

Won't attend meeting

Upset parents picket Gray's office

About 15 picketers representing the Milton Parents for Better School Facilities, upstaged the official opening of the Main St. Milton campaign office of George Gray, Progressive Conservative candidate in the June 9 provincial election Thursday afternoon.

Waving placards which said "We've had it?" the picketers paraded in front of Mr. Gray's office and refused the candidate's requests to move for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The picket line, consisting mainly of parents and small children was set up in front of Gray's office to protest his absence from tomorrow's public meeting at Martin St. School dealing with parents' complaints on the overcrowding situation and lack of proper facilities in Milton's schools.

On Wednesday the province had announced it was releasing funds for the construction of a \$300,000 addition to Robert Baldwin school, but this didn't satisfy the parents.

"Our goal is to get a commitment on an expansion to W.I. Dick school before the election is over," said protest organizer Gerry McAuliffe. W.I. Dick school currently has no gymnasium or library resource centre, both of which had been promised over two years ago according to one of the parents. The W.I. Dick expansion had been the school board's number one priority until the province overruled the board, granting funds for a school to be built in the Palmer community in North Burlington.

Gray had told the organizers he would be unable to attend the Thursday meeting because of a previous engagement at the Wintario Jraw in Georgetown the same night.

As President of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, Gray was invited along with his wife to be a platform guest at the draw.

"As their elected official I have a responsibility to represent them," Gray said, in reference to the Chamber.

"I'll tell you what they represent," said McAuliffe. "They represent a lot of bucks. We represent 2,000 school children."

At one point both of candidate Gray's opponents in the election—Julian Reed, the Liberal incumbent, and Bill Johnson from the NDP—joined the picket line. Both have offices nearby.

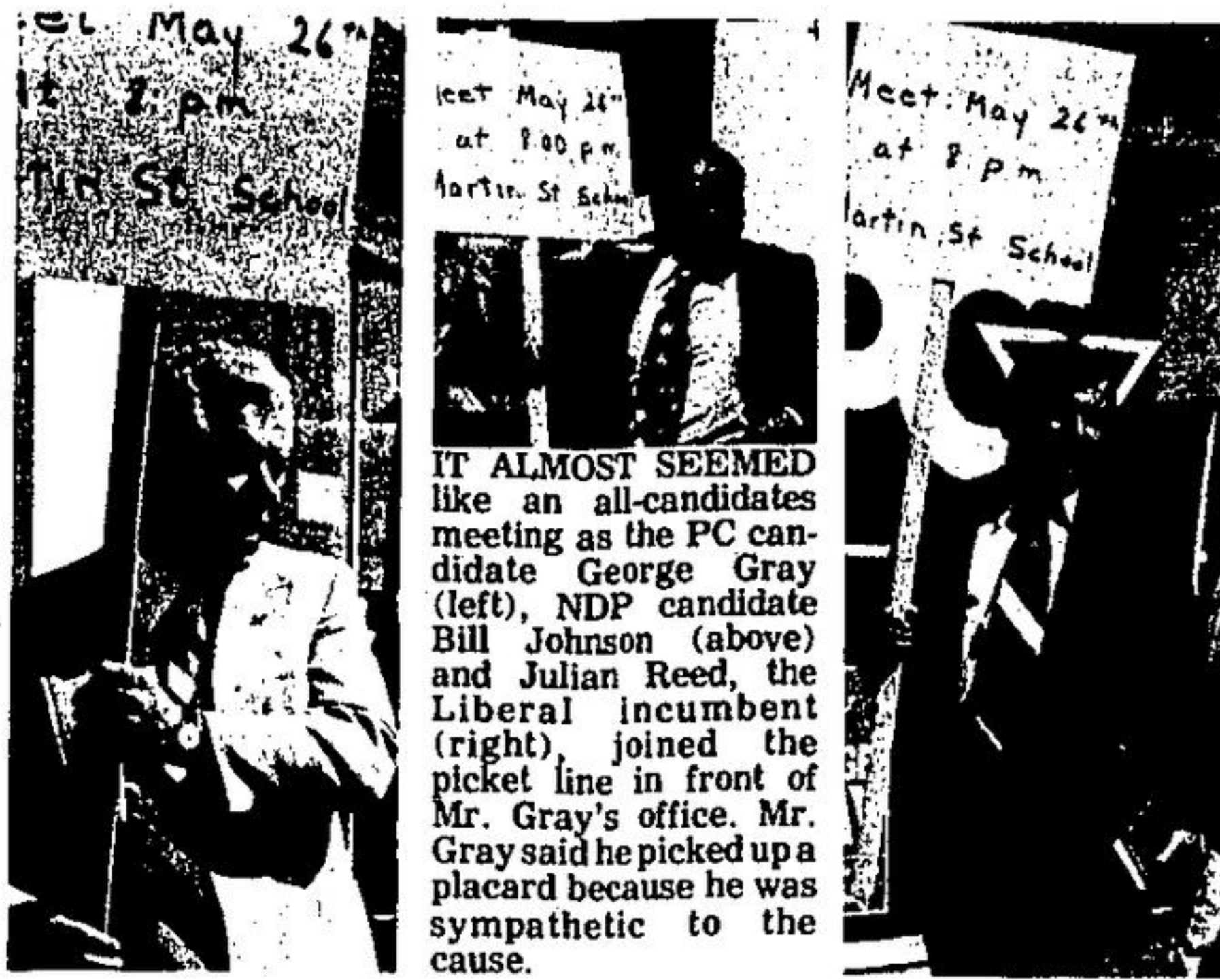
Both candidates have cancelled previous engagements and will attend the Martin St. School meeting tomorrow.

"After all, this is one of the few things we can agree on, isn't it Billy," joked MPP Reed to the NDP candidate.

Even Mr. Gray picked up a placard and joined the picket line, stating he was sympathetic to the cause of the people.

Eventually the crowd dispersed away from the front of the PCs campaign headquarters, but they refused to disband entirely for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Shortly after, the picket line disbanded.



George Gray predicts fall federal election

The federal Liberals are already "priming the pump" for a fall or spring election according to George Gray.

The Progressive Conservative candidate for Halton-Burlington in the provincial election June 9.

Speaking at a luncheon after the official opening of his campaign office in Milton, Gray told the small audience consisting mainly of Young Progressive Conservatives, who operate the Milton office, that the signs of a federal election are already apparent.

Mr. Gray said he was recently contacted by a member of the steel industry who wanted to expand his small Burlington plant into Georgetown. Mr. Gray said the man called him because he knows what's going on in Georgetown and the best places to locate in the town.

"It didn't strike me until I got home, why the man needed a new plant," said Mr. Gray.

According to Mr. Gray the expansion was made necessary by a \$1,100,000 federal government order. Previously the man had handled only up to \$400,000 in federal work orders.

"It's significant that the federal government is starting to prime the pump now," he said. "They're finally making an effort to bring the economy back to where it should be."

"I think we can look for a federal election in September, October or the spring," he added.

Commenting further on the federal situation, Mr. Gray said he felt it was time to lift some of the wage and price controls now.

Referring to a recent story in The Globe and Mail which reported that construction laborers in Toronto had settled a contract for the same wages as the previous contract, Mr. Gray said, "It appears that labor now recognizes that it can't have massive raises and that maybe they have to settle for the same wages."

Instead of lifting all the controls at once, Mr. Gray felt the Prime Minister should consider removing them from certain sections of the economy at different times.

He pointed to the steel industry which had been going well until recently.

"The industry is slack now," he said. "The Prime Minister should decontrol the industry now."

Mr. Gray recommended both sides of the steel industry meeting with the government and giving a commitment on what their objectives would be in the next three years. Once the commitment is made, the controls should be lifted, he said.

Tells Morrow, Kerr recovery plant exists

Liberal natural resources critic Julian Reed (MPP for Halton-Burlington) challenged both Halton Regional Chairman Rick Morrow and the Minister of Natural Resources George Kerr (MPP for Burlington South) about statements the two made on the non-existence of a 100 per cent resource recovery system at an "accountability" meeting in Burlington Wednesday, sponsored by the city's Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Reed publicly invited both men to visit a recovery plant in Harrisburg, West Virginia, which he claimed was a 100 per cent waste recovery system, built by Union Carbide, which handles 200 tons a day. (After checking with the company's office in Toronto this newspaper discovered that Mr. Reed was mistaken about the location of the plant, but not its capabilities according to the public relations director for the Toronto office, Robert Seath. The plant is located in South Charleston, West Virginia.)

The accountability panel consisted of the Mayor of Burlington Mary Munro and Bill Kemping, MP for Halton-Wentworth along with Mr. Morrow and Mr. Kerr. Although Mr. Reed represents residents in north Burlington he was not invited by the Chamber of Commerce to join the panel, but he attended anyway and sat in the audience.

Questions to the panel were handwritten on slips of paper which were handed to the panel chairman. Adding his signature to his questions, Mr. Reed asked Mr. Kerr why landfill was necessary in Halton when there is available technology for a 100 per cent resource recovery plant.

"That's the fourth time you've asked me that question, Julian," Mr. Kerr replied. "Each time I've said there is no plant in operation which will recover 100 per cent of all the garbage."

Mr. Kerr added that even the most sophisticated operation leaves some ash or residue. He said that even the \$15 million resource recovery plant currently under construction in North York, which Mr. Kerr described as the most advanced system available, would not recover all the garbage. In the future he predicted landfill sites would be built adjacent to recovery plants to handle the unrecovered waste.

When another member of the audience asked why Halton couldn't have 100 per cent waste recovery now, instead of in 10 years, Mr. Morrow said it was totally impossible and added that whoever asked the question was not aware of the problems.

"We are already being accused of throwing money and you want us to invest \$5-10 million on something which is not proven," Mr. Morrow said.

"After they visit the plant in Harrisburg (South Charleston) I would like to see them repeat what they

said tonight about no 100 per cent resource recovery plant existing," said Mr. Reed.

If both men did take up Mr. Reed's invitation to see it, however, they would have to supply their own transportation to the plant but Mr. Reed added he would gladly supply the maps.

As for Mr. Kerr's reference to the North York plant, Mr. Reed said, "That's like comparing apples to oranges. The North York plant is only a front-end separation plant."

Mr. Reed complained the problem is that the government is far behind the private sector in recovery plant technology.

According to Mr. Seath the confusion over the capabilities of the South Charleston plant could be because it isn't 100 per cent energy efficient. He said that due to heat loss the plant is only about 64 per cent energy efficient, but added this still made it the most energy efficient system available today. A gas engine, he pointed out, is only 20 per cent energy efficient.

He explained the plant does dispose of 100 per cent of the solid waste put through the Purox system. The waste is put into a high temperature furnace (3,000 degrees Fahrenheit) and oxygen is injected to the furnace. This produces two byproducts, a gas which he said any boiler can use to produce electricity, and a slag substance which can be used for a landfill or roadfill.

Although there is a heat loss, Mr. Seath added there are no gas emissions from the furnace.

Mr. Seath explained the plant is a commercial sized pilot project and the company has yet to build a similar system for a municipality, but said they have had inquiries.

Although Mr. Reed was displeased about being left off the accountability panel, he said no official objection would be made over it.

"It was an oversight on the part of the Chamber of Commerce," he said. "I just hope they recognize that Burlington extends north of the Queen Elizabeth Way."



JULIAN REED, Liberal MPP for Halton-Burlington, couldn't remain in his seat after the Minister of Natural Resources, George Kerr said there were no 100 per cent resource recovery plants in existence. Mr. Reed claims such a plant does exist in West Virginia and invited both Mr. Kerr and Halton Regional Chairman Ric Morrow to tour the plant with him.

John Bridle, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said only one provincial member was invited in order to limit the size of the panel to a reasonable number.

"We just had to cut it off somewhere," he said. "Most of the members of the Chamber of Commerce live in the downtown core and Mr. Kerr represents that area."

Mr. Bridle said when the meeting was first organized they had no idea there would be a provincial election.

"It's only because of the election that anyone's concerned about being left off," he added. "We did the same thing last year and no one said 'boo' about it."

Also in the audience were Mr. Reed's Conservative opponent, George Gray, and Mr. Kerr's Liberal opponent, John O'Boyle. Neither posed any questions to the panel.

NOTICE

**To Property Owners
In The
Town of Halton Hills**

THE ONTARIO WEED CONTROL ACT

as it applies to persons in possession of land within the Town of Halton Hills

Unless noxious weeds are destroyed by June 13th, 1977, and as often as necessary throughout the season to prevent the ripening of their seeds and dispersal of their pollens, The Town of Halton Hills may enter private property and destroy those weeds. The costs will be charged against the property owner and collected in the manner of Municipal Taxes.

Gostabead, Thistles, Chicory, Poison Ivy, Ragweed, Wild Carrot and Milkweed are among the weeds considered noxious, and must be destroyed wherever found. Complaints regarding Dandelion and Goldenrod will not be accepted as these are not considered noxious under the terms of the Weed Control Act. Anonymous complaints will not be accepted.

KEITH LESLIE, Weed Inspector
Municipal Offices, 38 Main Street South
Town of Halton Hills
Telephone: 877-5185 877-4841

The Corporation of the Town of Milton

PLEASE TAKE NOTE that a Public Meeting will be held by Milton Council on Monday, May 30, 1977 commencing at 7:30 p.m. in The Council Chambers, 251 Main Street, Milton, Ontario, for the purpose of reviewing the proposed Reform of Property Taxation in Ontario. All interested citizens are welcome.

C. Thompson,
Clerk.

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Council budget

Chop \$175,000

Milton Council reduced budget estimates by approximately \$175,000 after sitting through an all-day budget session last week. But the cuts made represent only a fraction of the \$380,000 which Treasurer Don Loughheed says must be cut to bring the budget down to a 10 per cent increase over last year.

When council meets today at 4 p.m., members will have to take a tough stand if they are going to whittle the \$4,000,000 budget down to what they've said would be an acceptable level of increase.

The public works and

library budgets are the only two which haven't been examined since the cutting started. The works budget represents spending of about \$1,600,000 and is the biggest budget council will consider. Council agreed at the last meeting that it may want to go through areas of the budget once again, to delete items and pull the budget back to an acceptable level.

Major cuts approved at the meeting, May 17 include \$60,000 from the fire department, \$18,000 from the clerk's department, \$50,000 from parks and recreation and

\$11,000 from the legislative budget, mostly new staff and equipment.

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Town square in Milton

Proposals for a "town square"—a green space in the centre of the community featuring trees and flowers—are being drawn up by town staffers after Milton Council's successful purchase of the Sunoco service station property next door to the town hall on Main St.

Mayor Don Gordon announced at Monday's council meeting that the town's bid of \$126,000 was accepted by Sun Oil Co. Negotiations have been underway for about a month.

"Sunoco had an offer on it, we just had to go a few dollars higher and we got it," the mayor said.

Plans for about 35 parking spaces at the rear, fronted by a park setting, are being drawn up. Councilors hope to ring the property with a loop road, with the entrance beside town hall and the exit adjacent to the fire hall at the east side of the Sunoco property.

Councillor Rick Day said the town was showing "admirable foresight" for the future of the downtown area, by purchasing the gas station site.

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