

GEORGE GRAY GETS AN EMBRACE FROM DAUGHTER CINDY ON ELECTION NIGHT

increase over his 1975 plurality

of 463 when Reed defeated

Mr. Gray told reporters that

although he hadn't had time to

analyse the loss, part of his

poor showing was due to press

stories which "probably hurt

me fairly badly. I was honest

and sincere about everything

in the press," he said, adding

that the stories were "not

In referring to a Herald

editorial cartoon which

showed Mr. Gray standing on

tiny people while announcing

new jobs coming into the area,

Mr. Gray said it bothered his

family. "It was unnecessary."

He said he is not sure if he

would seek the Progressive

Conservative nomination when

the next provincial election is

Mr. Gray said that contrary

to reports from the Toronto

media that the Provincial

Conservatives provided money

for the campaign, "the party

estimated that his campaign

cost about \$21,000 or \$22,000.

Dawkins of Acton.

necessarily unfair."

# Mood subdued at Gray's offices

By GEORGE EVASHUK Herald staff writer It was a difficult moment for George Gray, the 49-year-old defeated Progressive Con-

servative candidate. He was at his campaign headquarters in Georgetown to address his surprised and subdued supporters after it was clear he had lost his first election campaign to incumbent Liberal Julian Reed when he noticed his daughter

crying. "Don't cry Cindy," Mr. Gray said as he embraced her. "Your mother thinks I've won...because I won't be away from home."

"Maybe I've done some things wrong," Mr. Gray told supporters. everything I did, I did with great sincerity."

He said he would continue his efforts to bring jobs and nursing home beds to Halton. "Regional government probably helped to defeat me," rever gave us a nickel." He Mr. Gray said, "but don't give

He urged his supporters to get behind Premier William Davis, who failed to get a majority government, and also to get behind Julian Reed, who won Halton-Burlington with a

plurality of 3,702, a healthy Reed gains

Continued from Page

plurality

his comments after someone shouted "that's enough George!

Reed's brother Laurie, an Esquesing resident and Julian's campaign manager, said the tactic of the campaign was to ensure that Julian was confronted by the other candidates in all candidates meetings.

"It was Julian's choice," he said, "he observed that it was to his advantage to be on the platform and be compared with the other candidates."

He said the Reed committee had turned down a request to reduce the number of meetings because "everyone who goes to those meetings are usually committed."

The Reed re-election campaign was budgeted for about \$17,000.

#### Vandalism

A Georgetown resident reported unknown persons gained entry to his home and stole a calculator. Residents in Marywood Estates reported in separate incidents unknown persons kicked a hole in a wallboard after removing installation, and also kicked holes in the wall of a living room, kitchen and family

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# NDP's Johnson optimistic about future

By COLIN GIBSON Herald Staff Writer

It's said that figures don't lie and those figures released by returning officer, Roy Coulter, for last Thursday's Provincial election in Halton-Burlington must have come as a bit of a blow to NDP candidate, Bill Johnson and his campaign workers.

Incumbent Liberal member, Julian Reed, swept the polls,. gaining re-election by a more than comfortable 3700 vote margin over Conservative George Gray, who garnered 10,287 votes, while Johnson finished well off the pace,

polling 5,598 votes.

Johnson, while keeping a stiff upper lip, offered a number of reasons for the NDP showing and although he and his cohorts did not appear thorougly disheartened, the voice of the people has to cause them time to reflect.

In the 1975 election Johnson also ran third, behind Reed and the then Conservative candidate Gary Dawkins but Reed's 10,535.

Seventy per cent of the eligible voters in Halton-Burlington exercised their franchise in 1975 and although the eligible voter list increased this time around from 38,791 to 43,337 the difference in turnout was negligible as the chief returning officer quoted a 69.1 per cent turnout for the 1977 election. One main reason offered by

both Johnson and his experienced campaign manager Bill Cumpsty, for the NDP slide was that Reed attracted voters who were "turned off by George Gray's Madison Avenue type campaign" and thus voted Liberal as a form of disapproval of Gray, rather than an endorsement of Reed. As the defeated NDP candidate wryly noted, "The people of Halton-Burlington were de termined that Gray would not

Liberal at our cost." Johnson and his supporters knew the chase was up even before half of the 164 polling booths had reported. After 40

get in and for the most part,

the disenchanted Tories went

### Service club report secret

A report on the use of town owned facilities by service clubs was received in camera Monday by finance administration committee.

After talking to reporters, Councillors Walter Bichn Mr. Gray, with his wife and Pat Patterson were op-Beverley and his campaign posed to the report being chairmen, Doc Russell and received in camera but after Frank Wilson, went to Julian hearing recreation director Reed's headquarters to con-Glen Gray say that he did not cede and finally to a want his thoughts made public, Progressive Conservative post the committee kept the report confidential.

polls had reported. Johnson was more than 1,000 votes off the pace set by Reed and Gray. After 80 polls had reported,

Johnsons was trailing the eventual runner-up George Gray, by more than 2,000 votes and perhaps the battle was unofficially given up just after the 80 poll result, when a campaign worker approached Johnson, put her arms around him and offered solace by tearfully noting, "Well, we gave it a good go love."

Johnson, ever the optimist, replied, "Yes, but we'll be back at it again."

At approximately 8:45, Johnson and a party of NDP supporters journeyed next door to the Liberal campaign headquarters in Milton, to officially concede defeat to Julian Reed. As it happened, another sign that all was not going too well for the NDP that night, Reed wasn't there.

The re-elected member of the Provincial Parliament was at his victory celebration and Johnson made the trek polled 6,567 votes, to winner to personally acknowledge Reed's victory.

There was no friction between the two contenders and obviously little bitterness on Johnson's part as he had earller in the evening remarked, "Julian and I ran a good clean, sound campaign." The omission of Mr. Gray's name was well-noted by the NDP entour-

Oddly enough, although last Thursday's results represented the second consecutive defeat of Johnson (both times he (inished third) neither Johnson, his campaign manager, nor his supporters who rallied round him, would concede that "Wicked Willy" had sounded his last hurrah.

In an unofficial poll conducted at a gathering in the UAW Hall in Milton, after the results were confirmed, the support for Johnson was solid. Not one detractor could be found in the crowd and they all expressed the fervent wish that Johnson would once more attempt to till the windmill.

Bill Cumpsty, Johnson's campaign manager, was not in the least discomfitted by the result. Cumpsty, who has been

a professional organizer for the NDP for many year, was able to glean rays of light from the apparent dark.

Thursday would seem to signal

slightly more hesitatnt about

embarking on the campaign trail for a third try, "Oh Lord

no," she exclaimed. "At least

on the towers of power.

not until tomorrow."

yet another Johnson onslaught

Johns n's wife, Mary, was

"I'm not disappointed in the least," claimed Cumpaty. "With this election, what we have established is a solid base in Halton-Burlington and I'm extremely pleased with the way Bill was accepted by the people and in the way he ran hls campaign."

Cumpsty pointed out that Bill's first campaign, in the last election, was a veritible one man show but that this time there was a solld erganization behind the candidate from the word go.

"Our (the NDP) successes have always come about wherever we have established a solid base," stated Cumpsty. "We have one here and I'm sure it will continue to flour-

The terror of the Tories, "Wicked Willy" left the decision to his supporters. "If they want me back, I'll try again," said Johnson. The applause and cheering that greeted this remark at the UAW Hall on

## **PROCLAMATION**

By resolution of the council of the Town of Halton Hills, I hereby proclaim the week of June 19th to 25th, 1977 as "Senior Citizens" Week".

T. J. HILL

Mayor Town of Haiton Hills





BILL JOHNSON , CENTRE, WITH WIFE MARY AND CAMPAIGN MANAGER BILL CUMPTSY



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