

# Remember Sept. 18 next time

If there's any lack of "campaign spirit" in this election it's not for want of trying by the three candidates.

They've been here, there and everywhere, wearing themselves and their organizations thin trying to cover all this new riding in a particularly short time.

Let's give these three gentlemen credit, they're showing us what true hand-shaking, baby-kissing, main streeting, door-knocking, back-slapping campaigning is all about.

So why is there such an apparent lack of interest in this vitally important and totally interesting election for the new Member of the Provincial Parliament representing Halton-Burlington?

If it wasn't for the candidates and their stalwart organizers we wouldn't be having much of an election at all.

The talk on the street corner seems to be more about whose going to win at Orangeville this week rather than whose going to win at Queen's Park?

But, unfortunately, that's politics...A game everyone likes to take potshots at, but one which few want to play.

Voter apathy isn't anything new. It happens every election, be it federal, provincial or municipal.

We thought this one might be different. We thought that there was enough interest in the way this province has been running to get

people up in arms, either for or against the incumbents.

Regional government, the education system, even the hint of a scandal or two (anyone out there remember the Ontario Hydro building affair?) now that's the stuff lively elections are made of!

But it seems those cries of "Shame! Shame!" levelled at Queen's Park and all it stood for have been drowned out by the roar of almost total silence on the part of "Joe Citizen."

Equally those who approved of Queen's Park's moves to improve our educational and governmental systems are rather silent.

If you're among the complacent group that have decided that this election doesn't involve them, we can only hope that you recall your inactivity on February 18, 1975 everytime you contemplate taking a slap at Queen's Park during the next few years.

We'll say it now and next week also:

Consider the men and what they have to say about the issues. Weigh that, and then get out and vote.

(A golden opportunity to hear and see your three candidates will come tomorrow (Thursday) at 8 in the evening as the Georgetown Jaycees host an All Candidates Night at GDHS.)



## Viewpoint

# Don't carry dummies around Toronto at 4 a.m.

By Gerry Landsborough

Time again for potpourri, a regular feature of this column, where we take a sometimes serious, sometimes whimsical tongue-in-cheek look at this ever-changing world around us.

Our first item comes to us from Vancouver where Russell James McKay tried to impress two young women with his "kung fu." Apparently they were standing at a bus stop as the women were admiring a blouse on display in a store window. Our foolish hero, in a moment of stupidity, proceeded to kick his foot right through the window to get the blouse to please the ladies.

Unfortunately the blouse had to be used as a bandage to hold the badly cut foot as the foolish young man was on his way first to the hospital then to the jailhouse. So much for "kung fu" for most dishonourable servant.

Away to Detroit now where the city's

image makers are definitely having their problems. Thieves broke into the public information department and stole \$200 along with two filing cabinets and records of a city T-shirt sale. The T-shirts had the "I" of Detroit dotted with a red heart as part of a promotion to present the city as a good place to live. Back to the old drawing board.

Next we'll take a trip out west where an Edmonton man has a new slant on wife beating.

The man, appearing in court for beating his wife, produced a handwritten letter signed by his wife giving him permission to strap her if she ever lost her senses. Judge Ed Stack found the man guilty all the same, but gave him a conditional discharge. It would appear that the wife first showed evidence of losing her senses when she agreed to sign that note. Just goes to show you that, like the lawyers always tell us, some

people will sign anything.

Away to Hollywood now where it is told that the delightful drunk on the Dean Martin show, Foster Brooks, has this message for everyone. Mr. Brooks is a teetotaler—that's right, he wouldn't touch a drop, just like his father before him. Now that's what I call acting.

If you're planning a vacation out Nevada way, the following items might be of interest. The first is from Reno where a fellow put a quarter into a slot machine and out popped \$25,961.20. The next item comes from Vegas where a housewife started playing at 7.30 a.m. and five hours later won \$18,455.19 on the nickel slot machines.

Meanwhile, if you're going to try your luck with the notorious "one armed bandits" think of all the quarters and nickels it took to make up those two jackpots. Just fill your suitcase up with change and away you go.

Try to figure out how many nickels it took for the housewife who played from 7.30 a.m. till about noon. Maybe you had better take two suitcases of change.

Here's an interesting item to shake up a few people in the popular drug companies. It seems that results in recent tests at the University of California have shown that one in three people is allergic to mouthwash. It can produce ulceration and "bald" spots on the tongue, and sloughing off of tissue. Now, even though your breath might be kissing sweet, you might be feeling too darn uncomfortable to kiss anyone. So much for that tingling feeling.

Away to Metro now where police were said to have become suspicious of a man walking down the street at 4.15 a.m. carrying a store mannequin complete with a fur coat. Sounds suspicious to me all right. A quick check revealed a local furrier had his window

smashed, and our mannequin-carrying friend was arrested and charged. The moral here is it's best not to walk down the street at 4.15 a.m. with a store dummy wearing a fur coat. It just might arouse suspicion. Can you believe it?

Off to jolly old England now where a 35-year-old pilot upset the small resort town of Bognor Regis. Apparently, after a lovers' quarrel, the pilot buzzed the town for three hours threatening to crash his plane into his girlfriend's house. The police evacuated many families while our derring-do pilot play Red Baron. "Curses foiled again", however, as all good things must come to an end and our pilot eventually landed and was naturally arrested. So much for the course of true love which is said to never run smoothly. I wonder what might have happened if he drove a bulldozer for a living.

From Butte, Montana, home of Evel

Knivel the motorcycle daredevil, comes this revelation. Evel tells us that he will jump again, this October. Instead of 13 buses, which he rightly decided was an unlucky number, he will jump 14. He calls himself a "professional life-risker", but to anyone that has followed his unusual career "professional bone-breaker" might be closer to the truth. If you can admire nothing more about the man you have to give it to him for sheer muleheaded stubbornness. We'll be watching on the 25 of October. "Here's to you Evel."

Our last item is about the number one movie across North America, Jaws. After eight weeks the Canadian gross so far has reached \$3.5 million. That's right millions. I'm amazed that inflation, starvation, world nuclear annihilation hasn't done enough to scare people right out of their skins. That's why Jaws is such a success, it's a real shocker. That's what I call irony. Till next week, keep on smiling!

## Queen's Park Comment

# One of the best provincial elections ever

By Don O'Hearn  
Queen's Park Bureau  
Of The Herald

TORONTO — At the half-way mark I would say that this is one of the best election campaigns we have had in the province.

Not probably in terms of any great contribution to our public affairs or the solving of their problems.

But from the stand-point of public interest and involvement it should rank high.

Even LEADERS

For one thing there are three more evenly-matched leaders than we have seen for some time.

Davis, Nixon and Lewis are

Years Ago

all men of considerable ability. The premier perhaps doesn't have the outstanding qualities of leadership and the public faith that his immediate predecessors were able to engender but he does have leadership capacity and this isn't as outstanding as it was in the Roberts and Frost days this means he is closer to his competitors and the race is all that more interesting.

Box Nixon is a much-improved leader over 1971. He is now in to fight not to be nice and this has been showing in the much better reception that his audiences and the media have been giving him.

And the new Stephen Lewis,

with his reserved campaign and nice-guy, family-man image also has more appeal.

GOOD FIGHTS

Then there are more close and colorful local fights than usual. Such as Armourdale, with the flamboyant Mel Lastman against incumbent Phil Givens; Sudbury, with Bud Germa, Elmer Sopha and Mayor Fabbro; Cornwall with Father Villeneuve against incumbent George Samis; all the Ottawa seats, Welland and others.

There are, for a change, issues that are of interest to at least large sectors of the public. Education, regional government and stabilization of

farm income being just three of them.

TV FACTOR

Then television promises to play a bigger part than it has in the past.

For the first time it could be really effective in promoting interest.

Between the leaders debates and free-time telecasts it should draw some big audiences and the actual shows should not be as dull as they have been.

Finally, and perhaps most important of all, there is the very sizable uncertainty.

Normally at this stage in an election you have a pretty good idea, in general terms at least,

of how it will turn out.

But not this time. How strong is the anti-Davis feeling? Is the public being convinced by Nixon or does it still feel that he personally hasn't leadership quality? Is the Lewis low-key campaign winning him votes?

I think it is safe to say that there probably are more undecided voters in this election at this point than in any recent years.

The best political issue that has been brought up in this campaign almost certainly has been Bob Nixon's pledge to get back to the basics in education. This is an impression that

can be taken not only from one's own reaction but from comment by voters.

Personally, I know that when I talk election with people this is the first topic that is put forward with most of them.

People are disillusioned with their children coming out of elementary and secondary school not being able to spell or do simple mathematics.

And what makes the point politically powerful is that it is close to home and is a concern of the whole spectrum of the community from the working man to the millionaire.

TEACHER SURVEY

Nixon has some potent ammunition. Perhaps the most potent comes from teachers through a recent survey by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation.

It reportedly found that 79 percent of the teachers surveyed felt student work habits had deteriorated over the past five years.

Some 58 percent felt that the ministry's guidelines for teachers were too vague.

And 92 percent believe students should be required to take certain basic courses.

THE DEBATE

Education Minister Tom Wells has made a rebuttal.

His major point was a claim that Nixon would spend \$790 million more a year on education.

Then he goes into statistics. Our high schools, he says, now enrol 60 percent of 15 to 19 year olds while back in the 50's it was just 40 percent.

University enrolment has tripled in the past 10 years. The ministry insists on basic skills being stressed etc.

But Nixon, in turn knocks these down.

For one thing there is nothing in the Liberal policy statement which would appreciably increase education spending.

Then the leader points out that in 1970 29 percent of all students entering high school dropped out by grade 12 and 62 percent by grade 13.

Three years later these percentages had increased to 37 percent and 69 percent, he says.

He claims that students, like their parents, are losing confidence in their system.

There are certainly in scope for some debate on just where we stand on education.

But it is likely to have little impact on parents (and employers) who see our youth emerging from the system not able to spell.

# Enrollment in schools increases to 7,219

From the files of the Herald:

**FIVE YEARS AGO**

Two Georgetown sisters were prize winners at the Canadian National Exhibition this year. Sharon and Andrea Wilson won first prize in the baby show. The 16-month-old twins are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Wilson of 63 Faloud Drive.

Marty Wheeler of Glen Williams will be a featured soloist with the Bernard H.

Clark Concert Band on October 25 at Massey Hall. Marty will be performing a trombone concerto. Marty started his musical career with the Georgetown Citizens Band under the direction of Art Hilliard.

A garden party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Ironside, RR1 Georgetown, honoured Ben Case, well known citizen and local historian. The party, held by

the Silverwood Women's Institute was to show their appreciation of the work Ben Case did in researching the "Tweedsmuir History of Halton County."

The overall enrollment for Georgetown area schools for this year total 7,219 an increase from last year's total of 6,875. Georgetown District High School registrations were up about a hundred to 1,547 with another 50 expected.

**TEN YEARS AGO**

Ninety-nine students, instead of the anticipated 75, turned up on opening day of the new Georgetown District Christian School located on the Seventh Line. Principal of the new school is Mr. George Petrusma.

Approximately 5200—a record number—students enrolled in schools in Georgetown this week. Public schools in town have enrolled

2,277 students, the Georgetown District High School topped a 75 student enrollment from last September bringing the total enrolment to approximately 1,050. In most cases the enrolment in the schools has gone up from last year's.

Elizabeth Davidson, one of the top graduates of the Georgetown District High School has been awarded a Governor's Scholarship from

McMaster University totalling \$550. Miss Davidson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Davidson of 5 Parkview Blvd, will enroll in the university next week.

Mrs. Margaret Perrott, 82 Rexway Drive, received a \$1,000 cheque from Kraft Foods after coming in first in the Canada-wide contest sponsored by the company. Mrs. Perrott submitted three last lines in the "complete the

jingle" contest. However, she is not sure which one earned her the prize.

**FIFTEEN YEARS AGO**

Wesleyan Street will be Georgetown's first one way street when amendments to the traffic bylaw become law. Creation of a one way street on Wesleyan St. and on the block of Market St. between Wesleyan and Young St. is one of the several amendments which were okayed by town

council this week.

Guard, a prize Irish Setter owned by Mr. and Mrs. S.S. Rivett, RR2 Georgetown, walked away with another prize this week. Guard was chosen as the best Canadian bred sporting dog at the dog show at the Canadian National Exhibition. Guard scored three firsts and two reserve wins in the show.

Douglas Latimer has been chosen to serve as president of

a new Georgetown branch of the Canadian Cancer Society. The new branch was formed and elections of officers took place in the municipal building. Ronald A. McFarlane, field officer of the Ontario divisions, conducted the installation of officers.

A low net score of 64 carded by Mr. and Mrs. Graham Farnell earned them the Langdon Trophy and the North Halton couples handicap championship.