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JULIAN REED JIM BREITHAUPT JOHN SWEENEY SHEILA COPPS RICHARD THOMAS DAVID PETERSON

Liberal hopefuls say Strength needed to oust Blue Machine

By JANE MULLER

The five candidates making a bid to lead the provincial Liberal Party when Dr. Stuart Smith steps down in February 1982 are calling for new strength in the party in order to overthrow the Big Blue machine.

Halton-Burlington Provincial Liberal Association held a meet-the-candidate night Monday at the Bayrischer-Hof restaurant giving the five leadership hopefuls an opportunity to vie for support.

Gearing up for the leadership convention are candidates Sheila Copps, Hamilton Centre MPP, Richard Thomas, Jim Breithaupt, Kitchener MPP, John Sweeney, Wilmot Kitchener MPP and David Peterson, London MPP.

Recently returned from a 2,500 mile Northern Ontario tour, rookie MPP Sheila Copps boasted of her election win not so long ago, when she took a seat in the Legislature held by the NDP since 1981. Her first election bid in 1977 she lost by just 17 votes after having only 28 days to campaign.

She attributes her election victory to "getting involved in local issues, not as a Liberal, but as a community member."

Miss Copps stressed the need for Liberals to start believing in themselves and regain hope of conquering the Tories after their nearly four decades of power.

"We're at a crossroad... people are looking for an alternative," Miss Copps told the audience.

She warned the Conservative government will "do anything" to prop up the NDP to allow them to "squeeze in the middle."

"Organize, raise money and win" is the formula candidate John Sweeney used in preparing for a 1981 election. A member of the Legislature since 1975, Mr. Sweeney said the Liberals want to be a party "which recognizes people's needs and meets those needs."

He claims the people of Ontario don't see the Liberals "standing for anything."

"The government is not to do things for people, but to work with them to set up the apparatus, programs and clear the tracks. We've got to say to the people this is a priority, these are things we hold dear and dear," he said.

MPP David Peterson, in the riding of London Centre, like his counterpart Mr. Sweeney, has been representing his area in the provincial legislature since 1975. He is the man our own MPP Julian Reed is backing in the leadership race. The 38-year-old called for better party organization.

"We have not been organized. Half the ridings in Ontario are not capable of putting up a fair fight. No one issue will do it. We must form a broad base coalition," said the Liberal finance critic.

"As a government, we will have to create an atmosphere where people can maximize their individuality but, if we don't have an economic base, all these things come under threat," Mr. Peterson explained.

A comprehensive industrial plan and development of high technology and Communications products with potential for export he recommends will help strengthen the economy.

The most unique candidate in this leadership race has to be Richard Thomas, a conservationist who,

although is not a member of the Legislature, fell short of securing a seat by six votes in the last provincial election in the riding of Parry Sound.

A Parry Sound Township municipal councillor for two terms, he operates a farm which produces food/fuel crops and is committed to developing renewable energy sources—which he claims can make Ontario self-sufficient in both food and energy needs—allowing for export of these products as well. Ontario currently imports 80 per cent of its fuel and 50 per cent of its food.

He suggested the method of making the Liberal party the governing body in this province is to encourage the 44 per cent of population of Ontario which did not vote in 1981 to exercise their franchise.

"Why do they not vote? The general feeling is it

won't do a damn bit of good anyway. They feel they don't have anyone to vote for who will make changes," he suggested.

Kitchener MPP Jim Breithaupt, first elected in 1967, also feels the new party leader must "encourage and challenge" people to vote and let them know they "can have a change, a change they can trust."

As pointed out by the other candidates, he believes the Liberal party must be well financed and prepared for the next election.

"We're looking at the position this party is going to be placed in the next election," he said.

Currently the critic for the Attorney General and for Justice policy, he told the assembled association members, "I know the province and the party and what makes it tick. I have proven my ability."

Hydro may spend \$10,000 put tower farther from road

Ontario Hydro is looking at spending approximately \$10,000 extra so a microwave tower can be erected far off the Fifth Line of Erin Township.

Spokesperson Brenda Harris said there is no question they "feel" the one acre site on the Fifth Concession, Lots 6 and 7, "is the best site." Hydro has taken out an option on this site, but that doesn't mean the final decision is cut and dried.

She explained Hydro won't have to go through a hearing, but it must have agreement to the site from everyone in the area. "It takes longer this way, but once you get agreement you've got the site."

If Hydro can't secure agreement for the site from all the neighbors then another site will have to be selected.

Mrs. Harris explained technical engineers said the site was the best of all the possibilities examined in the Acton-Erin area, and they thought the tower should be located about 100 feet off the road.

However, neighbors expressed concern about the microwave tower being located so close to the road.

They would find the tower more acceptable if it was farther off the road, Mrs. Harris said.

Hydro agrees with the neighbors that the tower would look better further from the road. It would cost an extra \$10,000 for the tower project if the tower was further from the road because a longer access road would be needed and power must be put into the maintenance-control building. Despite the extra cost Hydro is willing to examine this option since it would make the tower more acceptable to the neighbors.

"More and more you will see Ontario Hydro trying to accommodate people living around our facilities, being more sensitive to their concerns. It's definitely a trend," she declared.

If this site is accepted by neighbors then the tower won't need to be painted red and white or require a flashing red light, other possible tower sites would require this treatment.

Hydro is working on a montage to show neighbors how the completed tower would look in relation to the area for the next meeting with residents.

Halton cops have HEART

By TERRY RUGGLES

To keep pace with the pulse of a growing community, Halton Regional Police will soon be the beneficiaries of a new HEART.

By 1984, Halton's Entry And Retrieval Telecommunications systems (HEART) will be ready to go, says planning and research officer Dave Richards.

A feasibility study on the computerization of Halton's police records will be underway next month.

An examination of the number of hands a police report passes through, those involved in that process, and how reports are finally indexed will be scrutinized.

To oversee the study, a computer systems analyst will be working with the Halton police staff, on loan from the Ontario Police Commission. He will be acting as an advisor, making recommendations about

the way in which computerization could be applied to the Halton police operation.

The study will bring to bear the different options the police force might pursue in tying in with other computer systems.

"The force may end up sharing a computer system with another police force," said Mr. Richards. Or perhaps it could be with Halton Regional government.

Cost will be the major factor, he said, in deciding which option the police would ultimately choose.

The capital costs for the project are estimated at approximately \$1.5 million. Neighboring regions such as Peel and Hamilton-Wentworth have already initiated computerization in their operational systems.

Acton VIPs look back and ahead....

Acton, the annual skateathon, the Scouts, a steer draw, the Golden Age dinner, Christmas hamper, an arthritic campaign in which over \$2,350 was raised, and a hockey team. They also sent an exchange student, Denise Dilbey, to Japan for a year, and Kym Lakin to Ottawa for the Adventure in Citizenship program.

1982 will see another foreign student coming to Acton to spend a year, and the Rotary is currently taking applications from area teenagers to spend a

year away. The club also hopes to have a giant auction sale in February.

Acton Legion celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1981 with appropriate meetings and dances. In July local members took part in the opening of a war room at the Halton Museum, and in conjunction with the Rotary club sponsored the Golden Age Christmas dinner. A book about the Legion's first 50 years was published and a big banquet held in March.

September saw a Nashville Night where members of the Windsor Legion visited Acton for a special dinner and dance.

Acton Legion also enables hundreds of local youngsters to play hockey as they sponsor an entire league.

Only three special events are planned for this year. There will be a special St. Patrick Night in March and a Newfie Night in April. In June, four members will travel to the national convention in Quebec City. While no plans are definite, it is expected most regular business will continue into 1982.

The Legion Ladies helped celebrate the golden anniversary also. They held a special bazaar to raise funds, and Sunnybrook Hospital patients were brought to town for a special party. The group also donates to the Cancer Society and all other worthwhile charities in town.

This year sees a member travelling to the 1982 Legion Ladies convention in the Sioux, and participation in sports such as darts and bowling. They plan to have another visit from patients as well as keep up the regular Easter visits to senior citizens, care for widows, hold bingo and a Christmas party for members' children.

The IOOE has had a busy year also with their Christmas hamper, high school bursaries and annual bazaar. A schedule for 1982 has not been drawn up yet, but it is presumed their annual events will be continued.

John Allinson, president of the Chamber of Commerce said the organization was pleased to accept 21 new members in 1981.

They launched and sponsored the Leathertown Committee, which became an independent association, and had a successful Monte Carlo night. The publishing of a second directory was a highlight, and they sponsored their third poster contest for the Back to Acton Days, and speakers' luncheons were started. The Chamber also increased their profile in regional and municipal affairs, with comments on lot levies and licensing bylaws.

For 1982, Allinson sees further co-operation with the Leathertown and BIA groups. More speaker luncheons are planned, as is an annual general meeting. Seminars will be held, and a improved directory published. Increased involvement on municipal and regional affairs is also planned.

The chamber will continue their regular annual events and projects, and have discussed the possibilities of establishing tourist and information centre.

Ed Wood, chairman of the Acton BIA, is quick to say the highlight of 1981 was the completion of the BIA downtown study. The BIA also was pleased

with the purchase of 37 Christmas decorations for downtown and the introduction of Leathertown shopping bags. They also made their regular contribution to the Santa Claus parade.

The rental of the proposed IGA land for increased downtown parking was also a shot in the arm for the BIA last year.

1982 will be a positive year for the organization, Wood says. He is looking forward to implementation of some of the downtown study results in the areas of parking and beautification.

Even though the Leathertown Association was only a separate entity for part of the year, chairman Chip Petrillo still considers the year a success.

While under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, Leathertown held a very successful Monte Carlo night and later, while an independent organization, put Acton on the map with a Wintario Draw. They have also taken great strides for the town by having it declared a tourist site. A logo was adopted and is popping up all over town.

For 1982, Petrillo says, a giant Leathertown weekend is planned which will hopefully be a huge class reunion. A fashion show is slated also.



Lorne Doberthien drew the Actario tickets Saturday morning.

Actario winners

For the second week in a row Eva Cooper and Paul Nielsen shared the weekly Actario draw prize of \$350.

Marrta Hannikainen and Tell Connolly shared merchant bonus vouchers from Sledman's, Acton Pharmacy and Acton Family Cleaners while Peter Casa went home with vouchers from Nielsen's, Acton Photo and Camera, Ed's In 'N Out and Family Cleaners.

Zyg and Inez Luty, 223 McDonald Blvd., were the winners of the super shopper draw, picking up vouchers from Acton IGA, Home Hardware, Acton Family Restaurant, Joffe Shoes, Jug City, Emily's Natural Foods, AB Foodland, J & T Sports, Acton Bowling Lanes and Family Cleaners.

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