

Josee Charlebois returns from 'Adventure'

"What does it mean to be a Canadian?" To most, the question would be meaningless. In this day of political uncertainty, the average person is too busy thinking of the future of the country, to think about the present.

However, to 255 teenagers from across Canada the question has a sense of reality that they didn't feel a month ago.

These teenagers participated in the annual Adventure in Citizenship in Ottawa earlier this month, organized by the Ottawa Rotary club with expenses paid by the home-town Rotary clubs.

Acton's representative this year, grade 13 student Josee Charlebois, still has a hard time answering the initial question, but finds the difficulty in putting into words what her heart feels.

Adventure began Josee left for Ottawa May 8, from Toronto International Airport. Her adventures began while boarding the airplane, when she saw former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker sitting at the front of the plane. They smiled at each other, lighting the match of the high school student's curiosity of the days to come.

Once the plane landed in Ottawa, and Josee checked in at the Rotary booth, she met her billet, Mrs. Kraft and her roommate, Pam Goulding, from Newfoundland.

The next day, the students from all over Canada gathered at the Centre Block of the Parliament buildings. Josee was able to meet many of the 255 there as everyone was wearing name tags. She found it quite easy to mingle as "everyone was in the same boat. No one knew anyone."

The huge group was taken to the Railway Committee Room where they were welcomed by Jock Langford, chairman of the Adventure in Citizenship committee, Colin Matheson, president of the Rotary Club of Ottawa, and Larry Greenberg, mayor of Ottawa.

The teenagers were warned then by Mr. Greenberg that they would leave the city with a different feeling toward their country.

Coincidence Later that same morning, the group went for a reception in the House of Commons where they were greeted by Alistair Fraser, clerk of the house. Josee found a seat to sit in and after a while, looked to see whose chair it was. She was surprised when she saw

by sheer coincidence it was the seat of Dr. Frank Philbrook, Halton's member of Parliament. Mr. Fraser gave a brief history on the house and described parliamentary procedures and the upkeep of the House.

The Hon. James Jerome, speaker of the House of Commons, spoke with the guests about the house's most important functions. He also said he had great confidence that most of 255 students would some day be involved in the political running of Canada.

At a Rotary luncheon in the ballrooms at the Chateau Laurier, the Hon. John Munro, minister of labour, was scheduled to be guest speaker. However, he was not able to attend. Instead, a representative delivered Mr. Munro's speech for him.

After the luncheon, the group returned to the Parliament buildings to the Senate where they were addressed by the Hon. Mme. Renade LaPointe, speaker, and Robert Fortier, clerk of the senate.

French only Mme Lapointe said her speech entirely in French, so only the French-speaking or bilingual students understood what she was talking about, Josee said. Fortunately, Josee herself is bilingual being born in the province of Quebec, so she was not left out of anything. In fact, she surprised everyone with her bilingualism, as only ten out of the entire group spoke both languages.

A tour of the National Art Gallery was next on the agenda with the group being split up into ten groups of 25. Divided into the same groups, the students were introduced to representatives from the various embassies around Ottawa. Josee's group attended a reception at the Tunisian Embassy, and were escorted there by a sultan.

After a bus trip to the embassy in Rockcliffe Park, the students saw a French film on Tunisia. They were then given a Tunisian meal in the dining room. Josee described the food as very hot and spicy. They were welcomed by the ambassador of Tunisia.

A dance held at Laurentian high school finished off a very busy day.

Discussion The next day, Tuesday, the students broke up into their same ten groups at the University of Ottawa and were assigned to a professor. A discussion entitled "Canada—Diversity or Division: Is Confederation Negotiable?" was held, with questions.

At lunch in the University's Blue Room, the guest speaker was Joe Clark, leader of the opposition. He spoke about the pipeline up north, and the Berger enquiry. He pointed out to the students that he was sitting in their seats in 1956, when he made his first trip to Ottawa as a guest of the Adventure in Citizenship committee.

After lunch, the group was bused to McArthur high school for the RCMP Band Concert, and later to the RCMP Division for their Mounted Arms Display.

Supper was eaten here, where they were addressed by Deputy Commissioner J. J. Drapeau. The 255 students started to feel closer to each other at this meal, as they were sitting closer and could meet each other better.

The evening was spent at the Museum of Science and Technology. Wednesday morning was spent talking to Senator Carl Goldenberg. He spoke of separation and Canada's economic standing.

Government house At noon, Josee and the others were taken to Government House where they were welcomed by His Excellency, the Right Hon. Jules Leger, Governor General. Lunch was at the Rockcliffe Park Pavilion. Everyone sat at tables according to what province they were from. There were 102 students from Ontario, and one particular girl was chosen to speak on behalf of the provincial representatives.

Huge circle After lunch, the group had some spare time to walk in the park. It was here, says Josee, everyone expressed what they really felt about their country. Apparently, it was all started by the students from Nova Scotia who held arms and sang "Farewell to Nova Scotia" and then urged everyone to join them and make a giant circle. Josee said the feeling of unity

across the country was very strong at this point. She also said everyone was impressed, because they realized there were people living in provinces so many thousands of miles away, that before, were just names on a map.

She pointed out one boy from British Columbia was standing across from a girl from Nova Scotia, and for the first time, he said, he realized Nova Scotia was really part of the country. Up until then, Josee said, he felt Canada, in his mind, only went as far east as Quebec.

After singing the national anthem while in this huge circle, everyone ran into the centre, signifying the east meeting the west.

After this display of emotion, the group had a police escort to the National Capital area. On the way they were given "the VIP treatment", says Josee, going through red lights, stop signs, etc.

Supper that evening was at the Grand Crystal Ballroom at the Chateau Laurier as guest of the National Capital Commission.

Also attending the dinner were 130 members of parliament, and students sat at assigned tables with M.P.s from their own riding. Josee sat with Dr. Philbrook, and other students from this area. During the meal, they discussed the good and bad points about the adventure.

Andre Ouellet and Ed Broadbent were guest speakers. Both had been adventurers 20 years ago.

Mr. Ouellet invited the students to improve the language and separation problem by doing what they can in their own areas—organize student exchanges and arrange class projects to know the rest of Canada.

After dinner, a dance was held at Champlain high school.

Presentations Thursday, May 12, the last day of the stay, everyone assembled in the Confederation Room of the West Block for presentation of the Citizenship certificates by his Hon. Judge Paul Tardy. At this time, everyone went up to the front and received a certificate. Josee had previously received hers while living in

Truro Nova Scotia when she was secretary in the Jr. I.O.D.E.

Lunch was at the Chateau Laurier. All the billets were present and Dan Crone and Rod Holmes led in a singsong with songs they had written commemorating the trip. The students who, just one day earlier had been chosen to represent their province, had this chance to express their feelings of the past four days, and what their country meant to them.

None of the speakers were quite able to put down into words how they had felt the past few days, according to Josee. Some spoke of the importance of the unity of the country, others spoke on how they had become aware of the people in the country on the opposite coast.

Feel in heart "What does being a Canadian mean to you?" Some tried to answer, but it was hard. "Well it's hard to put into words," said the speaker from B.C. "because it is a feeling and you can't explain it. You feel it in your heart."

"We have all now become

more appreciative, understanding, and enthusiastic about our fellow Canadians," said another speaker. "We have met 255 people from all corners of Canada and found out that none of them breathes fire!"

"Seeing the buildings of Canada's history and leaning about politics was nice, but that's not Canada. Being a Canadian in your heart not on paper is what it is all about," said another adventurer.

Highlights In the whirlwind of events which took place in the five days, Josee found it difficult to pick out any particular highlights. She found the circle fascinating in what it meant to everyone in it. She also felt just meeting the other adventurers and feeling that she had known them all her life was a highlight also.

Someone like Josee, who has lived in several different provinces all her life, could well imagine the various feelings across the country. However, her five days in Ottawa this month showed her more about her country than any amount of living, in all of the provinces.



JOSEE CHARLEBOIS, 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Charlebois, Elmore Dr., recently attended the Adventure in Citizenship activities held in Ottawa. The local Rotary trip sponsored Josee's trip there.

Re-elect Jack Johnson



JACK JOHNSON your Progressive Conservative Candidate. The man determined to serve the people of his riding fairly, no matter what the problem may be in a given area.

Jack is one of the hardest working members in the legislature and has one of the most creditable attendance records in the house and at committee meetings.

His persistence resulted in having a **PRIVATE MEMBERS BILL** passed, the first one in 25 years, allowing candidates to advertise in the weekly press up to the day of election. This bill benefits both voters and candidates in provincial elections.

Jack insists on participating in Committee Work.

He is a member of the **STANDING COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS**, **SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAY SAFETY**. After only a half a year, 1st sitting in the legislature, he was made Chairman of the **RESOURCES ESTIMATE COMMITTEE** (establishing budgets for the several ministries dealing with the Province's resources).

Jack laid his political career on the line when he opposed the closing of our hospitals, planned in his riding. (None were closed)



FOR INFORMATION OR OFFERS OF HELP PHONE

Fergus 519-843-2051	Caledon 416-584-2201	Erlin 519-833-2118
Bolton 416-857-1746		Shelburne 519-925-3120
Mount Forest Campaign Headquarters 519-323-3001		

JUNE 9 IS ELECTION DATE ... PLEASE VOTE ...



X JOHNSON



THE COMMISSION ON Freedom of Information and Individual Privacy

The Commission on Freedom of Information and Individual Privacy by authority vested in it by the Government of Ontario will undertake an enquiry to examine:

1. Public information practices of other jurisdictions in order to consider possible changes which are compatible with the parliamentary traditions of the Government of Ontario and complementary to the mechanisms that presently exist for the protection of the rights of individuals;
2. The individual's right of access and appeal in relation to the use of Government information;
3. The categories of Government information which should be treated as confidential in order to protect the public interest;
4. The effectiveness of present procedures for the dissemination of Government information to the public;
5. The protection of individual privacy and the right of recourse in regard to the use of Government records.

One aspect of the Study will include the acceptance of written Briefs and the Receipt of Submissions as well as a series of public meetings throughout the Province.

Persons or groups wishing to make representations to the Commission on any aspect of the Study are requested to write to the Counsel, Commission of Freedom of Information and Individual Privacy, 444 Waterloo Street, London, Ontario N6B 2P3 or to submit written Briefs with the undersigned not later than August 1, 1977.

Public hearings will be held at times and places in Ontario to be announced later and those filing Briefs or letters who wish to appear personally will be advised as to the time and place when they will be heard.

Please address all correspondence to: Counsel, Commission on Freedom of Information and Individual Privacy, 444 Waterloo Street, London, Ontario N6B 2P3.

D.C. Williams, Ph.D., LL.D. Chairman
W.R. Poole, Q.C. Counsel

Scout news

Tonight (Wednesday) "A" colony Beavers will go on a tour of the Acton Fire hall. Thursday night "B" colony will be taken on a tour of McDonald's restaurant. Saturday May 28 a "Beaver" will be held in Milton at the Scout Hall. North Halton and Milton districts are both participating, and expect 150 boys to turn out. The event runs from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. A beaver camp at the Ponderosa will be held June 17, 18 and 19.

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday the North Halton District Cub Camp will be held at Glen Haffey. This camp is for boys 10 yrs. or older who will go up to Scouts next year. It is run like a Scout camp—the boys are supervised but do the work themselves. The boys will be sleeping under canvas so should be prepared. Acton cubs will meet at the Scout hall at 5:30 prompt. They must be at Wm. Neilson Ltd. in Georgetown by 6 p.m. Friday. Acton boys taking part are: Wayne Chappel, Gord Goulding, Jim Johnston, Tim Garton, Donny McDonald and Brian Steckley. Leaders from Acton will be Mike Walton and Pat Garton.

June 4 a district camp for Scouts will be held at the Flaherty Farm on highway no. 24 west of Caledon. There will be pioneering projects and it will give boys going to C.J. jamboree in Prince Edward Island a little more experience.

Willing work week runs for the remainder of the week. Please try to find a job for a boy so he can help Scouting.

Ground still dry

The small amounts of spring rain in this district have not much relieved the dryness of the ground. On Monday, some surrounding areas received drizzling rain. However this immediate area had only a gentle rainfall which didn't even drive the boaters on the lake to seek shelter.