

# Signs of the leftist times



## Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Toronto—one of the signs of the leftist times we live in was the Liberal government's Throne Speech attack on private daycare operators.

It suggested that provincial daycare funding should be made in a way that would encourage profit-oriented daycare operators. True, it didn't suggest the private operators be put out of business overnight. It just implied that their long-term extinction (except for those serving the rich) would be a good thing.

In fact, it sounded very much as if the Liberal aim is to transform daycare into a pre-school version of the education system.

The Throne Speech promised direct operating grants for new and existing non-profit daycare centres.

These wouldn't be available to newcomers in the profit-seeking private sector at all.

In addition, "various incentives" will be provided to "encourage private agencies to convert to non-profit centres."

There is no suggestion here that these private agencies are doing a poor job or are otherwise a problem. There is simply the assumption that non-profit is superior.

It is a debate about the future of daycare in this province that appears to be over before it has begun.

The Liberals say their aim is to transform daycare into a "basic public service, not a welfare service."

That means doing away with the current means test that is used to determine whether an individual is eligible for government subsidy when seeking daycare.

Such a system was fair in several ways. It helped those who couldn't

afford daycare without the subsidy. It also left it up to individuals what type of daycare they wanted for their child. The parents could pick and choose.

This apparently was wrong.

The new system, once it comes in, will be based on income rather than need. Although the cut-off figure obviously hasn't been established yet, there are suggestions that every family making \$50,000 or less annually should be subsidized, whether they need it or not.

And the stant will be towards having the child attend non-profit daycare.

True, existing-for-profit agencies will be allowed to continue serving the public—but they'll be "encouraged" by the government to become non-profit. (Any indications are they'll also be frozen in size.)

This won't prevent a new private sector centre from starting, of course, but by definition it could only attract people with the wealth to pay the full costs of their child's

daycare—in short, Upper Canada Colleges for those who can afford it and the many state for the rest.

The question is why. What is the problem with profit-making daycare for the ordinary person?

The Liberals tend to mutter about keeping "scarce" tax dollars off the profit-and-loss statement. But that means nothing in and of itself.

Compare a non-profit daycare centre with a non-profit director making \$40,000 a year to a private daycare where the owner takes expenses and \$17,000 profit annually and ask who is costing the taxpayer more?

It is noticeable that one of the long-standing demands of the Coalition for Better Daycare is that daycare workers—early childhood educators—in their jargon—should be paid the equivalent of teachers' salaries. And teachers average, well over \$40,000 a year now.

Frankly, when you slash through the opposition to profit-oriented daycare you continually reach the same conclusion.

It is simply ideological in nature. As New Democrat Dave Cooke said in a committee hearing here, "the only motivation in the non-profit sector is quality of care and provision of a good service to the community."

Ah, yes, as in schools, hospitals and—dare I say it—the post office...

# Out on top

The federal NDP has finally managed to come of age in Canada.

No longer is the New Democratic Party thought of as a bunch of dreamers. A recent Angus Reid poll suggests the party has a real chance of luring more voters to their side in the next election.

A total of 37 per cent of decided voters gave the NDP a strong show of support for how they've been handling their duties as opposition members. That compares to the Liberals, with 36 per cent and the Conservatives with 25 per cent.

This is the first time the NDP has led a national poll since the party was formed in 1961.

And what of the future for the party? We believe part of the NDP's growing popularity has to do with the disillusionment people are feeling with the two traditional mainstream parties.

The Conservatives have had a long enough time to show their mettle. Unfortunately, Prime Minister Mulroney's term of office has been riddled with scandal and controversy, coupled by a credibility crisis with the public.

The Liberals have fared only slightly better. Riding an artificial wave of popularity because of the faltering Tories, the Grits are now learning they too have to keep their ship in order if they are to impress Canadians. Open party disunity and a clear policy line has hurt the Liberals.

The NDP has stood its ground, digging away in an effective manner against government excesses and in fighting for social and economic fairness.

But not to get too cocky. The NDP shouldn't be misled into believing their success in the polls is entirely because of its personnel, policies and persuasiveness.

It has been said "people don't vote for a party, they vote against it." If this is true, the NDP will have to hope the Grits and Tories continue to falter.

# Keep it going

Open Door has proved its worth to the Georgetown community. Now it's time to show our appreciation for all it has done for youth.

The drop-in centre beside Georgetown District High School has been a helpful haven for students. Now they need help from residents to pay for costs to keep the centre going.

Why is Open Door so important to the community? First, Halton Hills doesn't have enough places for youth to go. We have a community, which is full of kids, that isn't teenager-friendly. There are laws against loitering. There is no public bus service. Entertainment opportunities are limited.

Open Door helps fill the gaps. It's a place for teens to talk with their peers about troubles they may be having with parents, friends or teachers.

Without a drop-in centre, students might spend more time in arcades or hanging around street corners and shopping plazas.

Supporting the drop-in centre strengthens our community by providing a place for our teens to go. Any funding that goes towards Open Door is money well invested.



# Promising job search

Editor's note: The following column is written by placement officers with the Canada Employment Centre for Students (CECS). The column will henceforth appear on Fridays in the teen section of the Herald's Outlook newspaper. The column offers suggestions to students looking for summer jobs.

By BEVE ECLES AND TERI LAMB

Summer is quickly approaching and it is time for students to find summer employment. Students can utilize several resources to make their job search more effective. One such resource is The Canada Employment Centre for Students (CECS).

This year, the Halton Hills CECS is operated by two experienced Student Placement Officers (SPOs), Beve Eccles and Teri Lamb. We have returned to the CECS again this summer to help students with their job search, and as students ourselves, we know how difficult looking for a summer job can be.

The Canada Employment Centre for Students acts as a link between students and employers, and students who are returning to school next September are eligible to use our service. Basically, students can use the CECS to learn about various job opportunities in the Halton Hills area, and may also use the CECS to improve their job search skills.

To supplement our services for students, we have decided to write a weekly column offering job search information, tips and advice. Future articles will include information about goal setting, labor market conditions, approaching employers, and making the most of your summer job.

The student job scene looks very promising this year and since the CECS office opened April 21, we have had over 100 job postings listed on the job board. There are many exciting and challenging job opportunities for students this summer. To find out more about these jobs, students must visit the CECS on a regular basis and keep up to date on the most current jobs available.

To utilize the CECS effectively, students need to take initiative in their job searches. The first step is to register at our office. Students are then interviewed about job goals and skill levels, and then encouraged to check the job board daily. If students are interested in a particular job posting, they are interviewed by a Student Placement Officer who assesses their suitability and qualifications. If students meet the job requirements, only then are they referred to the employer. The final hiring decision is the employer's responsibility.

In addition to assessing and referring students to jobs, we educate and counsel students about job search techniques, government programs, and general employment concerns. We are always available if students, parents or employers have any questions about student employment.

The labor market in Halton Hills looks prosperous and encouraging for students this summer, so now is the time to start looking for summer employment. The Canada Employment Centre for Students is located in the Niagara Escarpment Building at 222 Guelph Street. We are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, or we can be reached at 877-7711. See you next week!



# Citizens' forum

## Bring back death penalty

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was filed with The Herald for publication.

Dear Mr. Mulroney, I am writing to you because I am concerned about capital punishment.

The decision as to whether capital punishment should be reinstated or not was a difficult one to make. A part of me says that such a punishment should not be reinstated because I believe that everyone deserves to live and have a chance for a better life. Yet, another part of me says that anyone who deliberately takes the life of another deserves to lose his life. I was finally able to come to the conclusion that capital punishment should be reinstated for those who commit premeditated murder. I put a lot of thought into my decision and it was difficult, but I believe that I have made the right decision.

Capital punishment is a severe punishment and should be used in the cases of mass murderers or terrorists who planned to do harm.

Sincerely,  
Leanne Agnew,  
Georgetown

## Reinstate our death penalty

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was filed with The Herald for publication.

The executive of the Halton North Riding Association is sending this letter to The Herald in response to the editorial written by Derek Nelson about "What is a Political Party?" on April 14, 1987.

We were greatly impressed by the fairness shown toward our politicians.

Our policies come from our supporters. They are aimed to get fair and humanitarian values for most of us. As Mr. Nelson put it very well, the politicians from the NDP can not be seeking their personal success over the interest of a policy because there is no room for that in the party.

Thanks to our way of getting our policies from the people, other parties copy our policies, at least until election day. Luckily for us, minority governments get reminded to have them implemented in order to get the support of our MPPs.

We do not always get a good exposure from the media and find our message misunderstood or never heard. That is why we appreciate an article as the one Mr. Nelson wrote.

It looked as if this time the ordinary Ontarioan won.

Thanks,  
Lucy Quiglia,  
Secretary, Halton North  
NDP Riding Association

## Murderers should be put to death

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following was filed with The Herald for publication.

Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada, Parliament Hill, Ottawa

Dear Sir, I am writing because I am a concerned citizen who feels Capital

Punishment should be reinstated.

A person who commits premeditated murder should be put to death. Some people have said that if the death penalty was brought back, Canada could save millions of dollars. I have learned that it takes approximately \$50,000 a year to keep one person in jail. Now, if that person is sentenced to 25 years, it would cost the taxpayers approximately \$1,250,000 to keep that prisoner there. I cannot see us spending that amount of money for someone who has deliberately taken someone else's life. Just think, this money could be spent in so many other ways like more mothers allowance, more welfare, or it could even be spent on creating better jobs. Or how about lowering our deficit?

In 1976 our MP for Halton Riding, Dr. Frank Philbrook, took a poll on abolishing Capital Punishment. Sixty five percent voted to keep Capital Punishment, but when Dr. Philbrook went to vote on the issue, he voted to have it taken out. When the next elections came up, Dr. Philbrook was defeated because he went with his conscience instead of what the people wanted. Yours sincerely,  
Blair Tracey

## A fair shake in political column

Dear Sir,

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Lucy Quiglia,  
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NDP Riding Association

## Very upset over decision

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was filed with The Herald for publication.

Mr. Murray Elston, Ministry of Health, 10th Floor, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor Street, Toronto, Ontario

Dear Sir, I am writing because I am a concerned citizen who feels Capital

MFA 2C4

Dear Mr. Elston,

On April 7, 1987, Dr. J. A. Ford (Opp/Gen at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital) had his hospital privileges revoked.

As a patient of Dr. Ford's for the past three years, I must say I am more than a little upset over this decision. Not only am I angry about the revocation, but the whole way in which this decision was reached, and is being handled.

Dr. Ford was not present at the April 7th board meeting, when the members handed down their decision. I am appalled to find out that a doctor's hospital privileges can be revoked when the Board of Directors only hears "one side of the story."

Another concern of mine is the secrecy. The Board of Directors, and the Hospital Administrator have yet to give the public a valid reason for their actions against Dr. Ford.

I, along with many other people, are quickly losing confidence in our local hospital. As taxpayers, we have a right to know what goes on at the hospital board meetings. We shouldn't be made to feel that we are being shut-out. I think the system has to be changed, before another doctor at our hospital is put in the same situation as Dr. Ford.

Let's see some changes in the system at Georgetown hospital, and then maybe the people in this community will gain back their confidence!

Yours Sincerely,  
Mrs. Janet Foster

## 339 donors at blood clinic

Dear Sir,

Red Cross officials reported 339 donors attended the Blood Clinic Monday, May 11, 1987, and donated 322 units of blood. This clinic was sponsored by the Kinsmen; their help with distribution of posters, setting up clinic, loading equipment and general assistance at the clinic is appreciated.

Special thanks to Betty Milton and her telephone committee, to Shirley Chaplin for publicity and promotion and to Norren Mieb and Eileen Fortney, convenors of this clinic. Clinic organizers would like to thank all people who took time out to give the gift of life.

Donor Awards were given to: 35 - Josef Hoedl, Brian Anderson, Norma Firth; 20 - Bernadine Braket, Gary Roffel, Margaret Rayner, David Harley, Cornelis Vaneghand, 10 - Brian Getty, Christine Hay, John Roaume, Eric Namink, Helen Peever.

The next regular clinic for Georgetown will be Monday, August 11.

Yours sincerely,  
Flo Street, Chairman,  
Erica Thompson,  
Blood Donor Committee,  
Georgetown Red Cross

## 30 years ago

With Deputy Reeve Doug Sargent and Cr. Harry Hale dissenting, council on Monday authorized the mayor and clerk to sign an agreement with the American Marsh Co. to install parking meters in downtown Georgetown.

Miss Ruth Evans was re-elected President of the Halton Music Festival Association at the annual meeting May 8.

Halton will have only three candidates in the June 10 federal elections. Sandy Best of Georgetown will represent the Progressive Conservatives, Ken Dick of Milton will run under the Liberal banner and Oakville's Jack Henry is the OCF candidate.

Dick Riddall is the new President of the Georgetown Lions Club following an election of officers at a dinner meeting at the Jack-O-Lantern Tuesday.

## 15 years ago

Georgetown's Volunteer Fire Department's four man team of Bud Hyde, Gord Inglis, Doug Harley and the team captain and instructor Tom Massena captured the all Ontario Championships in a first-aid competition Saturday.

Mrs. Joan Jennings was named Georgetown Jaycette of the year, an honor which goes annually to the Jaycette who has contributed the most time during the past year to Jaycette projects.

Jim Ingle has opened Ingle Ford Equipment sales for business in the former Zenith Tool building just off Highway 7 on County Road 23. Georgetown Golf and Country Club saw its first ace Wednesday as Bob Jack holed it from the temporary tee on the Seventh Hole.

## 10 years ago

Delta Beta chapter elected chapter President Loison Lelmer as Girl of the Year this week.

Captain N.J. Weir C.D. is retiring as Commanding Officer of the 67th(L) Lorne Scots Army Cadet Corps.

Bill Curie was chosen the Georgetown Raider OHA Intermediate A Most Valuable Player for 1977 at the awards banquet for performing outstanding contributions to the team.

Robbie Beaumont of Glen Williams won the Gold Medal in piano in the Peel Music Festival two weeks ago.

## 5 years ago

Peter Barry, Gordon Vipond, Alex Dzick, Shirley Crackwell and Gary Long received citations for help in aiding District 1 police officers at the Cultural Centre in Georgetown last week.

Bang-O-Rama Chairman Norm Guthrie said added attractions will bring 12,000 people to the fairgrounds this year.

Halton Hills painter Roy Warnock greeted patrons and admirers Sunday to the grand opening of his watercolour exhibit at the Cultural Centre Gallery.

## Poets' Corner

NO REJECTS YET

finding the good that is within you is about as difficult as a kid finding joy in a toy store as each new discovery duffs excitement I easily pick another  
—By MARLOWE C. DICKSON, RIZ Beeton