

Is an election necessary?

Herald reporters took to the streets last week to find out if Halton Hills residents feel the upcoming provincial election is necessary and what issues, if any, they see in the Halton-Burlington riding.

Although our residents were often reluctant to give their names or to have their pictures taken, most of them were willing to voice an opinion on our topic. Only a handful thought that taxpayers would benefit from the election and the comment that one party is much like another was voiced

over and over again. A number of people felt that Davis will retain his power although opinions varied as to whether he would gain a majority through this election.

A.C. Patterson of Limehouse (retired) doesn't feel an election is necessary because "they were doing all right the way they were." He predicts that Davis will "go back in with a bigger majority." The only issue he could suggest would be to get rid of regional government and get back to grass roots government that's closer

to the people in the area.

Ed Ensing of Acton works at Beardsmore. He considers an election a waste of money right now, and just off the top of his head he couldn't think of any issues in the area.

Elizabeth Wegman is a flight attendant for Air Canada. She feels that an election is what people want. "It'll stop them bitching." She suggests that Halton's school system could be an issue.

Wayne Ruse, owner of Acton IGA, feels that an election was "probably not necessary be-

cause the government was working - at least it appeared to be on the surface." Except for unemployment, Mr. Ruse feels that most of the issues that intrigue people in Halton Hills are Regional or Municipal not Provincial. He predicts that Davis will get another minority government.

Larry Frizzell of Acton works for the Town of Halton Hills. He doesn't think an election is necessary because it "costs a lot of money." He could think of no issues in the area.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hoey, a Nassegaway sheep farmer and artist, feels that an election is probably a good thing because it will get people stirred up to think again." She agrees with Julian Reed's suggestion that the campaign will be fought on personalities because there are no real issues in the area.

Scott Lawson of Acton is an engineer with Ontario Hydro in Toronto. He thinks the election is "necessary for the conservative party." He has written "several lengthy letters" to Julian Reed asking him to favor the extension of the Go Transit Line from Georgetown to Guelph and to institute the Milton-Stratford GO line immediately. "They seem to be able to build a lot of highways down in that area so obviously there's money even if the Federal government has pulled out."

Nino Braida, an Acton machinist, feels that an election is unnecessary. "We can't afford unnecessary expenses to the tune of \$20 million." Getting rid of regional government is an issue he would like to see the politicians tackle.

Joseph Joy is a construction worker from Baltimore. To him the election was "obviously not needed. The Conservatives need it to get their own way. The last election was a blow to Uncle Bill's big ego so he needs to get it back. The Conservatives want a majority government so they don't have to be backed all the time."

He sees no issues in the area and feels that "most elections boil down to who you like."

Stan Wilson of Acton is a stationary engineer. He thinks we need a complete new government. He particularly dislikes how the government has tagged the unemployment insurance percentages.

Yvonne Galbraith of Acton works in a factory in Mississauga. She doesn't know whether an election is necessary or not and doesn't get involved in politics. She does, however, feel that Acton could use more employment opportunities and better recreational facilities.

Art Schouten is a carpenter from Stewarttown. He doesn't see an election as necessary. "We won't gain anything. We'll still be in the same boat whoever wins. It's just a waste of money."

Roy Knapp of Speyside is a construction supervisor. He too, disagrees with the need for an election. "They all promise a lot and do nothing later. No, there are no issues at that level (provincial) but there are some at the regional level."

One Georgetown resident who asked not to be identified said: "The country can't afford an election at this time, and I'm satisfied with the way minority government has been running. I vote for the man in my riding, but I'm a two-party man. The Liberal government has been doing bad federally and this might hurt the liberal candidate provincially."

Walter Kahn of Georgetown: "People in this area love a home town boy, even if the home town boy doesn't do a good job. I vote for the man in my riding who will do the most benefit for the riding."

Bert Boersene of Georgetown: "I vote for the party, and we need majority government so parties can work effectively. I will attend meetings to meet the candidates but there are no issues in this election. It's possible it could be a close election."

One Georgetown businessman: "The election is a waste of \$20 million and we're paying for it because Bill Davis thinks he's going to get a majority government. I hope we end up with a minority government, it works better. We've had the best government in the last two years, than we've had in a long time."

A female business woman of Georgetown said: "It is ridiculous to spend \$20 million for an unnecessary election. Minority government is the most honest government one man can't get away with anything. I think Davis wants power and that's why he called an election. When I vote: I vote for the party because the individual has to do what the party says."

Michelle Virgin, Glen Williams: "Liberals put stop caps on inflation, Conservatives take the stop caps off, and if NDP get in we'll all be on welfare. I don't know how I'm going to vote this time, but I'll vote for a man in the area, after I hear what they have to say. I'd say it's a toss up between George Gray or Julian Reed. It's a crazy decision though to call an election before the budget is approved. People who have to come into the store don't seem interested in the election; I guess it's still too early."

Several voters expressed concern that only half the people in Ontario will vote, resulting in another minority government. Comments such as "I don't know the candidates," or "the election doesn't matter to me" or "I'm

LEGION LINES

Legion convention notes

By MACMCLEAN

Here we are, Mothers Day, 1977, as we write this article and the wind is blowing, the snow is snowing and it's hard to believe it is the 8th of May. Reminds us of a few years ago when we were in Newfoundland for the Dominion Convention when it snowed on the 6th of June. "Sorry Martin but sure and it's the truth."

In spite of the weather that was probably the warmest hospitality we will ever experience.

Speaking of conventions, the Provincial Convention starts on the 22nd of May in London, Ontario and our delegates will have an opportunity to voice your feelings regarding a number of issues which directly affect our Branch and the legion as a whole.

While we don't have copies of the full slate of resolutions which will be considered, you

can be assured that a number will deal with membership which is a subject in which we are vitally concerned.

Another major issue which will be decided will be the election of Provincial Officers for the following two years.

A former member of Branch 120, Dave Capperud, is completing his term as Provincial President and he will hand over the reins to the Command at this convention. Dave has worked hard on behalf of the Legion over the years and in recognition of his service the Branch recommended him for the Meritorious Service Medal which was presented to him at a District Convention a few years ago.

We certainly hope that Dave aspires to more lofty plains as Legion members with his kind of dedication are hard to find.

With the Montreal Canad-

ians and the Boston Bruins locked in the annual struggle for the Stanley Cup there are a few tickets still out for sale which could be a bonanza for the lucky holder.

The Ways and Means Committee formed to raise funds for the Branch Memorial Arena donation are selling \$1.00 tickets which will award the holder of the ticket for the first goal in the final game \$100.00, the last goal \$100.00 and the winning goal \$500.00.

Ticket sellers must have unsold tickets and stubs turned in by next Saturday so don't miss this opportunity to donate to a worthy cause and also have a chance for major prize.

The first fishing derby for 1977 jointly sponsored by the Branch and the Imperial Section gets under way on Sunday, May 22nd so all you fishermen or would be fishermen of your reels, tie your flies and do what ever else is necessary to try to win this event because this year you are really in for competition.

Last year the writer got tips from our resident angler, Bob Burns, but much as I tried those little worms either squirmed off the hooks or they drowned. This year will be different because I've perfected my style and have a 50 per cent improvement record.

Now my only problem is getting those little water wings on those squirmy little devils.

Anyway, the best of luck to the rest of you.

Just another reminder that this month's General Meeting and Nomination Meeting for the Branch will be held on Thursday evening May 19th, 1977 and that the Election of Officers will take place on Sunday afternoon, May 29th, 1977.

Pete Edge will be in the lounge on Friday night followed by the Arrow on Saturday night.

HALTON HILLS RECREATION and PARKS NEWS & VIEWS

This week's column will spend some time describing the programmes designed to maintain your community parks and open spaces.

Unlike a number of other communities (most of which are larger in size), our Town does not have an independent Parks Department per se. The annual maintenance programme is designed by the Works Department and Recreation and Parks Department in co-operation with the variety of community groups using park facilities. This programme is then reviewed by Council and appropriate monies are then budgeted in order to effectively complete this work.

The majority of scheduled work is performed by staff within the Works Department; however, the Recreation and Parks Department, for the last two (2) summers, has enlisted the services of a few "Park Attendants" located about the Town to assist with the clean-up and beautification of parks programme.

Last, but certainly not least, are the vast numbers of volunteers working with soccer and ball groups, to name two who spend countless hours assisting staff employed by the Town with parks maintenance. Marking of sport fields, et al, are items that if performed by the Town would be costing us as taxpayers many more dollars. Many thanks to you for your interest and your help - its sincerely appreciated.

MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME
Among the most common of those jobs performed by the Town are included: grass cutting, fertilization and sodding

- preparation of ball diamonds
- tree and flower programme - planting, trimming, minor repairs to play and recreation facility equipment.

The above, of course, is not all inclusive, but does provide an overview of the kinds of maintenance being done.

In closing, those people with concerns, suggestions and the like vis a vis the maintenance of parks are encouraged to forward their ideas to either the Works Department (to the attention of Mr. Frank Morette, 877-5165, Ext. 49) or the Recreation and Parks Department (877-5185 Ext. 19) (Wards 1 and 2) Ext. 60 (Wards 3 and 4).

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