



Reed says it was a personal victory against Ontario trend

Ontario voted for 'status quo' he says

By Jane Muller
Halton-Burlington Liberal MPP Julian Reed won a personal victory Thursday night in spite of a province-wide trend supporting the Progressive Conservatives which ushered that party into its 38th year of provincial power.

"The person victory is very satisfying but for the rest of Ontario I am very concerned. "Ontario has voted for the return of the status quo," said the MPP who will return to Queen's Park after winning his third election bid.

"We were lucky to win at all when there is a trend like that," Mr. Reed admitted.

"We won in spite of the trend."

Unofficially only 494 votes separated him from PC candidate Fran Baines, a much more narrow margin than his 1977 election victory which put him 3,698 votes ahead of PC candidate George Gray.

"Local issues were all

contributors to this victory. The upheaval in the local Conservative party over the nomination could have had some effect as well."

He commented later in the evening it was rather ironic that his 494 plurality represented approximately the number of PC party members disgruntled over results of the nomination meeting for their party.

Mr. Reed said he was surprised to see a majority mentality in Ontario.

"It appears I will miss a few good friends in the legislature. I had predicted it would end up pretty well the same as before," he said.

He fears a majority government may lead to the elimination of a spec-

ial hydro committee of which he is part and the Remour issue being put out of view.

Mr. Reed said in a majority government situation the opposition will not have the same constructive input into amendments to bill as is the experience with minority government, leaving the floor of the legislature the only place for opposition input.

"It will be difficult to expose of the things we're trying to with a majority," he commented.

He is of the belief however that a government member can do no more for his riding than an opposition member comparing PC Jack Johnson, Dufferin Peel repres-

entative's situation during hydro corridor debates.

"I had the freedom to speak out," said Mr. Reed adding that the government member had to sit back and listen.

"Over the next four years we have a very tough fight to demonstrate to the people of Ontario they have missed an opportunity in moving ahead.

"Davis fought again oil price increases. Instead of fighting the inevitable he should have staged increases," said the Liberal energy critic.

"We are going to be faced with a liquid fuel crisis within a few years," said Mr. Reed adding Ontario residents may experience gas rationing in the next four years.

He said the fight between Alberta and Ontario over petroleum prices has put the people of Ontario in jeopardy.

"Our responsibility in energy includes so many possibilities and so much ground to cover but the premier has chosen to hide behind an election."

Mr. Reed said Premier Davis calls electricity the answer to Ontario's future energy needs but the MPP said alternatives should be found to our current liquid fuel which is an exhaustible and expensive resource and should be used in petroleum products rather than a means of

combustion. Mr. Reed believes the answer to a liquid fuel crisis is for Ontario to develop a liquid alcohol fuel production program and produce car engines which could utilize the locally produced fuel.

"Ontario is obliged to get into fuel substitution," MPP Reed suggested

that although party leadership could have had some effect on the outcome of the election he felt residents of Ontario were going the way of Americans when they voted in Ronald Reagan.

He said the PC sweep could represent "a desire for some dream of a more stable government."

Milton made the difference for Liberals

The 11,000 new residents of subdivisions in south Milton swayed toward the Progressive Conservative candidate Fran Baines despite a concerted effort in that area by canvassers for MPP Julian Reed.

"We put in a lot of time there with canvassing and literature drops," said Liberal campaign manager Laurie Reed brother of the incumbent.

"New people tend to vote as the province does instead of as the riding does."

"Four years from now when they are more settled and have been here longer they will become aware of Julian by his level of presence and votes will pick up."

The results of polling stations at Sam Sherratt public school in the Timberlea subdivision show Reed winning over Mrs. Baines in only one of the six polls and that win came from a single vote in his favour.

PC candidate Fran Baines tallied 444 votes in total at those stations followed by MPP Reed with 315 and NDP candidate Chris Cutler with 103 votes.

Comparing the 1975 and 1977 campaigns, Laurie Reed noted a similarity in the voting trend in North Burlington which he said has always been a Conservative riding. The results of this year did not deviate from previous voting trends.

Mr. Reed noted the NDP votes lost to that party went to the PC candidate.

Despite the efforts of canvassers some of whom complained mildly of sore feet from weeks of pavement pounding while awaiting election results, there was a reduction in the number of voters.

The campaign manager said the 56 per cent voter turnout, down from 69.1 per cent in the 1977 election was due to a "general lackluster campaign."

"The motivation just wasn't there," he suggested.

He felt this lower percentage of votes helped lead to the comparatively small margin which MPP Reed won by. Only 494 votes separated the Liberal incumbent from PC candidate Fran Baines while in 1977 Reed won by the substantial margin of 3,698 votes.

Winning embrace. His victory official, Halton Burlington Liberal MPP Julian Reed is congratulated by his wife Deanna and 11-year-old daughter Melanie at his Milton Campaign headquarters.

Baines decries 518-vote loss to the incumbent

While Premier Bill Davis swept to a majority, the first time in 10 years, Halton-Burlington Progressive Conservative candidate Fran Baines was watching her own campaign fall short by only 518 votes.

At Milton PC-Baines headquarters on Main St., workers privately looked to the Penman-Baines nomination squabble for the reason why Milton did not come through for Mrs. Baines with enough votes to oust Liberal incumbent Julian Reed.

"If we had all the Tories in this riding working like you, we would have taken this seat," she told supporters in Georgetown later in the evening.

"If my opposition in the nomination race had got on board like most others, we could have taken this riding," she said admitting she still felt bitter about the dissension within Halton-Burlington PC ranks.

Mrs. Baines was buoyed by the fact she had cut Mr. Reed's plurality from 3,698 votes in 1977 to just 518 last Thursday.

Nevertheless, PC party members are taking a long look at the 40 declined ballots and more than 40 unmarked ballots handed in March 19. In 1977 22 ballots were unmarked and 13 were declined.

Only the Burlington part of Milton came forward for Mrs. Baines where she had 513 more votes than Mr. Reed. In Milton she won 20 of the 51 polls, which was considerably less than campaign workers had expected.

Mrs. Baines also lost out to Mr. Reed in Acton and Georgetown. In fact she lost her own poll to Mr. Reed. In Acton Mr. Reed got 1,423 votes to Mrs. Baines' 1,097 where Mr. Reed was able to take 14 of the 15 polls.

In Georgetown Mr. Reed won with 3,197 votes over Mrs. Baines' 3,045.

According to one PC party member the north end of the riding let Mrs. Baines down, not Milton and Burlington, but the finger is still being pointed to Milton by Mrs. Baines.

"It's a rough way to lose but we gave it a good shot."

"There are a lot of people who were confident we could do the job," she said.

As for Mr. Reed, he termed Mrs. Baines the "toughest opponent I've had yet."

One PC Halton-Burlington party member told The Champion he expects there will be a major reorganization of the executive and directorship of the riding association so there is not a repeat of the Penman-Baines nomination night.

Mrs. Baines said she expects Halton-Burlington will probably be redistributed by the time the next election comes around. She thinks the entire city of Burlington, including that part now in Halton-Burlington, will be made into two ridings, leaving Milton and Halton Hills as another riding.

Currently Halton-Burlington is one of the largest ridings in terms of area and population. More than 52,000 voters were enumerated for the March 19 election, second only to Mississauga North with more than 55,000 voters.



Worthy opponent. PC candidate hopeful Fran Baines met MPP Reed at Milton Campaign headquarters to concede defeat. She was hailed by her opponent as a worthy candidate. Mr. Reed came up with the popular vote in Mrs. Baines's own polling area.

Mrs. Baines said she was pleased she was able to close the plurality gap

against Mr. Reed. Mr. Reed, for his part, said his narrow victory

was attributable to his standing with the electorate in the face of a

swing by voters to the Progressive Conservatives.

Cutler starts next campaign day after election

By Mike Boyle
As Chris Cutler watched the election returns flash on the screen of a small black-and-white television, his facial expression doesn't flinch.

It's 8 p.m. and Cutler's defeat is imminent. A reporter with a Guelph radio station calls to ask if Cutler has conceded.

"Tell him we won't concede until it's over," yells Cutler. "Then tell him we'll be out campaigning tomorrow."

Such was the mood inside the New Democratic Party headquarters in the Dorset Park plaza election night. Although dealt such a convincing defeat and thoroughly rejected in this riding as well generally across the province, NDP sup-

porters remained optimistic.

If anything, the common feeling among many party workers was reflected in one supporter's statement, "We lost the skirmish but the war is just beginning."

When the votes were tallied, the 20-year-old Cutler had captured just 12 per cent of the popular vote. The total was one-third less than the party gathered in the 1977 election with candidate Bill Johnson.

The NDP in this riding was simply a casualty of polarization, between the parties," explains Cutler.

"I guess what we saw in the province was a polarization between parties," says Cutler.

"Our approach has been rejected."

However, despite the loss Cutler's enthusiasm remained high.

"Now I know what I have to do to win this riding," says Cutler. "And that's work hard. I didn't work hard enough in this election."

"Tomorrow morning (Friday), I start again campaigning for the next election."

"I'll be canvassing door-to-door and become better known in the riding. There were a lot of people with signs on their front lawn. We'll get as many as we can to work for us in the next election."

Many campaign

workers joined Cutler at NDP headquarters to watch the returns. When the final results became known, the entourage of about 40 people moved to the Union Hall on Martin Street for a social evening.

Few supporters talked of the smashing defeat as anything more than a temporary setback. Many vowed to work harder to rebuild their party's dwindling support in the riding.

Before the election Cutler had talked about moving the party up a notch to second spot in the riding. Liberal Julian Reed's strength was determined to be too powerful but many supporters felt the split in the PCs concerning the nomination meeting might benefit the NDP.

But it was the NDP who lost the most.

Campaign strategists in the riding were at a loss to explain the defeat. Cutler took it personally but added that his time will come, a fact few in the riding dispute.

"What will need is another four years of Bill Davis to get elected in this riding," explained Cutler. "With 40-50,000 people going unemployed each year, people will wake up to the fact that the NDP is the only alternative."

Cutler added that he felt Davis had aspirations on the federal level.

"I wouldn't be surprised to see Davis run for the federal leadership of the party."

Tory won't resign

Ted Meitz, former chairman of the credentials committee for the Progressive Conservative Halton-Burlington Association has reversed his decision to resign.

Mr. Meitz who earlier tendered his resignation over the issue of procedures at the association's nomination convention Feb. 9, said his latest move was the result of encouragement from fellow Tories.

"I now plan to stay on and fight on behalf of the membership and will not resign as a director at large," he said.

Mr. Meitz said he will demand a complete reorganization of the executive with the aim to avoid the problems encountered in the last nomination.

Approximately 400 people were denied their right to vote as a result of an Association ruling.

Mr. Meitz said that among those who encouraged him to stay on was Tory candidate Brian Penman.

The annual meeting of the Association which could include changes within the constitution is expected to be called within the next month.

'Bloody terrible' says NDP manager

By Jo Ann Smith
In the wake of a poor showing by NDP candidate Chris Cutler, his campaign manager, Tom Moore was at a loss to explain Cutler's third place showing.

"It's bloody terrible. I wish I knew what happened," he said.

In his first-ever campaign Moore learned you can't always trust your feelings.

"All indications of attitudes through the press and elsewhere made us think we would have a better showing." "If there was a riding to be taken it was this one," he said.

Mr. Moore was especially disappointed over the 9,408-vote gap between Cutler and PC opponent Fran Baines.

Moore had counted on Mr. Cutler gaining some ground because of the rift in the Halton-Burlington Conservative party.

"I thought we would pick up on the disenchantment vote a lot more than we did," he said.

Mr. Moore admits that Cutler's age might have hurt them a little, but he credits the loss more to a provincial trend towards the PC party.

"Cutler can hold a candle to Baines or Reid anytime. His age might have hurt a bit—but to my way of thinking it shouldn't have," he said.

Believing that Mr. Cutler should have placed higher in the results has left Moore doubting some of his

campaign strategies.

He said in a riding the size of Halton-Burlington different issues appeal to different groups.

"Regional government was a big issue in Georgetown, but not in Burlington," he said.

Mr. Moore felt in spite of the split in issues it would be impossible to wage two types of campaigns.

While praising the dedication of those who helped campaign, Mr. Moore said Mr. Cutler suffered from a lack of workers.

"We lacked in door-to-door and telephone canvassing," he said.

Dick Clement, campaign manager for Fran Baines, was taking his first crack at managing an election during the 45 days which ended March 19 with a Progressive Conservative majority, but without a PC MPP for Halton-Burlington.

The job of helping to put Fran Baines across to this riding's 53,000 enumerated voters came to Dick Clements more by accident than anything else.

"They had another guy but he quit."

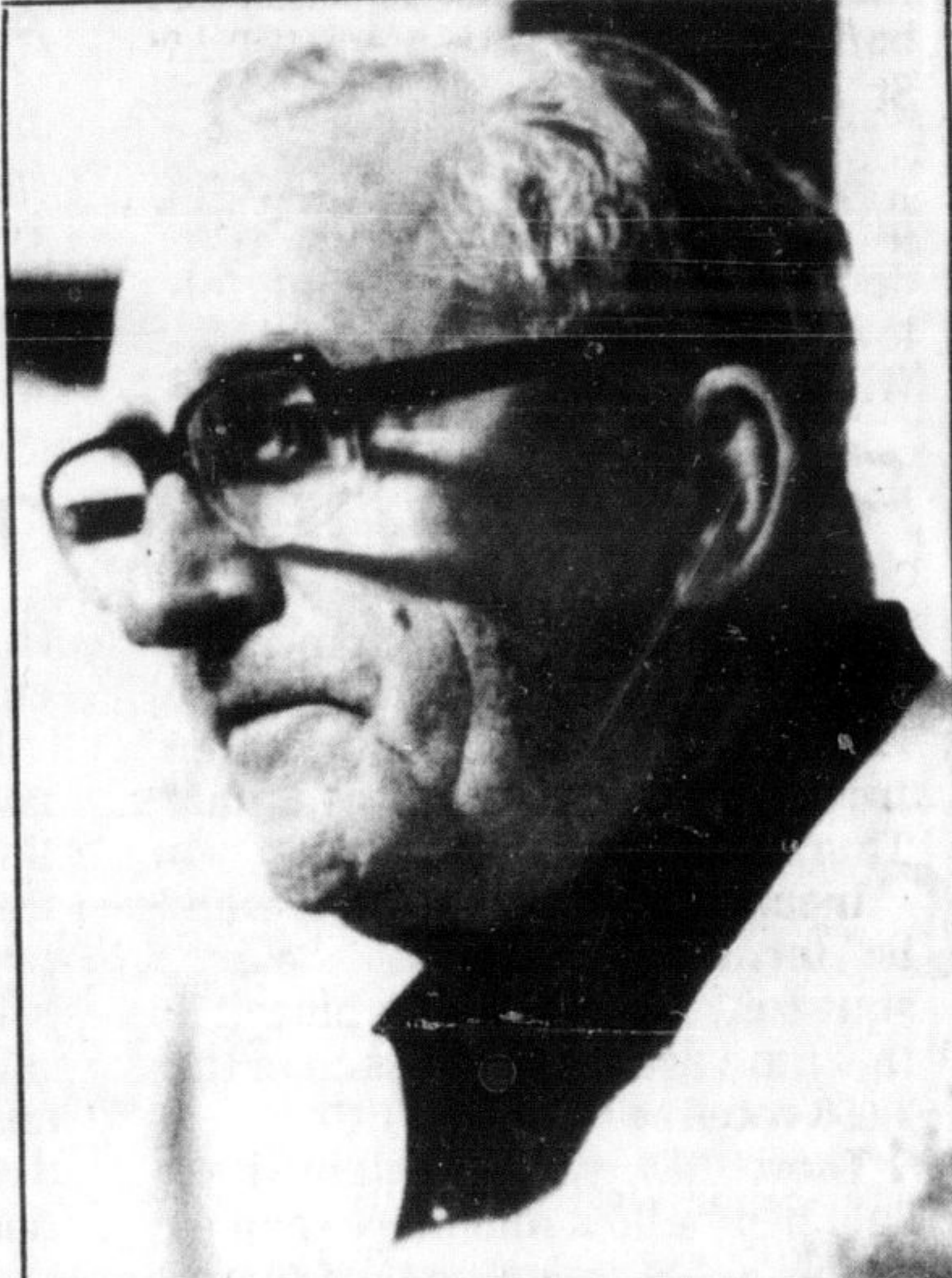
"I was ready to help, so here I am," he said.

Where he was election night was in the campaign office on Main St. E. watching the results come in.

At first incumbent, and eventual winner Julian Reed, was about 1,000 votes ahead, but by 8 p.m. things had started to change.

With 32 of 52 Milton polls reporting unofficially Mr. Reed with 1,985 votes was just ahead of Mrs. Baines with 1,584.

"Beautiful, just beautiful, keep 'em coming," he urged as PC scrutineers started coming through the door with encouraging results from the Burlington area of the riding where Mrs. Baines was often doubling the



DICK CLEMENT

returns of Mr. Reed.

He made few references to the PC squabble which had resulted in poor support from the Milton PC party faithful in this campaign for door knocking and canvassing.

Milton was considered "soft" by all three candidates, and all agreed that this election would be won and lost in Milton.

and so it turned out to be in the final analysis.

With 140 of the polls reporting Mrs. Baines had 9,026 votes to Mr. Reed's 9,607.

"We're creeping up, we're creeping up," Mr. Clement said but she was unable to make up the final 494 votes which made the difference in the Ontario 32nd election.



Long night: It was a long evening for NDP candidate Chris Cutler as he watched his party lose votes in the riding. The Rockton native says he'll back for the next election.



Talking it over: Discussing the evening's results with Cutler is his campaign manager Tom Moore. A provincial swing from the NDP to the PCs given as the reason for the poor results of Cutler in Halton-Burlington.