

The Acton Free Press

TELEPHONE (519) 853-2010

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Two new leaders brighten Ontario political scene

When Bob Rae was recently selected as the new leader of the provincial NDP we heralded that news as something positive for the voters of Ontario.

We view David Peterson's recent election as the new provincial leader of the Grits in the same way, though not quite as enthusiastically.

With the New Democrats Rae was the only choice of the three who we felt could make a significant impact on the provincial political scene.

In Peterson's case he was the first choice of the majority of delegates, but our second choice.

We were pulling for Sheila Copps because we figured with her youth and vigor she'd make the biggest impact on the provincial Legislature and out on the hustings.

Sometimes, it's difficult to believe Peterson isn't a Tory. He looks and talks like one, although most of his policies are clearly different than those of Davis and Company.

However, we welcome his election as leader because it

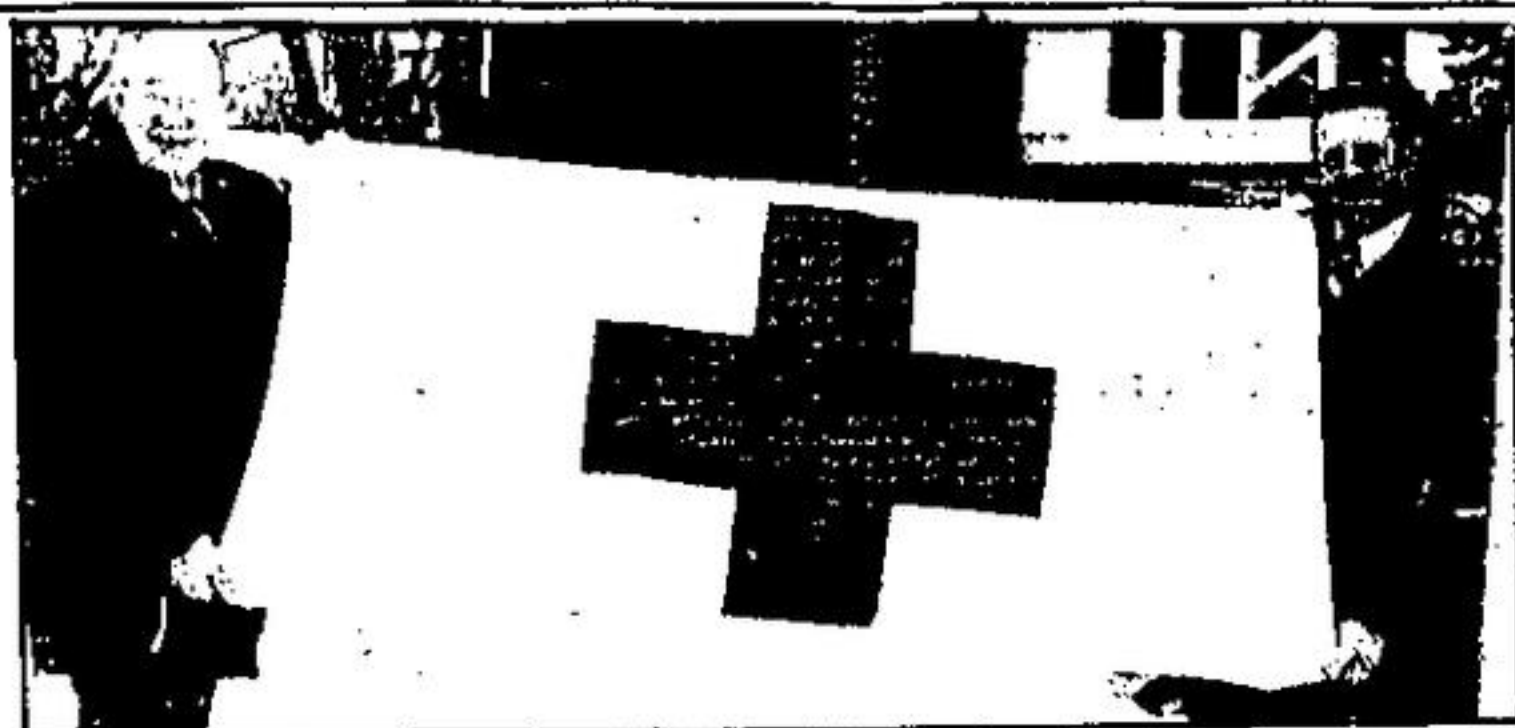
means Ontario will have more of a choice the next time we troop to the polls.

And, in our view having two, and hopefully three new choices come the next election is highly desirable.

Nobody can want to see the long Conservative rule of this province continue by the mere fact they are the least unattractive of three poor choices. For too long in the past decade that's why the Tories have continued to rule.

As for Peterson, he has a tough job ahead. Not only must he find a way to give the Liberals an urban flavor while maintaining their strong rural base, but with Rae out of the Legislature until he wins a seat he will in effect be the voice of the all important opposition across from a majority government during tough times.

While we aren't ecstatic about Peterson, we do expect him to be an improvement over Stuart Smith and the voters of Ontario are counting on him being a more attractive alternative to the Tories than was his predecessor.



Ben Jongasma and Henry Kroes raise the Red Cross flag.

Red Cross aims for \$5,000

The Acton Red Cross unit has set a goal of \$5,000 for this month's fund raising drive, \$200 more than raised last year.

Some 200 canvassers hit the streets Monday, March 1, for the annual campaign. Acton and area has been mapped out into 213 routes, in 12 areas. There are 12 other captains.

This month's fund raising drive is the only major means of making money throughout the year and monies go towards such things as local blood donor clinics and loan cupboards.

Campaign for Funds Manager Ben

Jongasma pointed out "One never knows when tragedies occur." If the train derailment which occurred in Orillia on Sunday, resulting in hundreds being evacuated from their homes, had happened in Acton, he said, the Acton unit would have been heavily involved. The Red Cross is always there for others.

An example of this is the new water safety program being planned.

This year's campaign is strictly door to door, with unit president Henry Kroes contacting local industries.

Tories favor extending shoe import quotas

Canada's Leather industry needs footwear import quotas for another three years according to Halton MP Otto Jelinek.

Speaking at Thursday's public forum in Milton, Jelinek said he met last week with Beardmore president Peter Dunham and the Tory caucus has been talking to others in the leather industry too and they are convinced import quotas should be extended for another 36 months to give the industry time to complete its technological "catch-up".

"You can't eliminate quotas overnight without proper notice," Jelinek declared.

Union head at Beardmore, Ed Parent, noted a year ago there were 438 people working at the tannery and now there are just 393. Ten workers with seniority were laid off and 150 in the upper leather department are on four day work week.

He complained about the government's work sharing unemployment benefits program. Parent explained if

the entire plant was on a four day work week then employees would receive 60 per cent of their pay for the fifth day from UIC. However, because the sole leather division of Beardmore is on five days none of the workers in upper leather receive the work sharing benefits. Only if the entire plant was on a four day week would workers receive the benefits.

Jelinek noted he raised the problems lifting the import quotas is causing Beardmore in the House as soon as it happened but to no avail. He suggested effective lobbying now taking place may do some good.

Parent blasted industry minister Herb Gray for saying Canada doesn't need its leather industry and added Canada can do without Gray. Jelinek declined to comment.

Lobbying in the past by unions and tanners was successful in the past Parent said afterwards. A few weeks ago, he said, it looked like lobbying had worked again, but now everything is very "lffy".

Council rejects dropping pinball arcade appeal

After hearing briefly from one of the owners of a pinball arcade on the east side of town Halton Hills council decided Monday to proceed with its case to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Last week general committee approved a planning staff report calling for the municipality to appeal Halton Hills Committee of Adjustment's approval of the pinball arcade to the OMB and this week confirmed their earlier decision.

One of the owners, Mark Edwards, asked if there was anything they could do, any changes in their plans which they could make, which would persuade council to drop its appeal.

Councillors asked no questions after hearing his presentation. Later Councillor Mike Armstrong said Edwards should have offered reasons why the town shouldn't appeal to the OMB. He said council went along with staff, feeling the planners have good reasons for suggesting an appeal.



On the Leavell

With Helen

Birthday greetings go out to Mrs. Ada Cheney, mother of Mrs. Rose Platt, who celebrated her 95th birthday February 26. Mrs. Cheney is now residing at the Chelsea Nursing Home in Mississauga.

February 20 winners of the 500 club draw are: 2 Ross Poulter and 299 John Rogers. This week's winners are 441 J. Boose and 451 Hank Etlwyk.

Belated birthday greetings to Heather Whiting who recently turned 29.

Acton High School graduate Laurie Pierce has returned to her roots—so to speak.

Laurie is practice teaching at her home school of Brookville School for this week, and staying with her parents. Laurie, a graduate of Nipissing University in North Bay spent last week practice teaching in a Cree village on James Bay, where she had to be flown in on a bush plane. The weather was about 50 degrees below zero. Laurie says she found the week "interesting."

Nominations are currently being taken for this year's Citizen of the Year. This year's winner will be the 25th Acton resident to be so honored by the Chamber of Commerce sponsored event. Nomination forms can be found in this week's Free Press.

Even though Scout and Guide week 1982 is now history, this poem by Jean Vaughan, Acton District Girl Guide leader, will help us better understand the movement.

THE LEGACY

In eighteen hundred and fifty-seven A special gift came down from Heaven, Robert Baden-Powell, or B.P. was his name He wrote Scouting for Boys and gained worldwide fame.

The boys loved it but the girls soon made a fuss "We can do anything you can, give some activities to us!" So B.P. told his sister, "Do something with this lot!" She started the girls' programme and found them easily taught.

In 1912, B.P. met and married Olive St. Clair Soames. Olive continued his cause and it soon became her own. They continued in their cause until 1941. When B.P. returned to Heaven leaving us a lifetime of fun.

Lady B.P. travelled as Chief Guide until 1977. When she joined her husband but this time in Heaven. They didn't leave us money in their expansive will. But a legacy that we are all proud to fulfill.

Our leaders go to trainings so we can learn more. They say, "Zest for knowledge is the key to life's door". We learn knotting, hiking and do good deeds galore. We sell apples, cookies, calendars and so ever so much more.

We learn citizenship, tree planting, baking and how to serve. Every new skill learned gives us a little more nerve. To meet life head on as our Founders would have wanted. Thousands unite round the world never to be undaunted.

There's snowshoeing, collecting, exploring and birds. Conservation, sports, backpacking and a lot of new words. There's First Aid, cooking, orienteering and trail. We stalk each other silently over hill and dale.

We camp all year round and cook our own food. The singing and friendship set a wonderful mood. We learn to plan menus to help keep us alive. We learn compass and lashing and how to survive.

Although parades are a duty, we always have fun. Whether we're marching in snow or rain or under the sun. The Patrol's Systems THE WAY from the young to the old. It's in Scouting for Boys for us all to unfold.

It is ever so strange they were born the same day. Making us aware once again of God's very unique way. Lord and Lady Baden-Powell will always be here. We shall follow in their footsteps with NOTHING TO FEAR.

Acton is joining in the World Day of Prayer Service this Friday at Trinity United Church. People all around the world will be taking part in the same program as the Acton people. All are welcome.

The next meeting of La Leche League of Acton will be held next Monday at 8 p.m. at 128 Elmwood Drive, Acton. The topic for this meeting is Baby Arrives: The Family and The Breastfed Baby. Discussion involves the first few weeks at home with the new baby.

Any women interested in information about breast feeding are welcome as are their babies. For further information call 856-9935 or 878-3884.

MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman Sweet Talk

March is maple syrup time. If you have a few maple trees, it is easy to make a bit of syrup. All you need are pails and spiles or plugs to set in the trees.

When a preserving kettle is almost full, boil the sap outside the house (a sticky business). We use a range in the garage. When enough to fill a two quart saucepan remains, bring it in the house and continue boiling until it gets golden color and thickens slightly. Watch it as it will want to boil over at this stage.

Pour it into clean jars and freeze it. Every second year we tap our 13 maple trees and so this year they are having a rest. My diary reports that we tapped the trees on March 1 last year.

Don't forget to strain the sap before boiling and any sediment left will settle to the bottom of the jars.

If you can't be bothered making syrup try to go to the Elmira Festival in early April and have fun!

Back issues

10 years ago

March 1, 1972

Birthdays once every four years haven't yet begun to worry two appealing infant girls, born Tuesday, February 29 at Guelph General Hospital. The Leap Year charmers are Michelle Leanne Perry, second daughter of Anne and Don Perry, Main St. N., and Tracey Anne Mason, first child of Wendy and John Mason of Aberfoyle. Delighted grandparents for Michelle are Mr. and Mrs. Bill McCabe and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Perry, Acton and for Tracey, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kennedy, RR 2, Rockwood and Corp. and Mrs. Ray Mason of Acton.

Halton of the future—will it be two separate cities one in the north and one in the south?

It could be, according to Roger Cloutier, deputy clerk of Burlington, who has prepared some study material, recommending such a set-up to one of the TECO (technical co-ordinating committee) sub committees of Halton County Council.

20 years ago

March 1, 1962

When Acton Junior Farmers held their annual banquet and dance last Friday night, about 50 enjoyed the evening together. A turkey dinner was served in Ebenezer Church. Jean Moffat was chairlady and reported on the years activities, mentioning the fact one of the Acton members Joy Hayward, was in the ladies' trio which won the provincial championship. Mr. Buchanan presented the slate of new officers.

A letter from the Department of Agriculture was received along with a cheque for \$10,000, the grant by the government on the new Community Centre. A letter of thanks was to be sent.

Community Centre accounts amounting to \$15,079.96 were approved.

Councillor Peal suggested signs should be erected directing people to the police office. He also recommended a tree planting program be undertaken this year to replace trees which have been cut down.

50 years ago

February 25, 1932

Among the elderly ladies who have assisted very materially in the work of the Acton Relief Committee is Mrs. Jas. Moore, Mill Street. Mrs. Moore has not been in the best of health but has knit over 20 pairs of mittens for distribution by the committee.

A very pleasant evening was spent last Thursday when Mr. and Mrs. A.H. Bishop entertained some of their friends at progressive euchre party. Mrs. J. Noble was the winner of the ladies' prize and Mr. W. Evans won the gent's prize.

On Saturday afternoon little Jimmie Scott, the 6-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Scott, Main St., had a narrow escape from drowning. The little chap was playing at Corporation Pond when he fell into the water through the hole where ice is being cut. His two companions, lads about his age, came to his rescue and succeeded in pulling him out again. He received an icy dip and a severe chilling but seem to have suffered no ill effects.

75 years ago

The express from Guelph was wrecked Tuesday, killing three and injuring 40. Some of the injured are from Rockwood and Acton.

For several weeks Col. Allan has been lying, very low at his home at Fairview Place (now St. Joseph's school). He is in his 93rd year.

The funeral of the late William Turton Friday afternoon was attended by the members of the Ivanhoe Camp Sons of Scotland and Acton Citizens' Band. The band played the dead march at the residence but owing to the extreme cold were unable to play at the cemetery. The casket bore a profusion of floral tributes.

During the first seven weeks of this year, Messrs. Beardmore and Co. received 7,900 cords of hemlock bark from the northland.

100 years ago

February 28, 1882

Mr. Jacob Snyder was called to his rest. He was born in 1803 and moved to Erin township when it was a wilderness in 1830. In 1844 they moved to Swackhamer's hill. They were blessed with a family of 12 children.

A debate on the merits of the Percheron horse will take place in Ligny school house, between Messrs. Owen Robertson and John Duff.

Benj. Wallace and Wesley Cook cut, split and piled a cord of wood in 20 minutes on the farm of Mr. B. Wallace, and want any two of Esqueping young men to beat the record.

Those who have never been vaccinated should consider it a duty.

There are now about 35 students at Rockwood Academy.

Farmers, bring in your wood. There isn't a cord to be had in Acton.



Outdoors

BY LORNE FLETCHER

The next three weeks are usually the most productive for ice fishing. Fish seem to sense that spring is on the way and go on a feeding spree. They feed as the season progresses. Herring and Whitefish are biting well at Lake Simcoe and Splake at Owen Sound are also going great guns.

While on a recent trip to Georgian Bay, I observed several fishermen from the Hamilton area using a unique piece of tackle. These meat anglers each had a box containing a wet cell battery, plus an electric

motor. This was rigged up in such a way that when a small ice fishing rod was inserted it performed the jigging action. While these gentlemen had a party on the ice these little gadgets, looking all the world like miniature oil wells, jigged away ceaselessly in the quest for an unwary fish.

How any person could find enjoyment fishing this way is beyond me. The M.N.R. should come down on these types. Anglers should be the first to criticize and police their own sport.

In a very short time anglers will have the opportunity to unlimber rod and reel and get into some really serious fishing.

Rivers will soon be open enough at Southampton and Port Hope. The latter has some of the best early spring fishing in Ontario. Thornbury and most other river mouths will soon have pools large enough to wet a line.

The Sportsman Show will soon be on and it's a good place to let off some winter steam and ogle some new innovations in tackle and boats.

Many times a day spent at a show like this give one the urge to haul out the tackle and get necessary repairs taken care of.

The way prices of new sporting goods are spiralling ever upward overhauling old reels as well as replacing guides on rods makes for savings.

See you at the show.