

# Jelinek nomination set for tonight

Otto Jelinek, who is seeking the Halton Progressive Conservative nomination tonight, says he will be fighting the Feb. 18 federal election on the John Crosbie budget.

Mr. Jelinek told a press conference Monday he believes the budget, though tough, was necessary.

"We can't go on living an Alice in Wonderland existence."

"If we did, we would leave nothing to our children and their children."

he said.

In addition to campaigning on the budget, Mr. Jelinek said he would be announcing the rest of the Progressive Conservative policy platform in the weeks to come.

He said he considers

the Liberal Party to be bereft of a policy and said anything the Liberals come up with would be purely "ad hoc."

On the national scene, he said he was unconcerned with the recent Gallup Poll which shows the Liberals far ahead of

the Progressive Conservatives in voter popularity.

"I stick with what our Prime Minister Joe Clark says, that the only poll that counts is the one on election day."

He defended the

government's stand in cutting further wheat shipments to Russia, stating external affairs must be tackled even in the time of an election.

On Pierre Trudeau's contention that he should be involved in any decisions regarding Russia,

Mr. Jelinek said there has never been a case in the past nor when Mr. Trudeau was Prime Minister when "a leader of the opposition was called in to make external affairs decisions."

Questions on the public perception on a number of broken Progressive Conservative promises since May 22, Mr. Jelinek said "it's simply not true."

He brought out a list of more than 12 promises which had been kept.

These included mortgage deductibility, tax cuts, a committee to study the operation of Petro Canada, cuts in federal deficits, Parliamentary reforms, enactment of a Freedom of Information Act, more efficient methods of expediting grain exports, increased allowances to the elderly, interest rate assistance to small business, identifying offshore resources, and aid to the off-shore fishing industry.

"This government kept more promises in six months than the Liberals made in all of the last five years they were in power," he said.

In terms of a new program, Mr. Jelinek said the Progressive Conservatives don't need one, as it already exists in the

proposed federal budget.

Mr. Jelinek was questioned about the increased interest rates allowed since the Clark government took power.

He said he deplores the current high rates but insisted that holding down interest rates artificially would do more harm than good.

Mr. Jelinek said it would be best to put the Crosbie budget into action, "so that we can turn the economy around and then I am sure you will see the interest rates go down accordingly and it will change the current drop in the dollar."

He said the biggest concern of many Canadians is the current rise of fuel toward a world level.

In the Crosbie budget, he said Canadians would only be "paying for the amount of fuel you personally use." Under the present system, revenues partially go to underwrite the costs of industry. He said this would change under the Crosbie budget.

In addition a National Energy Board would be established, using revenues from energy sales to do research and development into other forms of energy.

At tonight's nomination meeting, Mr. Jelinek is expected to be unopposed.

# Perras heads Halton Liberals



BILL PERRAS, a 30-year-old Oakville lawyer, was nominated Monday night as the Halton Liberal party candidate in the Feb. 18 election. In the background is Allan Wilson of Milton, who lost to Mr. Perras. Mr. Perras is an Oakville town council member and a former star hockey player with the Oakville Blades.

A 30-year-old Oakville lawyer is the Halton Liberal Party candidate in the Feb. 18 federal election.

Bill Perras defeated Allan Wilson of Milton, a long-time Liberal worker and the 1979 campaign manager of Dr. Frank Philbrook, before a crowd of more than 800 Liberal supporters.

Mr. Perras was born in Oakville and attended Oakville-Trafalgar High School. He was involved in high school sports and played on the Oakville Blades Junior Hockey club where he was top scorer in 1966-67.

He attended Cornell University on a hockey scholarship and graduated in 1971 with a B.Sc.

Mr. Perras attended law school at Ottawa University and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1978.

He is married with two children and makes his law practice in Oakville.

He was elected to Oakville Council in 1978 and is a member of several committees. Mr. Perras is a past secretary of the Halton Liberal Executive and a director of the Halton Federal Liberal Association.

Mr. Wilson, who was nominated by Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed, was visibly shaken after losing the nomination but took the microphone to ask everyone to unite under Mr. Perras in the coming election.

In his nomination speech, Mr. Perras stressed two themes—the Crosbie budget and the need to have Pierre Trudeau back.

"The budget is what wasn't promised in the last campaign but it's what you got," he said.

He said the Crosbie budget would be the ruination of the Canadian economy, stating a Liberal budget decision would "be the right one."

In asking for a return of Mr. Trudeau, Mr. Perras said the former leader "is one of the greatest Canadians of all time."

In a brief press conference following his win, Mr. Perras stressed he would be a "team player" following the present Liberal party game plan.

Asked about the Liberal

policy platform and what his knowledge of it was, Mr. Perras said he would be prepared to answer all questions at a press conference to be held later this week.

He said the federal government must have an energy policy which allows some form of financial rebate for people who have to drive long distances, particularly from the rural areas of Halton.

Mr. Perras asked if Mr. Trudeau should be allowed to be consulted about current Canadian moves on Afghanistan, said "most definitely."

In his campaign literature Mr. Perras describes himself as "the father of a young Canadian family...concerned about the way Canada has been embarrassed on a day-to-day basis by a mismanaged and rudderless Clark government."

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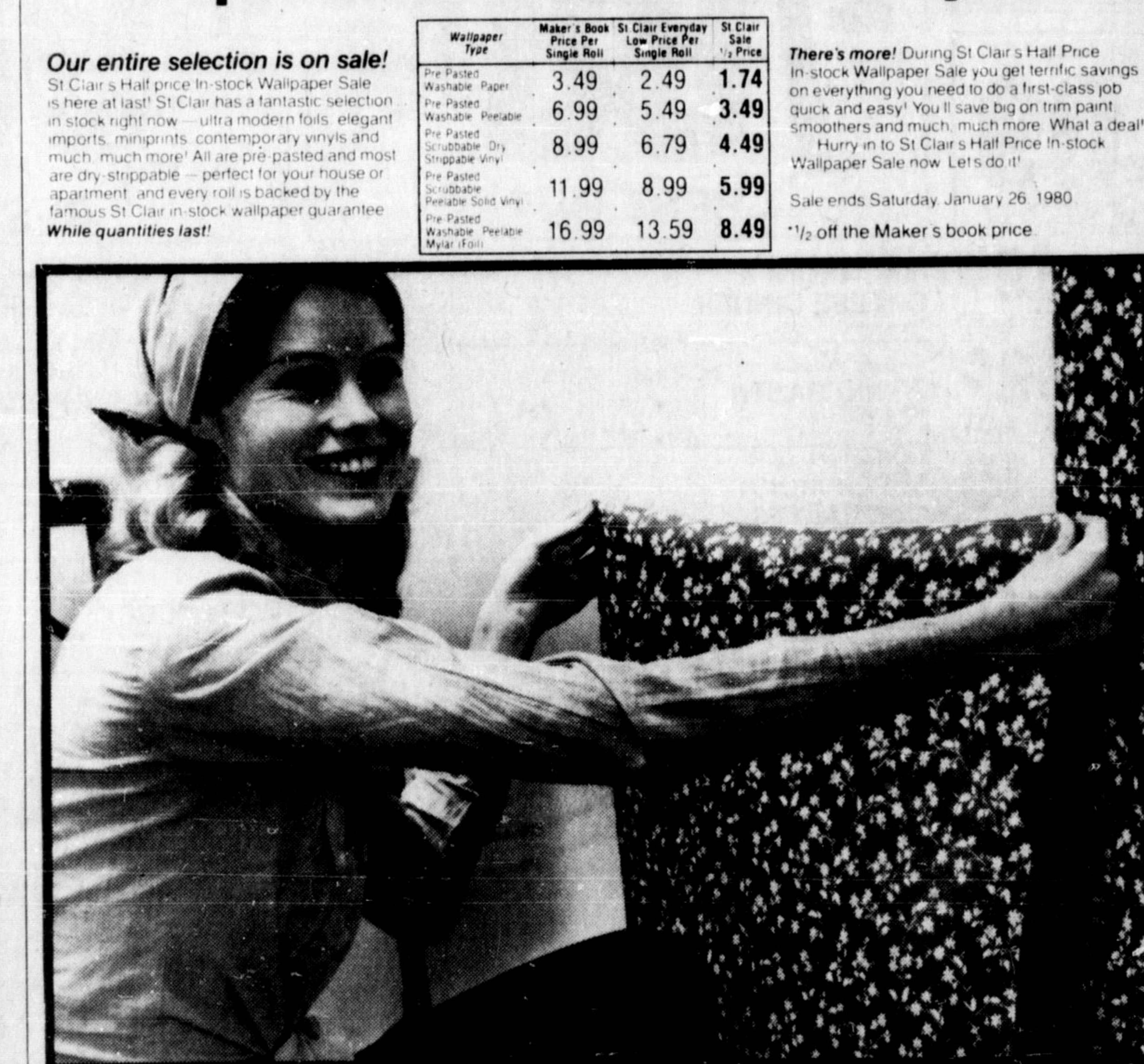
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