too".

Lou Bonnette supplied Mr. Whiting with a quick lunch of coffee and cupcakes during the course of the interviews.

Walkathon for UNICEF

Again this year, Halloween in Acton will be partly for children and partly for UNICEF.

As well as the usual door-to-door collection by costumed young volunteers, a walkathon is being arranged.

Last year 700,000 Canadian children took part, and donations increase greatly each year.



CARS DRIVEN by George Allan Tilcox, 19 of Hillsburgh and Bernard V. Cassar, 34, of Orangeville were completely destroyed in a Highway 24 collision early Sunday morning, which took the life of the two drivers and Raymond Thompson of Monkton, Ontario a passenger in the Tilcox car. The collision occurred about a mile south of Erin.

Arrests made Acton thefts

Acton police saw the successful conclusion to several cases they have been investigating, during the past week.

A 23-year-old Georgetown man was charged with break, enter and theft at Adams' bus depot, and lodged in county jail. The man was familiar with the premises. Mr. Adams had reported over \$600 taken on Thanksgiving Day. Not all the money has been recovered, according to police.

Recorder snatched

Two men were picked up in Oshawa last Wednesday and charged with theft of a tape recorder here in Acton. A had had reported to police the tape recorder had been snatched from his hands by two men in a car. The car was traced and the men charged and lodged in county jail.

On Sunday two Acton juveniles were charged with willful damage. Apparently the pair had painted obscenities on the aluminum siding of a vacant house on Elmore Dr., owned by the Bank of Montreal. The kind of paint used eats through aluminum and the cost of replacing the siding is estimated at \$5,000.

Wanted person

A wanted person, who had escaped custody in Georgetown, was located here by Acton police Tuesday at 3.30 a.m. He was a passenger in a car in town.

A juvenile girl was reported missing; as a result of investigation a Burlington 17-year-old has been charged with abduction.

Smashed window

A charge of mischief was laid against a Willowdale man, 27, who Saturday night leapt through the window of Ed's restaurant. He received six stitches at Acton Medical Centre; the two panes of the thermoglass are estimated at a value of \$400.

An impaired Brampton driver was charged here one night last week. A local man was also charged with assault.

Seek help

Despite solving most of their cases this week, Acton police have still not laid a charge in the theft of musical instruments at the band hall. They still seek information on the deliberate breaking of windows as well.

There were no accidents in town during the week.

Will take second look at free choice plan

Halton County Board of Education will take a second look at a plan to allow students in Halton County the free choice of schools. The plan was rejected by the board last year even after assistance to the director Em Lavender spoke wholly in favor of the move.

Basically the plan would allow a student in one school area to attend a school in another area if he so wished, providing there was a seat in the school he wished to attend. It is understood that a student who is opting out of his

home school area would have to provide his own transportation.

Art group

A successful, though small, boys' art group has been organized by the Y.M.C.A. The boys meet Saturday mornings in the library basement workroom with Mrs. Laura Dittrich.

The Slim and Trim class at the Y had 20 puffing participants this week.

Acton women charge

Poll clerk fees inadequate

The \$17 fee paid polling clerks for election day duties has been called inadequate by several Acton women who agreed to do the job but now wish they could get out of it.

"The pay is below the minimum wage for 13 hours work," one complained bitterly.

A call to provincial election headquarters for some explanation of the fee, and why it was below the minimum wage, didn't help the situation.

"The people there were nasty to us," one woman told the Free Press. "They told us the fee was set by the Lt.-Gov. of Ontario and was part of the Election Act."

Although they hadn't signed any documents they were told they accepted the poll clerk contract by appearing at the first

meeting. They were also told if they broke the contract they were liable to a \$1,000 fine or six months' imprisonment.

"I can't afford the money or the time," snapped one woman contemplating a polling clerk strike. The woman expected fees for polling clerks would be as generous as the money for acting as enumerators which most of them had done. "We were really surprised it was only \$17," said one.

They said poll clerks duties called for duty from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and then at least two hours counting ballots, with no time off for lunch or dinner, which works out to about \$1.35 an hour.

"Ridiculous", one lady seethed.

Four of them piled into a car Tuesday night and journeyed to Clarkson to see if they could get some satisfaction at a candidates' meeting, but met

with no success.

"We submitted written questions but there were so many that they never got around to ours," the Free Press was told this morning.

The ladies were still aroused but admitted they were stumped and would have to go on with the job, albeit reluctantly.

"We've got a lot better things to do with our time than working all day and all night for \$17, was the parting shot.

County council

Would add three members

Halton County Council voted Tuesday in favor of a bill that would add three members to the 14-member council. Two of the members would be from Burlington, one from Oakville.

Speaking in favor of the move, Burlington Reeve Jim Swanborough said it would not disturb the balance of power between the northern and southern municipalities. He indicated it would give the two southern towns a greater voice in committee meetings.

Two each now

Under the present situation each of the seven municipalities have two representatives with the reeve and deputy reeve from each municipality sitting on county council.

The bill makes provision for one additional member to County Council for each municipality that has 17,500 municipal electors, two additional electors and three additional with in excess of 35,000 municipal electors and three additional members for each municipality that has more than 52,500 electors. The bill makes provision for four additional members for 70,000 electors, five member for 87,500 electors and one additional member for each 50,000 municipal electors after that.

The resolution made by Acton Deputy Reeve Pat McKenzie was carried, with only deputy reeve Percy Barr of Milton in opposition.

Barr said there wasn't enough work to justify the addition of three members and indicated the two southern towns are well represented. He said if the additional members were added it should be done by a vote of the people, not an appointment.

"It sounds to me like there is an election coming up in Milton," Georgetown Reeve Rick Morrow said in reference to Barr's statement.

Morrow said the request was a reasonable one because the two municipalities requesting it are the largest in the county and pay the greatest share of the county taxes.

The bill makes provision to retain the balance of power between the five northern

municipalities and the two southern towns.

Election service

The Free Press will endeavor to give up-to-the-minute election results from Halton West and Halton East ridings Thursday night.

Readers may call the Free Press at 853-2010 after polls are closed at 8 p.m. but advised to wait at least an hour if they hope to achieve any significant results.

The service will start about 8.30 Thursday night and continue until midnight, or until calls quit coming.

Representatives of the Free Press will be at both the Halton West and East returning offices and hope to arrange a system that will be forwarded back to the office soon after they are official.



TAKING A last minute look at the program for Saturday night's Hillsburgh Minor Softball banquet are, president George Wheeler and 1st vice-president Dennis Van Wyck. — (Staff Photo).