

Five PC leadership hopefuls outline platforms in Hamilton

Five hopefuls for the premiership of Ontario tackled questions and spoke briefly to 300 delegates and alternates at an all-candidate meeting, staged in Hamilton Tuesday. It was one of several held across the province, and some of the voting delegates from this area were in attendance.

William Davis, Minister of Education, promised a one per cent drop in the CMHC lending rate and claimed he would do away with the three per cent surtax. He said he would use every ounce of influence as premier to force Ottawa to relax their iron hold on the economy and to relieve the needless hurt felt by people because of Ottawa's policies on inflation and the effect on jobs.

Only party he said he would attempt to stimulate employment and investment. He claimed the Conservative party was the only party to appeal to the cross

section of people in the province. He criticized the NDP for appealing only to one group and using a sectarian approach.

"Where would we be for employment and investment in Ontario if we turned the jolly gents to the left loose?" He rapped the federal government for operating for years with style without substance and the NDP for policies on nationalism of industry.

Must be weight

Davis has spent much of his campaign defending the high education costs and has consistently avoided promising any specific measures until the meeting in Hamilton. He regards pollution as a problem that must only be considered as part of a larger problem and any measures taken would be weighed against provision of jobs. He has taken the same approach to the economic nationalism issue.

Both Darcy McKeough and Robert Welch promised to back Minister of Energy and Resources George Kerr in his fight against pollution.

Leaders in fight

McKeough said Ontario is ahead of any other jurisdiction in the fight against pollution. He spoke on economic nationalism and regional planning as well. McKeough along with other candidates has advocated a plan whereby Canadian investment could be encouraged without closing the door to foreign investment.

Welch advocated doing away with non returnable containers. He said greater support should be given groups like pollution probe and the Industrial Joint Committee which is studying the future of the great lakes.

Welch is best known for legislation reforming Ontario's liquor laws. He is provincial secretary and also in charge of citizenship and Indian affairs.

Bert Lawrence, Minister of Financial Affairs warned the delegates the party couldn't afford to slip six per cent as they did in the last election.

More explanatory

As premier he would be more explanatory than Roberts. He would favor a program of restructuring in the government. He said regional government for areas shouldn't be left in limbo. He said municipalities should be given a date to reach a consensus of opinion and then the government should step in. Allan Lawrence, Minister of Mines said the party could not go with the same cast as they did in

the 60's when they face the next election. He said he would have a new cabinet and a smaller one... one that was chosen strictly on merit, not for favors rendered.

Freeze education costs Lawrence, the most controversial of the five serious candidates has campaigned for a rejuvenated party and a renewed government. He is the only candidate to take a firm stand regarding freezing educational costs.

He said there should be no power play in any area and has said earlier no one area, should take more than 33 per cent of the provincial budget. Education now takes 43 per cent.

No incentive

Lawrence criticized the government's handling of welfare. He said a recipient has to go through a jungle of jurisdictions to receive it and there are duplications of service. He said recipients were locked into the system. He said there was no incentive to "get them off their backs and out in the working world."

A sixth candidate has entered the race. Robert Pharand, a student, was not at the meeting. A leader and premier of Ontario will be chosen at the PC convention which gets underway today in Toronto at Maple Leaf Gardens.

Norman Pearce named to code review group

A Milton resident, Norman S. Pearce, P. Eng., has been named one of 15 members of a new committee set up to review the Ontario Building Code for the provincial Ministry of Labor.

S. G. Beckett, building commissioner of North York, will chair the code review committee and Daniel T. Dunlop, a Toronto architect well known in this area, will be vice-chairman. Mr. Dunlop's firm built the Milton hospital and high school and is presently working on plans for the new regional detention centre to be built in Milton.

Other members of the committees have been selected from sources interested in building in the province — municipal and fire officials, architects, engineers, builders, contractors and associations concerned with construction.

Milton East MPP Jim Snow who brought forth the legislation calling for uniform building code and a fire code for Ontario, reported this week that Labor Minister Dalton Bales has appointed two committees to develop a new code. One is the code review committee on which Mr. Pearce will serve, the other an administration review committee which will organize the administration and inspection program of the new code.

Mr. Bales said the code review committee will have the responsibility of making recommendations on the final details of the Ontario Building Code. He said it will examine all existing legislation as it pertains to building standards and regulations in the province and resolve any differences that exist between municipal building by-laws, provincial policies, the National Building Code and the National Fire Code.

The administration review committee will advise the Department of Labor on the setting up of the necessary organization for effective inspection of building standards, approval procedures for new materials, uniform interpretation and enforcement, and the development of staff training and education programs.

43 students to attend leadership convention

Forty-three grade 11, 12 and 13 history and world politics students from Milton District High School are planning a trip to the Ontario Progressive Leadership Convention at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto tomorrow (Thursday), as part of their school study field trips. Teachers E. Loeprich and Mrs. Anne MacArthur will accompany students on the day-long excursion.

"Only 4,000 student seats were made available," said Mrs. MacArthur, "and I never dreamed we could reserve 43 seats for Milton students."

May stay late The group plans to leave the school at 10:45 a.m. on Thursday and are undecided about the time they will return that night. Milton Rotary Club has offered to pay up to \$75 for the bus, and should expenses be more than this amount, students have agreed to pay the rest of the cost.

them to see this type of an election," she added, "it's just what they're studying at school."

Hilton Justice of the Peace Bill Sargeant of Bronte is treating the students to lunch at the Westbury Hotel in Toronto, where numerous delegates and candidates involved in convention are having lunch. Students are also looking forward to meeting candidates at the Westbury Hotel prior to the actual voting.

As PM Darcy would swim with Kerr

Carrying the pollution torch high Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough told 300 Conservatives he would swim in Hamilton Bay with George Kerr in 1975. He said he would swim as premier of Ontario. He made the vow at an all candidates meeting in Hamilton Feb. 2.

McKeough, one of five candidates facing the delegates and alternates at the meeting held in Hamilton, devoted his 10 minute speech to pollution. He claimed Ontario was ahead of any other jurisdiction in the fight against pollution and promised greater support for Kerr's programs.

Both McKeough and Robert Welch used pollution as the theme of their speech and both urged strengthening the International Joint Commission which is studying pollution of the boundary waters between Canada and the United States.

Asked for his feeling towards pollution Minister of Education said, "I'm against it." Davis has continually evaded any specific promises concerning his efforts in the pollution fight and said pollution was only part of a greater problem and said there was a tendency to oversimplify it. He said he would not want to put people's jobs in jeopardy to combat pollution. He said the problems had to be weighed one against another very carefully.

Friday meet for teachers

Jim Singleton, Director of Education for Halton County Board of Education will be among featured speakers at the professional development day for secondary schools in the county.

A seminar will be held at T. A. Blakelock High School in Oakville Friday. The seminar is entitled "Encounter". Representatives from OISE, the universities and community colleges will be on hand for debates.

Ontario president Chamber guest

Milton Chamber of Commerce officials announced this week they have arranged to have Mark Kellow, president of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, be guest speaker for their annual dinner meeting later this month.

Mr. Kellow is personnel and public relations manager of Quaker Oats Company and is a noted speaker. Chamber president Mrs. Mary Clarke said C. E. Shaver, manager of the Ontario Chamber will accompany Mr. Kellow to the dinner at the Legion Hall on Wednesday evening, Feb. 24.

Change house nearly built

Construction of a new concession and beach changehouse for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority in the Terra Cotta Conservation Area has been substantially completed.

James A. J. Knox of Canadian Mitchell Associates Ltd. of Bramalea, consultants for the project, said work was finished approximately on schedule. The building will be open for use in the spring.

The contractor, Westlake Construction Ltd. of Islington, has a \$60,000 contract for the project, which started last September.

An old timer is a fellow who remembers when it cost more to run a car than it did to park it.

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