

George Gray in running

George Gray will have another try at carrying the Progressive Conservative banner for Halton-Burlington riding in the next provincial election.

He announced he would toss his hat in the ring Wednesday night at a reception held by 200 supporters.

Mr. Gray, 36 Edith Street, Georgetown a partner with Fred Zorge in Zorge Construction Co., was a contender for the nomination in 1975, but lost to Gary Dawkins, Acton.

He told the group he had been a lifelong Conservative, since student days as a member of the Young P.C. Organization.

"I'm very concerned about the drift to socialism in this country. I don't even call it a drift any more, I call it a rush," stated Gray. He said a strong Conservative provincial government is necessary as a bulwark against "the federal socialism as espoused by Mr. Trudeau."

He contended government should be run on business principles, and "pie in the sky" projects ended. He called for a return to a balanced budget.



GEORGE GRAY

Mr. Gray stated he was proud of the way the present Conservative government was tackling problems despite their minority position.

Mr. Gray is well-known in the north and south of the riding.

He attended high school in Burlington, and graduated from Ontario Agricultural

College in 1951 with an Honors B.S.A.

An athlete in his student days, he played football and basketball in high school and obtained two major letters for these sports at O.A.C., now Guelph University. He was also a member of Burlington Lakesides, a senior men's basketball team, who made it to the Ontario Senior Finals two years in a row.

After graduation he worked in livestock and feed sales, advancing to sales management and plant management positions.

In the mid 1950s he purchased a 200 acre farm at R. R. 1, Rockwood, and another 200 acre farm in Orangeville, where he runs chicken broiler, turkey and beef operations.

Mr. Gray, 46, is married to the former Beverly Fringle, who trained as a nurse at Peterborough Civic Hospital. Since coming to Georgetown in the early '60s she has been active as a driver for the Red Cross, and as a volunteer at blood donor clinics.

In the 1960s Mr. Gray entered the construction business as a partner with Fred Zorge of Georgetown.

Halton Sketches

by John McDonald



THIS LOVELY GEORGIAN HOME was built by Alexander Henderson in 1854 from clay found on the farm. The large 16 room house is a favorite subject for photographers and artists. August 7, 1977 will

mark the end of five generations of Hendersons residing in the house. This photograph dates back to the 1870s.

G. Kee seeks nomination

George Kee, a Hornby man and father of three, will seek the Progressive Conservative nomination for Halton-Burlington when that association holds its nomination meeting March 17. Mr. Kee works as a marketing manager for a major real estate corporation.

Kee cited the need to relate with government with greater energy, as a reason for offering himself as a candidate.

Hydro corridors, parkway belts, landfill plans and federal anti-inflation policies are issues he is concerned with.

Kee was born in Ireland and has lived in Canada for the past 21 years, three of them in Hornby. He is president of the Milton P.C. Association.

He served during the second world war as a marksman in the Royal Ulster Rifles and as a captain in the



GEORGE KEE

Army Air Despatch Corps. Prior to coming to Canada in 1956, Mr. Kee had six years of experience in the Far East planning and co-ordinating institutions.

Henderson farm home mecca for photographers and artists

Alexander Henderson was born in Jedburgh, Scotland, in 1815. By 1836, the year prior to the rebellion in Upper Canada, Henderson had left "Bonnie Scotland" and had settled in Chingacousy Township.

Chingacousy, like Esquesing township, has been devoured by regional government and much of the rich agricultural lands that Alexander Henderson knew are now part of an ever sprawling urban area.

Henderson married Nancy Young (1817-1878) on Chingacousy on February 16, 1841. Miss Young had been of United Empire Loyalist stock and was related to one of Georgetown's earliest lawyers, Mr. Goodwillie.

On July 17, 1844 they bought the north-east half of Lot 22, Concession 7, from William Fox for 200 pounds. The farm had three previous owners since 1837 and was only partially "cleared" of bush.

Alexander built the lovely Georgian style brick home in 1854. The old original wooden frame building still stands between the house and barn. Bricks were manufactured "on site" from a small clay pit immediately in front of the house.

Several brick buildings in Georgetown and area had their origins from the rich clay on the Henderson farm. Hand hewn beams (not dressed two-by-fours) make up the framework of the house.

The structure which has been home for five generations of Hendersons is a favourite subject for photographers and artists. Classes from the Ontario College of Art have been brought from Toronto to study and sketch the classic front doorway.

Alexander Henderson, whose working philosophy was "early to bed, early to

rise" died in 1890. His religious and political beliefs set a trend which would be handed down to his descendants. Henderson support at the Knox Presbyterian Church, in Georgetown, and the local Liberal Riding Association are now family tradition.

In 1865, half an acre of the Henderson farm was sold to School Section 16. The school, officially "Mount Pleasant", had always been dubbed "the stone school". Generations of Hendersons attended the school and in 1875 William A. Henderson, a son of Alexander, taught at the same school just prior to his death.

Before the school house was torn down in 1964, and the stone used to construct houses in Limehouse, members of the Henderson family sat on the school board. The school house was situated at the corner of the Seventh Line (Hwy. 7) and the 22nd Sideroad, adjacent to Park Toyota Motors. The last class was held there in 1959.

George Andrew Henderson (1854-1928) took over the farm after his father's death in 1890. He married Marion Janet Black in 1911. Her grandfather, Hugh Black, was responsible for some of the earliest surveys of this area. It was under George Henderson's direction that the present barn was built in 1914 on the site of a previous one.

Although hydro-electric power was available in Georgetown from Ontario Hydro, in 1913, it wasn't until the late 1930's that the farming community surrounding the town was "hooked-up" to the utility. The Henderson farm, however, was always ahead of the times and had been generating its own power with a Delco light system since 1926.

Their farmhouse was one of the first with indoor plumbing. It is interesting to note the water is supplied from springs immediately below Waterfalls Playground and is gravity fed.

George Henderson II now resides in the house his grandfather built 122 years ago. George, not unlike his ancestors, has always been an active member of the Knox Presbyterian Church, the Liberal Association, various local farm organizations and once served on the School Section 16 Board. He can recall the controversy when hydro was to be introduced to the school.

Some board members felt that because they attended school without advantage of electric lights "the present pupils don't need the luxury". The wiring was installed

and lights turned on in time for a Christmas concert in the late 1940s.

The Henderson farm, was named Elmhurst, for the numerous elm trees that once surrounded the house prior to Dutch Elm disease. For many years milk was shipped to Toronto dairies and more recently to the former Georgetown Dairy, once owned by Irwin Noble. Cream was supplied to Morris Saxe's Creamery on Guelph Street, near the Anglican Church.

The farm was sold in 1968 to a group of speculators known as the Everlast Group. August 7, 1977 the "group" will take possession of the property and that same date will mark the end of the Henderson family residing in the lovely Georgian home built by Alexander Henderson in 1854.

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11.15 a.m.—Morning Worship and Communion
7.00 p.m.—Evening Fellowship at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. Harrap.

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Sunday, Mar. 7, 1976

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Thursday

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Rev. 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.

And let him that heareth say, Come.

And let him that is athirst Come.

And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Obituary



GEORGE HENDERSON I and his son, present owner of the farm, George Henderson II, pose with the hired hand as they put ice in the old ice shed circa 1926. Sawdust piled outside will be used as an insulator.

Richard Ward is accident victim

Funeral services were held in Acton for 15-year-old Richard Joseph Ward, 103 Kingham Drive, who died accidentally in Whitewood, Saskatchewan on February 18. Rev. Robert C. Lohnes of Maple Avenue Baptist Church, Georgetown, was the officiating minister and interment followed in Bessyde Cemetery, Fergus.

Richard, who was born in Fergus, attended James McQueen School there before proceeding to Stewarston Public School and Georgetown and Acton High Schools. He is survived by his father, Eric Davison of Sault Ste. Marie; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ward, Acton; five brothers, John, Milton; Terry, Guelph; Rick, Roger and Danny of Acton; and three sisters, Roxey of Guelph; Wendy and Debbie, Acton.

Six uncles of the deceased, Doug and Lloyd Ward, Fergus; Dave, Brian, George and Pete Keleher, Guelph, acted as pallbearers.

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MR. AND MRS. ALEXANDER HENDERSON pose for a typical "gallery" photograph in Acton. Married in 1841, the Hendersons bought 100 acres on the western fringes of Georgetown in 1844. Alexander was a faithful churchgoer and a staunch Liberal. It was said that "you never saw him late for a meeting". He outlived his wife by 12 years.

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