

Halton candidates to be on television to talk about local, national issues

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

Halton ridings' three political candidates will gather at the Toronto studios of CFTO-TV May 4 to tape a 20-minute discussion on national and local campaign issues.

Fraser Kelly will host the debate, which will be presented several days later as a segment of Channel 9's Nightbeat news. Halton is one of 10 Toronto-area ridings being examined in depth for the special series.

The televised debate is among the highlights of a campaign that has seen all three Halton candidates travelling extensively throughout the riding.

Incumbent Liberal MP Dr. Frank Philbrook spent most of last Sunday meeting neighbors in his hometown of Oakville, and attending a dance for Portuguese-Canadians for the second weekend in a row during the evening.

ACTON OFFICE

Dr. Philbrook opened his Acton campaign headquarters in a new office building on Mill Street West near Main Street last Wednesday before visiting a science fair at an Oakville high school later in the day.

Thursday saw the MP accompanying Liberal finance minister Jean Chretien on a brief tour of north Halton which took them to high schools in Acton and Milton. Dr. Philbrook also attended a luncheon at the Holiday Inn in Oakville and an all-candidates meeting at Sheridan College.

Both Dr. Philbrook and Progressive Conservative candidate Otto Jelinek were out dancing up a storm Saturday night, with Dr. Philbrook attending public dances in both Acton and Milton and Mr. Jelinek at an Italian-Canadian event in Milton.

Earlier that day, Dr. Philbrook, Mr. Jelinek and New Democratic Party hopeful Doug Black were at Centennial Pool in Oakville for a charity fund-raising swim-athon sponsored by that city's Aquatic Club. Mr. Jelinek, a former world champion figure skater, won a special swimming competition that pitted the three candidates against one another.

SPECIAL CLASSES

Mr. Jelinek was in Norval last Sunday for the Way-Jay Club's Art show. During the week, he attended special classes in Acton and Milton where volunteer Conservative supporters were trained to canvass voters on a door-to-door basis.

According to Wil Rudd, Mr. Jelinek's campaign manager, neighborhood canvassing has become one of the former high Park-Humber MP's strongest campaign tactics. As in his Acton door-knocking visit this week, Mr. Jelinek canvasses six hours a day and according

to Mr. Rudd enjoys meeting voters face to face.

On Thursday, the Tory candidate met eight leaders of the Italian-Canadian community from Oakville. Mr. Rudd described the meeting along with

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along with Saturday's dance, as being indicative of the renewed support which the Conservatives will enjoy this election from voters of Italian descent, who have traditionally backed the Liberals.

Also on Thursday, Mr. Jelinek was invited to attend a

meeting of the Esqueping Landowner's Association in Stewarttown, where he informally discussed agricultural issues and answers with local farmers.

Mr. Black told his NDP campaign on a door-to-door canvass of neighborhoods throughout the riding last week, swinging into Acton Monday to open his local committee room during the afternoon. Both Mr. Black and Dr. Philbrook helped Oakville officials plant trees to commemorate Arbor Day Monday.

Mr. Black's Tuesday itinerary included another all-cand-

idates meeting in Oakville and a visit to the Halton's Women's Place in Milton.

On Thursday this week, he will address senior students at Milton District High School, followed this Saturday by an Italian-Canadian dance and Sunday by a speech to UAW retirees at the Galaxy Club in Oakville.

Next Monday will see the NDP candidate visiting Acton High School for an evening meeting. His wife, Mary, commented that the campaign has gone extremely well thus far, drawing great support from across the riding.

Mr. Jelinek will rely heavily on the 1,450 volunteer workers

his campaign has already attracted to bring the Conservative message to voters. The candidate himself will spend much of this week canvassing Oakville neighborhoods.

Dr. Philbrook told The Herald that his daughters Cathy and Jacqueline will soon be joining him, his wife Midge and his eldest daughter Marni on the campaign trail, with door-to-door canvassing expected to move into high gear early this week.

On Wednesday, Dr. Philbrook will accompany Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin on a brief tour of several riding stops, the highlight of which will be an address to the Milton Chamber of Commerce.



PUBLIC SPEAKING WINNERS

Sacré Coeur Ecole public speaking contest held in the school Monday saw trophies presented to the winners in each class. Front row from the left are Anne-Julie Lepe and Natalie Stevens who took first and second place respectively for the Primary class. Both girls are in Grade 1. Intermediate class winners were back row from the left: Carole Duguay and Pierrette Chlason, first

and second respectively. Both girls are in Grade 6. Paul Presseault, Grade 7, won the senior class. Paul already spoke in a competition against other French-speaking schools on April 8 in Galt. The Junior Class winners will be in a similar competition at a later date which has yet to be announced. (Herald photo)

Strong government needed, Jean Chretien tells students

By JOHN BOTTOMLEY
Herald special

Forces tending to give powers to the provinces will destroy Canada, Finance Minister Jean Chretien told students at Acton High School Thursday morning.

Speaking on behalf of Dr. Frank Philbrook, the incumbent Liberal MP for the Halton riding, he said, "Mr. Clark says he will say yes to the provinces all the time. Who will speak for Canada?"

"If we don't have a strong central government, the rich get rich and the poor get poorer," he added.

He cited medicare programs in the provinces as an example, saying that since the federal government got out of the picture, each province is getting a different system. Some Ontario doctors are billing for more than medicare while other provinces are setting deterrent fees, he said.

While Tory and NDP candidates have said the national unity crisis is caused by the state of the economy, Mr. Chretien maintained there have been people trying to get out of Canada at different times during its history, independent of the economy.

He claimed that in the past 10 years, the government has managed to create 2.8 million new jobs, including 400,000 last year.

"We have the only economy since the OPEC crisis (of 1973) which has managed to avoid a recession. The United States had a recession of 27 months," he said.

In answer to a question from the audience Mr. Chretien attacked Joe Clark's mortgage interest revate platform, saying it would increase the Federal deficit. "When you are running a deficit, it is not possible to go to the public and sell them a bill of goods which will increase the deficit."

He defended high mortgage interest rates by saying the Canadian interest rates have to be higher than their U.S. counterparts because Canada must make foreign investment attractive.

CLOSE RACE

This was the first of two appearances Mr. Chretien made in the Halton riding Thursday for Dr. Philbrook. The fight in the riding is expected to be a close one with some people rating the incumbent Dr. Philbrook a slight underdog to Tory Otto Jelinek.

Canadians losing freedom: Jelinek

Herald special

Halton Progressive Conservative candidate Otto Jelinek took Bill C-4 Bill C-51, which controls the sale of firearms in Canada, and used it as the basis for an attack against the loss of individual freedoms he believes Canadians have suffered under the Trudeau government, speaking Monday at the Guelph Rod and Gun Club.

"You are only one group of people who have had rights and liberties taken away," he said. His early childhood experience in Czechoslovakia, first under the Nazis and then the Communists, had "embedded in my heart... (belief in) the freedom of the individual."

"This country is beginning to suffer those same controls, loss of freedoms," he said.

Mr. Jelinek, who has acted as Small Business minister in the Conservative shadow cabinet, also said "the free enterprise has suffered because of red tape put on by Trudeau."

Mr. Jelinek told the audience "Mr. Clark has said the bill infringes on the rights of individuals. When he takes over a

review of it will be looked at."

"You and I know Bill C-51 isn't going to keep a gun away from a criminal if he wants to get his hands on one."

Mr. Jelinek said the legislation, by requiring a permit to own certain types of guns, "makes you guilty first," he said. "I always thought a man was innocent until proven guilty."

Joe Clark was credited with having done more, in his position as leader of the opposition, to untie the provinces than Prime Minister Trudeau.

"Who are the provinces? The provinces are Canada. Trudeau has created a state of confrontation."

Mr. Jelinek also took the opportunity to state he is in favor of capital punishment.

"To return capital punishment for first degree premeditated murder and to eliminate Bill C-51, elect a Conservative government," he said.

Close to 100 people attended the meeting which was also addressed by National Firearms Association president Bill Jones.

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