

Election 79

Joe Clark says hello to Georgetown riding

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

The Liberal victory in two Quebec by-elections shows the strength of the spirit of federalism in that province. Progressive Conservative leader Joe Clark told a crowd of about 400 people at the North Halton Golf and Country Club yesterday morning.

Mr. Clark made a swing through the area yesterday with stops in Georgetown and Acton, and a rally in Oakville during the evening.

The meeting room at the

country club was packed as Conservative supporters heard Mr. Clark praise Brampton-Georgetown candidate John McDermid as a "strong candidate", part of a successful team of candidates and campaign workers across the country.

"We have to demonstrate to the people out there that there is a new federal face in Canada," Mr. Clark said. "The Liberal victory, and Mr. Ryan's victory, in Quebec was a significant indication that the forces of federalism in Quebec

are strong. Just as our victory May 22 will prove that federalism is strong outside Quebec."

ECONOMIC POLICY
Mr. Clark said his party is concentrating mainly on economic policy.

"Mr. Trudeau says he is proud of the economy," he said. "What he is saying is that he is proud to have over 2 million people unemployed." Mr. Clark said the Conservatives' proposed mortgage and property tax scheme will provide new jobs in the construc-

tion industry in its first year of operation.

"John McDermid and I will be proud of putting Canadians back to work," he said.

The Conservatives' economic policy has been to introduce policies at the government level to give people "a stake in Canada". By deducting part of a homeowner's mortgage tax and property tax from income tax, the Conservatives will make this "a nation of homeowners," Mr. Clark said.

Savings under the mortgage and property tax scheme will be substantial, even in the first year of the program's operation, Mr. Clark said. As an example, he said an average home in this area would cost about \$57,000. A Canadian earning \$20,000 a year, with a wife who doesn't work outside the home, and two children, can expect to have a mortgage tax of \$5,000 and property taxes of \$800.

In the first year of operation, Mr. Clark said the homeowner can expect to save \$291, and by the fourth year \$1,160.

"That is the incentive the Progressive Conservatives intend to offer Canadians," he said. "That is the incentive Trudeau intends to deny the Canadians."

After leaving the North Halton Golf and Country Club, Mr. Clark and his entourage of aides and journalists headed for Acton, where Mr. Clark did some "mainstreaming", talking to people along the street, and dropping in to some stores.



MOTORIST DIES IN COLLISION

The remains of this 1966 pickup truck look pretty grim following a head-on collision on Highway Seven just west of Park Toyota Monday evening. However the driver, Andrew Morrison, 22, of Georgetown and his passenger Brian Herfort, 28, of R.R.2, Acton escaped with minor injuries. The driver of the car which struck the truck, Lewis Montgomery, 23, of Grand Valley, died in the crash.

(Herald photo by Maggie Hannah)

Marxist-Leninist enters race as nomination deadline lapses

Nominations for MP in the Brampton-Georgetown riding closed Monday evening with one more candidate, running on the Marxist-Leninist ticket, registering.

Marsha Fine, a factory worker is a member of the Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist) and will be running under the party's Marxist-Leninist Party label in the May 22 election.

The Herald was unable to reach Ms. Fine but did talk

with a party spokesman in Toronto who outlined some of the Marxists-Leninist's key programs in the election.

PARTY TABLOID
The spokesman said Ms. Fine will attend upcoming all-candidates meetings and a tabloid newspaper, outlining the party's platform, will be distributed to every home in the riding.

The key Marxist-Leninist slogan in the election, according to the spokesman is "The only solution to the crisis,

make the rich pay!"

Other slogans include: "End the war preparations and oppose and end all Canadian participation in any unjust and imperialist war!", and "...support the people's socialist republic of Albania, socialist homeland of the international proletariat!"

The spokesman said his party is running close to 150 candidates in the current election and is registered as an official party in the election.

ALL-CANDIDATES
In other election news, candidates for the three major parties attended an all-candidates meeting in Georgetown Wednesday, along with Libertarian candidate Joe Yundi. (See story elsewhere in this paper.)

Yesterday, Liberal candidate Ross Milne canvassed in Georgetown, as he had done Saturday and the day of the all-candidates meeting. Mr. Milne will be in Acton Thursday night for a speech by Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan, on behalf of Halton Liberal candidate Frank Philbrook.

Mr. Milne will be back in Georgetown Saturday for more canvassing.

Conservative candidate John McDermid also took advantage of last Wednesday's all-candidates meeting for a little Georgetown canvassing. Yesterday he was in town at the North Halton Golf and Country Club for a coffee party with PC leader Joe Clark.

He will be back in Georgetown Friday to visit some local factories in the morning and he will canvass in town the rest of the day.

Halton candidates meeting in Acton

By JOHN BOTTOMLEY
Herald special

Economic questions dominated an all candidates meeting at Acton High School Monday night as Actonians had their first chance to hear and compare all five people running for office in the Halton riding.

The five candidates are: Doug Black, NDP; Otto Jelinek, PC; Dr. Frank Philbrook, Liberal; Robert Ritchie, Independent; and Karen Selick, Libertarian.

Mr. Jelinek brought cries of "tell me where" from the incumbent Liberal when he said the reasonable thing to do would be to cut government spending.

The Conservatives candidate pointed to \$250,000,000 spent on consultants fees and said a Tory government would introduce sunset laws to allow agencies to wind down after their job is done.

INDEPENDENT PLEDGE
Independent candidate Mr. Ritchie pledged to try to bring mortgage interest rates down to six per cent over a period of time to help the construction industry.

"As long as interest rates are high, people are not going to buy houses," he said.

Mr. Jelinek said the Tory mortgage tax deduction plan would be a benefit to the construction industry.

Mr. Philbrook admitted the construction industry was the only on-going negative industry in Canada and said government had to look at ways to get it going again.

The all candidates meeting was organized by the Acton Chamber of Commerce.

Questioned about the cost to taxpayers in man-hours lost through strikes, Mr. Black said in 1976, the worst year for strikes according to the candidates, the number of hours lost through strikes was lower than the number of hours through on-the-job injuries.

Mr. Jelinek contended that Mr. Black twisted the figures, saying strike time has gone up every year. He suggested government should introduce industry-wide bargaining to bring all unions in one sector of the economy together.

Mr. Selick said the Libertarian Party supports the right to join unions, but also supports the employers right to hire and fire. She added there should be more protection to people who want to work during a strike.

SECRET BALLOTING
Mr. Jelinek, Mr. Philbrook and Mr. Ritchie agreed secret balloting is needed in strike votes. They feel there is intimidation of rank and file members of the union by its bosses.

Mr. Philbrook quoting a report stated the manufacturing sector is in better shape than expected.

He said quotas imposed on foreign shoes has helped the Canadian shoe manufacturing industry, and with it other industries such as the Beardmore tannery in Acton.

Mr. Philbrook defended the level of federal government spending saying expenditures had kept pace with provincial and municipal government spending.

"We have long-term commitments," he said. "You can't throw plans up in the air because for a few years money is not coming in."

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