

Teamwork, Organization Get Credit



IT WAS AN ARM raised in victory, Monday, but it was former MP Terry O'Connor, left, who was raising the victor's arm, Dr. Frank Philbrook, right. Mr. O'Connor conceded the election about two hours after polls had closed, when results continued to cast Dr. Philbrook in the lead. Mr. O'Connor, a PC, had wrested the riding from the Liberals in 1972.

Great Campaign Says Philbrook

The election trail ended on a somber note for Halton NDP hopeful Archie Brown. By 10 p.m. his headquarters in Oakville was empty except for one or two workers who were cleaning up. The riding was won by Liberal candidate Dr. Frank Philbrook.

Mr. Brown of Speyside in Halton Hills felt that the election vote was used "to keep the Tories out of office," rather than a reflection against the NDP policies.

"But we've only started to fight, because I never give up," he said. "You'll see me tomorrow and every day."

In an afterthought, Mr. Brown told a Mercury reporter that he would like to issue a challenge to the other parties, to produce statements of election expenses.

"I would challenge the election expenses of the other parties," he said. "I would like to see the sources of the parties printed in black and white."

At the beginning of the campaign, Mr. Brown stated that his campaign would not cost more than \$5,000.

"I would like to say however, that I think the press coverage was terrific, just exceptional," he added.

Teamwork and organization were the winning combination according to Dr. Frank Philbrook, the new federal member of parliament for the Halton riding.

Dr. Philbrook, a Liberal, took the riding when incumbent PC Terry O'Connor conceded the election officially at 10 p.m. However, rumors of the concession had filtered through the Philbrook Oakville headquarters by 9:30 p.m.

During that time people stopped their rallies and recorded their tallies, shouting words of victory and encouragement, as TV's blared out the results from across the nation, predicting a Liberal majority.

"This is just a great campaign team," said Dr. Philbrook when he arrived at the Oakville headquarters after 10 p.m. "We started with a small organization led by my manager Frank O'Dea but now we have a winning team."

Even incumbent O'Connor had words of praise for the Philbrook machine which took the riding by storm. Mr. O'Connor told the group that they had won the election.



JOHN TOST, Betty Kennedy and Gail Stone await voters at poll 79. The polls at St. Andrew's United Church at 2:30 Monday afternoon were not very busy. A few housewives had come to cast their ballots but that was about all. The husbands were expected to come to vote later in the evening.



TERRY O'CONNOR, who for two years was MP for Halton, watches the results, with two workers, Gail Maltby and Ross Ballentine. Mr. O'Connor was defeated by the Liberal candidate, Dr. Frank Philbrook in the Monday vote.



JACK LAWSON extends a victory kiss to Jeanne Servos, during the Liberal celebrations in Halton, Monday. At right is George Henderson. There was jubilation in Liberal ranks because the party recouped the riding from the Progressive Conservatives, who had won in the 1972 vote.

Subtle Shifts Dooms NDP

Bob Jones, President of the Oakville Progressive Conservative Association credited the loss not to a shift away from the PCs but from the NDP. A drop in the new Democratic Party vote went to Liberals.

"If you look at the results, you'll see that we slipped by only three quarters of one per cent," he said.

The NDP vote he said, slipped by four and a half per cent and the slack was picked up by the Liberals.

What Mr. Jones called a 'subtle shift' in voting patterns was all that was needed. The riding went Liberal in the election but only by a lead of less than 2,000 votes.

Mr. O'Connor conceded the race just after 10 p.m., when he thanked his workers for their efforts and promised them he would return for the next election.

To the Liberal headquarters he wished Dr. Frank Philbrook well in Ottawa and offered his support. Atop a table in the crowded room the two men shook hands and embraced.

Mr. O'Connor said that for now he will return to his law practice, but didn't say where it would be. No final plans have been set, he explained.

"We're going to come back hard for the next election," he said.

Stanfield Policy Gets The Blame

In Halton riding they blame Bob Stanfield.

Even PC candidate Terry O'Connor, gracious in his defeat, says it was the Stanfield wage and price policies that turned the tide in this riding, but the O'Connor campaign workers aren't so kind to the Tory leader.

Early in the night, even before televised election returns indicated something was amiss in the maritimes, and before local returns began to trickle in, the O'Connor workers were hedging their bets and pinning the blame elsewhere.

"The only thing that could beat him is the Stanfield image," said Ross Ballentine, base president of the Acton Progressive Conservatives.

Later, when the first returns from Halton gave a slight edge to Liberal Candidate Dr. Frank Philbrook, Acton President Gail Maltby echoed that view.

"It's Stanfield and the national party politics," said Mrs. Maltby.

The storm warnings have been out in Halton for several days now. Mrs. Maltby said that campaign workers have felt the coolness of voters here to the Stanfield image.

"We were getting it from people all over the riding," she said. "Terry's a great man, but..."

Early in the evening, Mr. O'Connor stood with Stanfield, a posture he held in spite of the growing bitterness of the PC workers.

Asked if the Stanfield image could precipitate disaster, he replied, "No that won't do it. It will be price and income controls."

In spite of that observation, Mr. O'Connor added that he stood solidly behind the policy.

"It's the answer to inflation," he said. "Regardless of who wins it will be introduced within four months."

"The difference, and the advantage to a PC win he explained is 'it would be better instituted now than later.'"

To a large part, the Conservative loss in Halton was brought on by the Northern voters. Georgetown voters favored Dr. Philbrook and in Acton most polling stations went that way as well.

As the last few workers left PC headquarters in Oakville long after polls had closed, the still uncompleted tally sheet gave five of the Acton stations to the Liberals and three to O'Connor. Two other stations had not been marked.

An O'Connor worker, bitter and perhaps drunk, angrily tore a sheet from the wall, splashing liquor on people nearby.

Another worker, more dispirited than angry, growled at reporters still marking down the returns. "It's over, we lost," he said. "What else is there to say. You're just rubbing salt in the wounds."

Residents Of Rexway Drive Face Long Wait For Action

Residents along Rexway Drive in Georgetown will have long wait before any work is started to improve their street, according to Halton Hills works committee chairman, Len Coxe.

More than 25 concerned residents met with the works committee Monday to discuss the problem along the street, but were not offered any immediate solutions by Mr. Coxe.

"No repair work or new construction will begin along that street until an engineer's report of road needs for Halton Hills is received in October," he added.

The residents were led by Don Schofield of 135 Rexway Dr. who noted that they were "petitioning council to initiate work," along the street.

"We suffer from dust in the spring, potholes in all, road heaving in winter and algae in the puddles during the summer months," Mr. Schofield complained.

He pointed out to the councillors that Rexway Dr. is zoned R-1, single family residential dwellings and the residents pay "between \$600 and \$1,000 annually in taxes."

"Almost half of the houses were built in the 1950's and most of the residents paid Georgetown taxes for more than 15 years," Mr. Schofield added.

However, Coun. Coxe pointed out that a roads study was being prepared to outline priorities in Halton Hills for road construction and repair.

"We can't make any commitments to any projects and no resolutions are forthcoming," said Coun. Coxe. "We'll make no false promises but the matter will be reconsidered as soon as the engineer's report is revealed."

During the discussion, Coun. Mike Armstrong noted that money was the prime holdup in road construction. He told the delegation that the works budget was slashed by \$500,000 last year.

"We just haven't got the money, I wish we did," he said.

A motion from Coun. Armstrong to add Rexway Dr. to the priority list for 1975 was not seconded by any of the other councillors.

Coun. Ern Hyde told the committee that he would not support the motion because he felt any decision on roads must be made for the entire town, and not one street.

"The fact that Rexway residents pay high taxes will not affect a council decision since we must look to the needs of the road and the priorities," he added.

Mapping Program Progressing Well

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority announced this week that work is progressing as planned on the floodline mapping of the East Credit River in Caledon, the West Credit through Bellefontaine, Erin to Hillsburgh and Fletchers Creek from Highway 7 south through Brampton to the Credit River.

Previously the Authority carried out floodline mapping along the main Credit River from Port Credit to Orangeville and Silver Creek in the Georgetown area.

The authority proposes to continue with this program in areas of the Watershed which are being rapidly urbanized.



SIDEWALK SALE
Georgetown Market had a sidewalk sale last week. Most of the crowds waited until Saturday to pick up their bargains, when the weather was at its best.

Residents Are Preparing For First Founder's Day

Erin residents will host their first Founder's Day celebrations with old fashioned bathing suits, long moustaches and unusual prizes on Saturday, July 20.

Vera Brown, chairman of the festivities committee, noted that this is "the first year of the celebration and we really don't know what to expect."

"We've been planning this since last March and started with only five interested people, now, we have more than 25 to help with the work," she explained.

The highlight of the day-long celebrations is the ball held at the Erin Arena during the evening. Two local bands will play continuously during the dance.

"We'd like people to get dressed in period costumes, and will have prizes for the best dressed ones," Mrs. Brown said. "Tickets are on sale at Pat's Pantry or from any of the committee members."

However, the planning of the festivities has had its problems. During the day, a "Miss 1900 Bathing Beauty Contest" is scheduled, but so far, there is one major hold-up.

"We can't seem to locate any patterns for the girls to make period bathing suits," Mrs. Brown related. "I'm sure we will be able to think of something, but it would be nice to have period costumes."

Another minor problem which may turn up during the ball, is how to measure the moustaches during the "moustache contest." Some residents have been growing their moustaches since early in May.

The day long celebrations at the grounds, a beer garden, horse show and scotch dancers from Guelph.

FREE ADMISSION
"There is no admission to the fair grounds, but there is a slight charge for the beer garden entrance" added Mrs. Brown. "Hopefully, we'll make a little money this year and can build towards a better celebration for our centennial in a few years."

The profits from the events this year is for a swimming pool which many of the residents want constructed in the village.

"We decided that if we wanted a pool, we should raise some of the money ourselves, and we needed an excuse to hold different events," she said.

The original planners decided on Fonders' Day to honor our founding fathers, especially Daniel McMillian and his brothers who influenced the village in the early years.

"We're trying to pull Erin together, give the village an identity," Mrs. Brown said. "Perhaps this will become an annual event for the residents to look forward to holding like the Hillsburgh Potato Fest."

Acton Family Billiards Is Opened Right On Cue

On cue, the new Acton Family Billiards Hall opened last week with a long line-up of patrons anticipating free pop and hot dogs and hours of family fun.

The Bigelow family, newcomers from Bramalea, have provided this much-needed source of family recreation for the people of Acton.

Fresh paint, wall-to-wall carpeting, bright new pool tables and a snack bar with tables have made the pool room a place where a man can be proud to bring his wife and children or a single couple can enjoy an evening together.

Bertan and Martha Bigelow bought the building in 1968, but had to wait six years for the lease to run out before taking over from the former operator. Finally in April, Bertan, a renovator by trade, undertook to overhaul the building inside and out, with the help of his wife and children, Charmaine, 16, Clayton, 14, and Brenda, 13, and a few friends.

"I like running my own business, something the whole family can share," confided Bertan, who once owned the Big King Motel in Sarnia, and since we are a family of sport enthusiasts, and prefer small towns, this just seemed to be right for us."

BALLPLAYERS
The girls play softball for the Bramalea rep. teams. Blonde, bright-eyed Brenda is pitcher for the Chinguacousy Filles and petite, Charmaine plays third base and fielder with the Chinguacousy Colts.

Clayton is registered with the Bramalea hardball house league, and last winter was one of the star players for the bantam major hockey team. All three have taken judo and boxing along with their dad.

800 HOT DOGS
On Saturday, opening day, the girls and their mother gave away 800 hot dogs, and about 2,000 soft drinks, while Clayton and his dad assisted at the pool tables. Present kitchen equipment includes a pop machine and wiener roaster, but plans are underway to add a microwave oven.

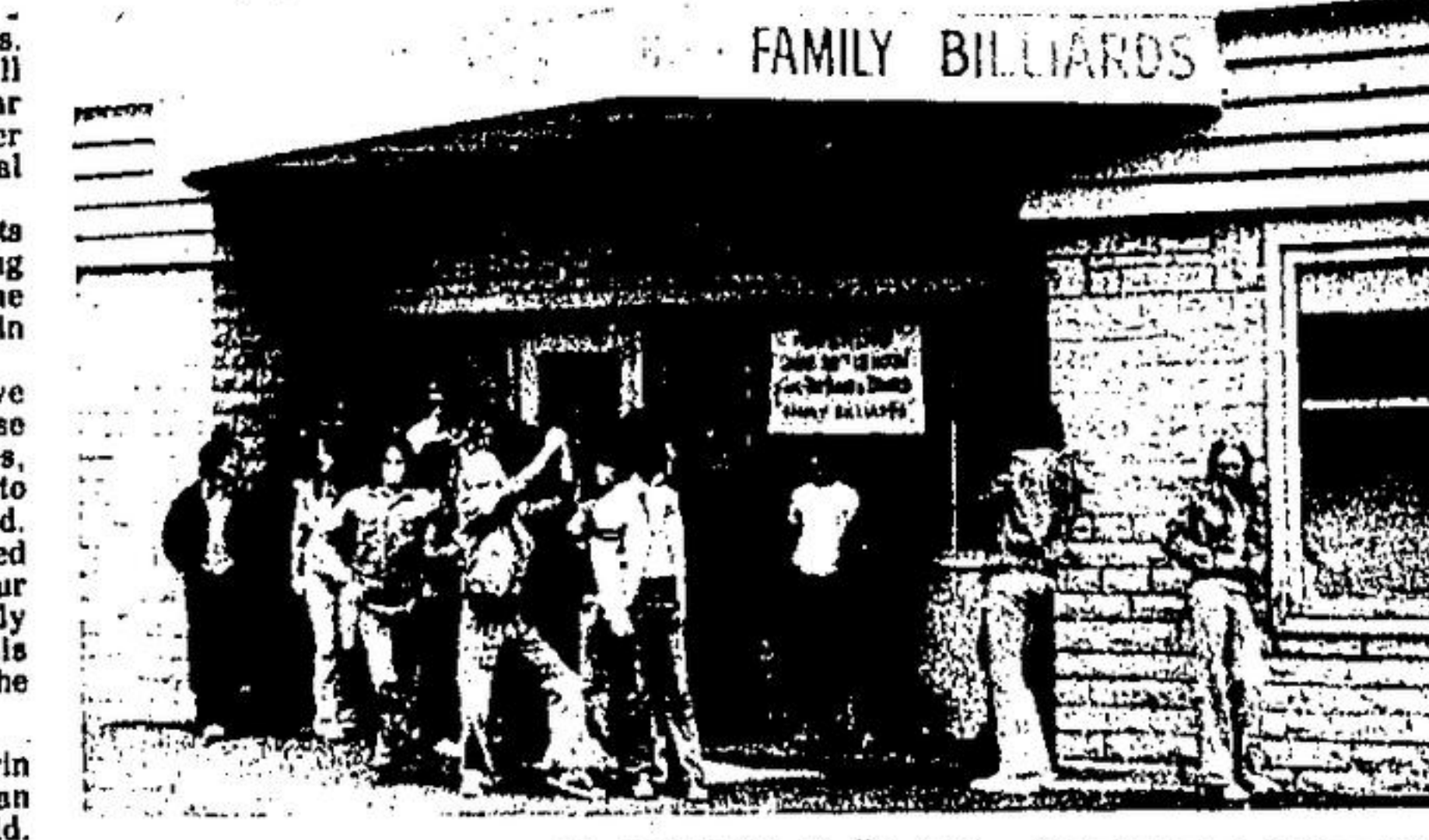
"Then we will serve short order type of foods, like hot corned beef sandwiches, hamburgers, and perhaps submarine sandwiches," said Martha Bigelow, who supervises the snack bar.

A computerized timekeeper, nicknamed "Geni" by the girls, tallies the price you pay according to the number of players and the time played.

Several friends sent gifts of flowers and plants to mark the grand centennial opening. Among them was a wooden wishing well filled with african violets.



FOR THE FAMILY, by a family is the goal of the new Acton Family Billiards Hall which had its grand centennial opening Saturday. Clayton, 14, Brenda, 13, Charmaine, 16, and Martha Bigelow watch as Bertan takes his turn at the table. The family gave away 800 hot dogs and 2,000 soft drinks as part of the opening celebrations.



THE YOUTH OF ACTON waited outside the pool hall as long as three and four weeks for the renovations to be completed so the new family billiards hall could open. Saturday they lined up from early morning, for free hot dogs and drinks and a day of family fun beginning at noon.