

Kempling holds seat



Bill Kempling

"I think we've bucked a national trend," said Progressive Conservative Kelly Cullin when Halton Wentworth incumbent Bill Kempling took a deciding lead over his Liberal opponent Eric Cunningham late Monday night. "It's never happened in Burlington before," continued the campaign manager.

Kempling was returned to the federal parliament early Tuesday morning after a neck and neck election night battle with the Liberal. The lead saw saw back and forth throughout the evening as each now poll reported. When the final tallies were in, Kempling had taken the contest with 28,591 votes to Cunningham's 26,035. New Democrat Walter Mulkeiwich never threatened to win with only 8,692 votes.

Voting in the old township of Nasagaweya was typical of the trend across the large riding, Halton Wentworth combines urban areas Burlington and Dundas with the rural Nasagaweya and Plamborough.

The Progressive Conservatives took 672 votes from the eight Nasagaweya polls to the Liberal total of 631. New Democrats had the support of 343 Nasagaweya voters.

Cunningham had the support of the majority of Campbellville area residents with a 297 to 278 edge over incumbent Kempling in polls 334, 335, 336, and 338B. NDP voters in Campbellville totalled 93.

Kempling gained a Nasagaweya edge when the Brookville area polls reported. The PCs took 296 votes from polls 337, 338 and 339 to

the Liberal total of 167. NDP took 76.

Poll 340 in Ebenzer Church reported 107 Kempling votes to 76 for Cunningham and 38 for Mulkeiwich. Poll 341, at the home of Arthur Brown on 30 Side Road, reported Cunningham took 91 votes to Kempling's 81 and Mulkeiwich 39.

"It's a national trend—it's 1968 all over," stated Kempling as he glanced at the Canada-wide returns. Asked about his Liberal opponent, Kempling replied, "I think he's part of the national trend. I have no explanation for the Liberals remaining strong in this area."

"It's been a tough campaign, but we never looked back," confided the incumbent as he inspected his favorable PC totals posted on the board at the Kempling headquarters. Progressive Conservative supporters and their candidate spent the evening watching the returns at the plush Reimer Construction Hall on Blair Rd. in Burlington.

"We're optimistic!" Across town, at Liberal headquarters at the Knight's of Columbus Hall on Industrial St., favorable Cunningham totals were posted on the board.

"We were optimistic when we started and we can take a good shot at it," voiced Cunningham as the possibility of recount continued.

As word of the probable Liberal majority reached NDP campaign headquarters on the Guelph Line Mulkeiwich commented "It's representative of some kind of Liberal trend across the country. That's the reason for Cunningham coming on so

strong." "There's no local kind of issue."

Down from the start Mulkeiwich assured his campaign workers, "we're still in there fighting." We went into this campaign realistically and "hope is eternal," quoted the New Democrat.

Across town the Progressive Conservatives were celebrating Muriel Kempling's birthday with a large PC decorated cake. The age of the incumbent's wife? "Thirty-nine and holding," she replied.

As reports from outlying polls continued to filter back to Burlington the Kempling support grew stronger. Results from Nasagaweya had to be driven down announced campaign manager Cullin, because the phone cable to Campbellville had been cut.

With four of the 246 yet to report Kempling took an insurmountable 500 vote lead shortly after midnight and was declared the winner.

"It's been a tough campaign—18 months in Ottawa then right back to campaigning," said the victor. It's been a long 87 days he told his supporters. "I'm out of breath." Cunningham travelled to PC headquarters to concede and offer his congratulations to the Kempling family. Son Angus, 24, and daughter Jane, 15, were with Kempling in front of the hall when the victory was announced.

"It's been a very, very fair campaign," announced Cunningham to the Conservative crowd.

While leaving the hall Cunningham announced his pleasure at the Liberal victories across the country. "It was a clean energetic campaign," he said.



Rudie J. Joy

LIBERAL FRANK MAINE being interviewed shortly after his victory Monday night by CJOY News Director and Guelph Mayor, Norm Jary. Maine said his win was due to the hard work of his campaign personnel.

Georgetown, Acton endorse winner

An estimated 76,484 per cent of Halton voters went to the polls Monday night to elect Liberal Frank Philbrook.

With two polls still missing, figures from the returning offices showed Liberal Dr. Frank Philbrook received 23,479 votes to incumbent PC Terry O'Connor's 21,556. NDP candidate Archie Brown was a poor third totalling 6,825 votes.

Gains in south-east Oakville and the northern part of the riding at Milton and Georgetown swept Philbrook into the Liberal trend which swept Ontario. He took 21 out of 26 polls in Milton outdistancing O'Connor 1935 votes to 1532 while Brown registered 536.

In Georgetown Philbrook took 31 of the 43 polls, tabulating 3260 votes to O'Connor's 2921. Brown totalled 1165.

The margin was closer in Acton where Philbrook just nudged past O'Connor 9-11 in

17 polls, trailing by 101 votes. The score was 1374 to 1273 while 550 votes went to Brown.

Erin village was one of the few northern polls to give O'Connor the edge 4-3 and a tie in another. O'Connor received 629 votes there while Philbrook and Brown trailed with 469 and 198 respectively.

O'Connor also edged out Philbrook on total votes in Hillborough but lost in polls 4-3. The PC candidate ran up 560 votes in the Erin township hamlet while Philbrook got 642. Brown was third with 192.

O'Connor's strength in Erin township also showed at Osprey school where he edged Philbrook 76-70 in the only poll.

The trend reversed, however, as voters from the central northern part of the riding gave Philbrook an edge. At Hillmead, for instance, Philbrook took two of the three polls and outdistanced O'Connor 230 to 109. Glen Williams gave the Liberals the same mandate with Philbrook getting 260 votes to O'Connor's 251. Brown got 112.

The Liberal trend was also prominent at Limehouse where Philbrook took all three polls with 239 votes as opposed to 153 for O'Connor and 49 for Brown.

Stewarttown gave the winner two out of three polls, 254 votes as compared to 218 for O'Connor and 65 for Brown.

It was a different story at Norval where O'Connor took three of the four polls and

outdrew Philbrook 324 to 310 with Brown registering 91. NDP candidate Archie Brown tallied 45 votes in his nearby Speyside poll but O'Connor edged Philbrook 100 to 95 there.

At Ligny school, still further south, Philbrook took two polls easily defeating O'Connor 198 to 131 with Brown registering 76 votes.

Specific questions and the Tories exploited the issues while the Prime Minister talked in platitudes, Whitting said, while in this election the Liberals came out strong and swinging.

"I don't blame the PM," Whitting said, "he was being advised by pseudo-intellectuals who never had to fight an election. And the Liberals then had a tendency to be arrogant as well as being incompetent in some areas."

In Whiting's estimation the people of Halton are a microcosm of Canada with everything in the region that exists in most other parts of Canada except wheat and fishing.

"I'm not bitter," the former M.P. said, "but the party must make bloody good and sure money allocated for the riding is spent properly."

Whiting said he no longer had any political aspirations.

Strong campaign reason for switch says ex-MP Rud

Are Halton voters fickle? Why did they give Liberal candidate the edge over PC Terry O'Connor when only two years ago they endorsed O'Connor over popular Liberal incumbent Rud Whiting?



According to ex-Member Rud Whiting results are proof that the Liberals ran a campaign this time from the national level down—and it paid off in votes.

In 1972 he campaigned on the (deleted) theme. "The land is strong, dialogue with Canadians and other fuzzy slogans—and that's not what the people of Canada wanted to hear," Whiting said.

They wanted answers to

Red wagon to stay red

For a short time, Wednesday night, the new Torino station wagon to be bought by the town for Mick Holmes, Fire Chief of Area 1, looked like it would change from red to yellow.

The station wagon to cost \$4,160, with an additional \$150 for painting and \$400 for extra lights and siren, was okayed by administration committee as a red wagon.

Councillor Roy Booth said yellow had the greatest color recognition and said, "That's why hydrants are now painted yellow, not to confuse the dogs."

Councillor Harry Levy said it was the standard for provincial vehicles and pointed out Fire Chief Area 2 had a yellow vehicle. "We should at least stick to one color," he commented.

Councillor Les Duby said there was strong request by Mick Holmes for the red color. Booth said he remembered a violent discussion with Mr. Hyde in Georgetown about yellow versus white lights on Main Street. He admitted he opposed it but now has decided he was wrong.

"If you're realized I was right then, you should realize I'm probably right now," retorted Hyde.

An amendment to change the station wagon to yellow was lost, so Fire Chief Holmes will have his own red wagon.

Conservatives uprooted after 17 years

After 17 years of Conservative supremacy in Wellington county, defeat came, in the person of Liberal Frank Maine.

All Hales who has been the ruling Member of Parliament in the Wellington riding for the past 17 years retired this year and threw his support to Bruce Payne.

When Hales was asked if he thought he would have won the election once again for the conservative party he replied, "It would have been a real tough ball game even if I had run because the national trend was the other way. The people of Wellington voted against controls, they apparently didn't want price controls and that's the way they voted. I say it wasn't an election, it was a referendum that we had in Canada. The people said they didn't want controls and that's the answer. We thought that was the issue Canada was facing; we took it as our platform, we gambled and we lost. I did not think the people of Wellington would go against controls."

Liberal victory was spread all over the Wellington riding with the exception of the north part of Guelph, around Waverly Dr., Brighton St., Delhi St., June Ave., Smart man Bowl and Woodlaw Towers. These were clear conservative victories.

As the results of the polls began coming in, the Liberal lead went from 200 and climbed to around 2,000 at 10 p.m. and the gap widened. At 9:54 liberal candidate Frank Maine learned that Payne, had conceded.

It was interesting to note the impression that one received in each of the three main party headquarters. For example in the conservative headquarters supporters were fairly subdued, with no real vivid display of emotion.

The supporters in the Liberal headquarters were exuberant to say the least. Even before the results of the many polling stations came in, the crowd was energetic, ready-willing-and-able.

In Mr. Punnett's N.D.P. headquarters things were natural. One could see

disappointment, but not so much that they couldn't go out and celebrate anyway. As defeated N.D.P. leader David Lewis said, it's the people's choice, even if it's the wrong one.

Even before Bruce Payne had conceded, Frank Maine was receiving the congratulations of his supporters. When asked at that time how he felt he simply said "excited". His supporters were far more direct than that, "we knew we'd win well, but not this well!"

Bruce Payne thanked his workers and supporters for all their hard work, after his concession. Mr. Punnett simply said "we expected a strong second." Independent Joe Tucker was happy with his support. He expected 200 votes and got twice that amount.

Frank Maine attributes his success to his workers, "who made it for me." He says "it was a well-run well-coordinated campaign. It was a longshot, but I didn't really think it would happen. I was pleasantly surprised."

One strong Conservative supporter wasn't pleased. Didn't get the most votes, but we got the best!" she maintained.

Asked his reaction to the Liberal victory in Halton, Snow paid tribute to the work of O'Connor and noted the low NDP vote likely had something to do with the Liberal win. He said the riding changed back and forth between Conservatives and Liberals, the swing this time going to Philbrook and the Liberals.

"It was also obvious people didn't like Stanfield's price and income proposals," the PC cabinet minister admitted.

Philbrook's win was not so startling because he had won for him as a pitcher with the Snow Construction Ontario juvenile champion ball team in 1950, he said. He was

Tories fizzle, Philbrook wins Halton

a valuable player, he recalled.

Pete (Babe) Mathews who claimed he is the former light heavyweight boxing champion of Canada and an ardent Philbrook supporter, boasted he called the shot two weeks ago when he predicted the Liberals would win 136 seats but most Liberals admitted they were glad but surprised at the extent of the victory in Ontario.

Midge Philbrook, beaming wife of the successful candidate, said they

knew they were going to work hard but victory they weren't sure of until the votes were tabulated. Naturally they were delighted.

NDP candidate Archie Brown quietly entered the Liberal rooms to convey his congratulations to the winner. He said he was happy with what had happened, had been proud to achieve the Halton nomination and would like to stay in the running. He talked of building the organization so the NDP would be much stronger next

time. Brown admitted his campaign suffered from lack of funds. "We were late starting and only had \$4,476.56 to spend on everything," he said.

His attractive aide, 20-year-old Donna Johnston, felt that she along with the

candidate had gained experience which would be valuable in further elections.

A buoyant Philbrook and supporters left for his home where celebrations went on through the night, supporters arriving to join in the celebration from the north.

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