

# The Canadian Champion

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MILTON, ONTARIO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1975

Second Section

## A quick look at 1975

### Happenings that made news

#### JANUARY

Milton's new arena on Thompson Rd. was officially opened in fine style with the Heinola Midgets from Finland playing against Milton's Jim Snow Jets before a crowd of 1,600.

Russell Clements rang the new year in at the traditional Dec. 31 bell ringing ceremony. The well known and extremely popular senior citizen died later in the year. The COLUC study (Central Ontario Urban Complex) surfaced and provided an early threat to Milton's plans to extend industrial development north of Highway 401. The report was prepared by high ranking bureaucrats and basically it said the provincial government was in danger of losing what benefit could come from the Toronto Centred Region Plan. The report told the provincial government to either abandon the TCR concept of abide by it. A number of government decisions miti-



**JUDY ALEXANDER**  
Troubled times

three of her four years on the board left to serve. Mrs. Johnson is an advertising copywriter with The Champion.

Realtor Gus Goutouski took over as president of Milton Chamber of Commerce from merchant Emmerson McCready.

#### FEBRUARY

Trustees on Halton Board of Education ruffled a few feathers in the region when they voted themselves a 120 percent pay raise, bringing their stipends up to \$6,600 and the salary of the chairman up to \$9,600.

Land use policies hit the news in a big way and Halton farmers found themselves smack in the middle of things. The Ontario Federation of Agriculture came out in favor of what amounts to a land freeze. The policies enunciated by OFA president Gordon Hill drew some support from this area, but opposition came from many quarters. Scorn was heaped on Hill and the executive members of the Ontario and Halton Federation from those who could not support the policy. That policy is still very much an issue.

Winterfest '75 went off with a minimal number of hitches and provided fun for hundred of Milton residents.

Milton Rotary Club hosted Timmy and Whipper Billy Watson at a special fund-raising dinner to support crippled children. The dinner raised \$2,500 and the club's goal for the entire campaign was \$5,000.

Town council acquired the long wanted Kernighan property at a cost of \$220,000. That property in conjunction with the property at Rotary Park and the parkette on Martin St. provides the town with public land on three sides of the pond.

George Kerr of Burlington resigned from his post as Solicitor General in the provincial cabinet after being drawn into the "harbortgate" scandal. In time Kerr was vindicated from any misdeeds and his status as a cabinet minister was restored.

#### MARCH

Milton Council refused Scotch Block Parks a permit to develop a camp ground in Nassagaweya. The case eventually went to court with the town winning its case.

Halton Human Services Council named Nancy McPherson as the council's

facilitator. Miss McPherson and the council have until June to finish the job of coordinating existing human services in the region and identifying areas where duplication can be avoided.

Work got underway at the new \$2,500,000 expansion at Milton Mall. The project is still under construction.

Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur rejected an offer from Ontario Liberal Leader Bob Nixon to run for the Liberals in Halton-Burlington.

John Tonelli signed a contract with Houston Aeros of the World Hockey Association for half a million dollars over three years. That contract became the subject of court cases in months to follow. Eventually appeals by the Toronto Marlboros were dismissed and Tonelli's contract upheld.

#### APRIL

Julian Reed continued his long fight to keep Norval School open.

Don Toletzka was honored on his retirement after serving 33 years as a volunteer fireman.

The question of censorship became a big issue at Halton Board of Education. The board was subjected to heavy criticism from Halton Renaissance and some spin-off ratepayers groups for allowing books some parents felt to be unfit in the schools.

The South Esquering Ratepayers Association made it

clear there was a definite split in the farming community. That association differed from the OFA when it protested any legislation that would freeze agricultural holdings.

#### MAY

Jim Snow announced his decision to run in a new Oakville riding, not the Halton-Burlington riding in which he resides. Georgetown resident



**JULIAN REED**  
Our new MPP

George Gray was the first to throw his hat in as a Tory candidate in Halton-Burlington. He lost the nomination to educator Gary Dawkins, who in turn lost the election to Liberal Julian Reed.

Sandy Gunn was crowned Miss Milton District High School at the annual prom. Mrs. E. Wicklund was named Acting Director of Nursing at Milton District Hospital.

W. A. "Wicked Willie" Johnson threw his hat into the political ring and won the NDP nomination.

A murder-suicide took the lives of two men in Nassagaweya. The bodies were found at the farmhouse by the parents of one of the men.



**GEORGE KERR**  
"Harbortgate" charges



SANTA CLAUS PARADE in late November was a highlight of the year. It featured community-wide participation, plenty of floats and bands, and played to a record crowd.

The grand old man of the Esquering politics died at the age of 84. George Currie had served in municipal politics for 44 years.

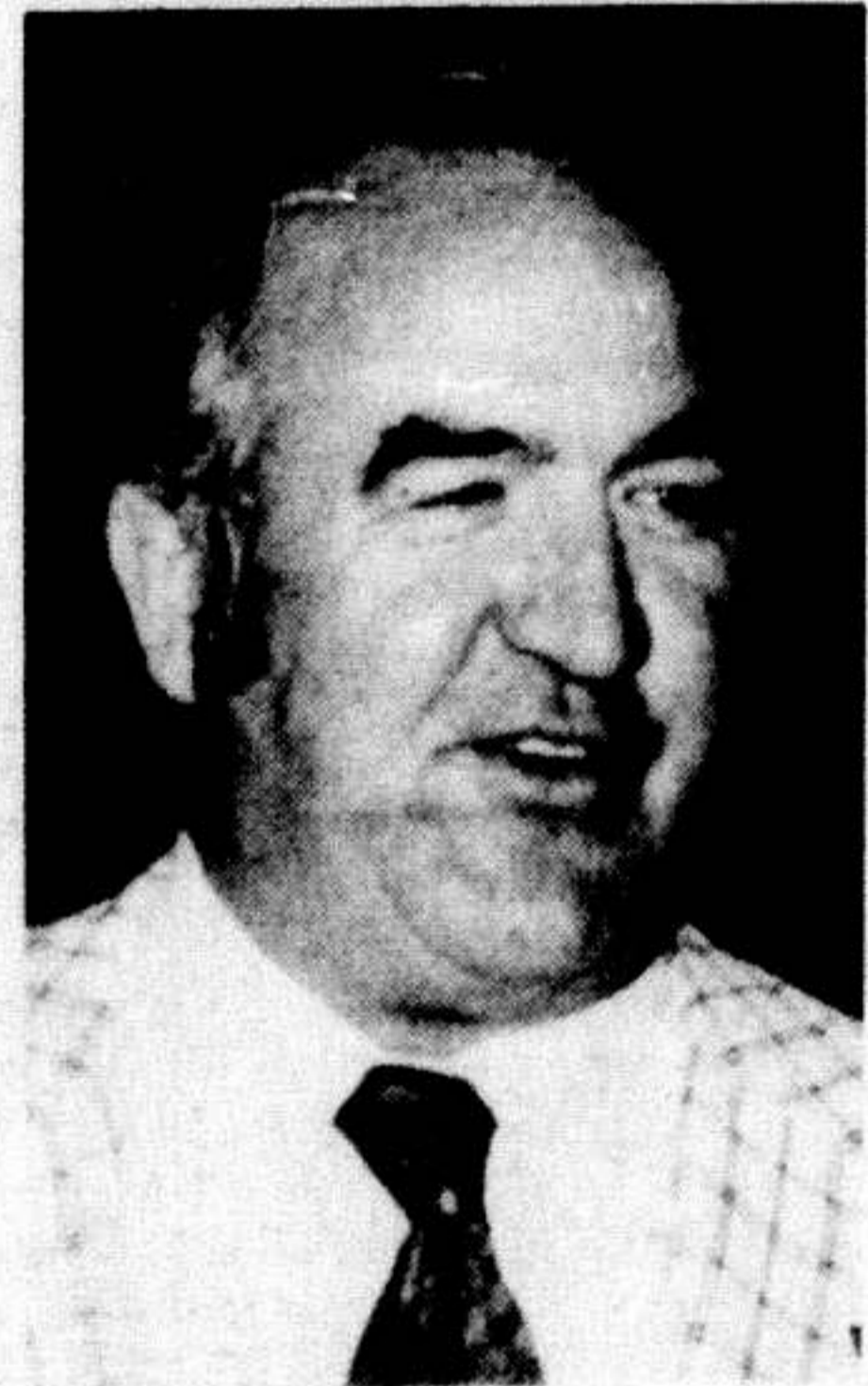
#### JUNE

Niagara Escarpment Controls were imposed on a stretch of the escarpment running a distance of 420 miles. Those regulations became the topic of great controversy as landowners felt their land had been downzoned and many were angry because they would not be compensated.

After an appeal by Acton trustee Tom Watson, Halton Board of Education revised its priority list for construction of new high schools. The effect of the motion would put a new school in Acton on the list for 1977 and bump construction of the Milton school back to 1978.

Milton Council reiterated its earlier stand in opposition to development of two new cities in Halton region. Council has continued to argue for an enlarged Milton, rather than developing a new centre in North Oakville.

After being closed for several months, Spancrete



**JIM SNOW**  
Now Oakville MPP

Ltd. sold its Milton plant to Frankel Structural Steel at a reported price of \$1,200,000. Jim Singleton attended his last meeting as Director of Education for the Halton Board of Education. He was replaced by Emmerson Lavender who had been in training for the position for some time.

#### JULY

Milton Council finally set the mill rate, calling for increased taxes of some eight to 15 per cent for ratepayers. For the second year in a row, tax bills were late owing to transitional problems.

Arthur J. Fuller was named family court judge replacing Judge Ken Langdon who had served in that capacity for several years.

Fire demolished the rear of the plant owned and operated by Krohnert Manufacturing. The fire put the firm out of production for several weeks.

News of the sale of Camp bellville Lions Club Hall to the town leaked out after being discussed in secret



THE POSTAL STRIKE ranks among the "worst" news of 1975. The 40-day disruption of service affected practically everybody.

meetings. The publicity triggered several debates in council. Ratepayer Shirley Sims demanded full disclosure of the arrangements for the purchase of the building.

The publicity generated from the sale of the hall angered the mayor and some members of council. At one point a resolution was put before the council demanding that The Canadian Champion disclose the name of the individual or individuals who leaked the information. It was well into September before all of the details of the sale were finally made public. The purchase concluded in the fall.

Official opening ceremonies were held for Maplehurst Regional Detention Centre and the centre was held up as the province's most modern facility in the field of correctional affairs.

#### AUGUST

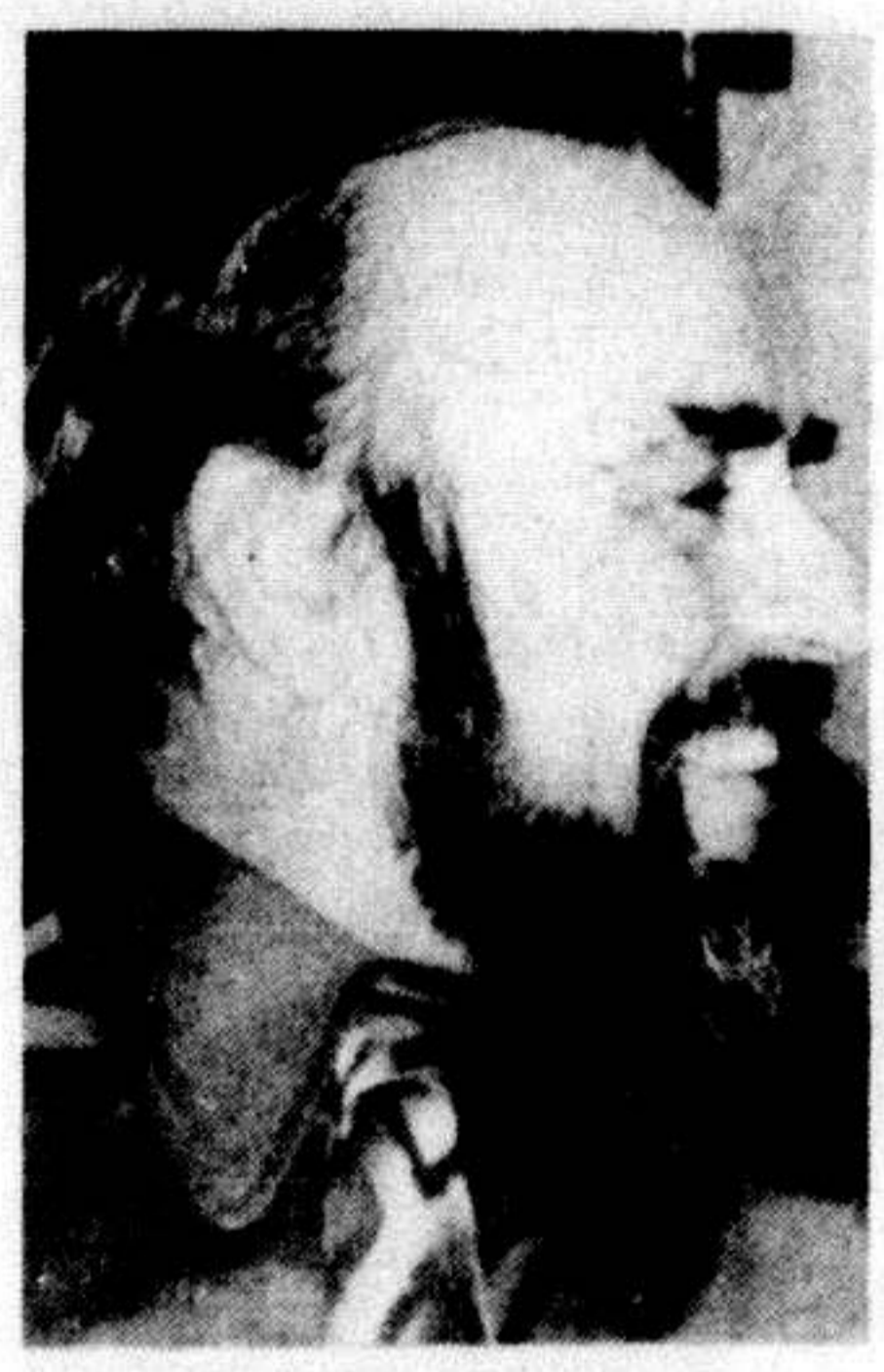
Construction of the Ontario Sports Training centre got underway at Bronte.

Councillor Jim Watson made headlines when he installed a swimming pool at his home without a building permit or a Niagara Escarpment Commission permit. Since that time the commission has revised its ruling and swimming pools no longer require escarpment permits.

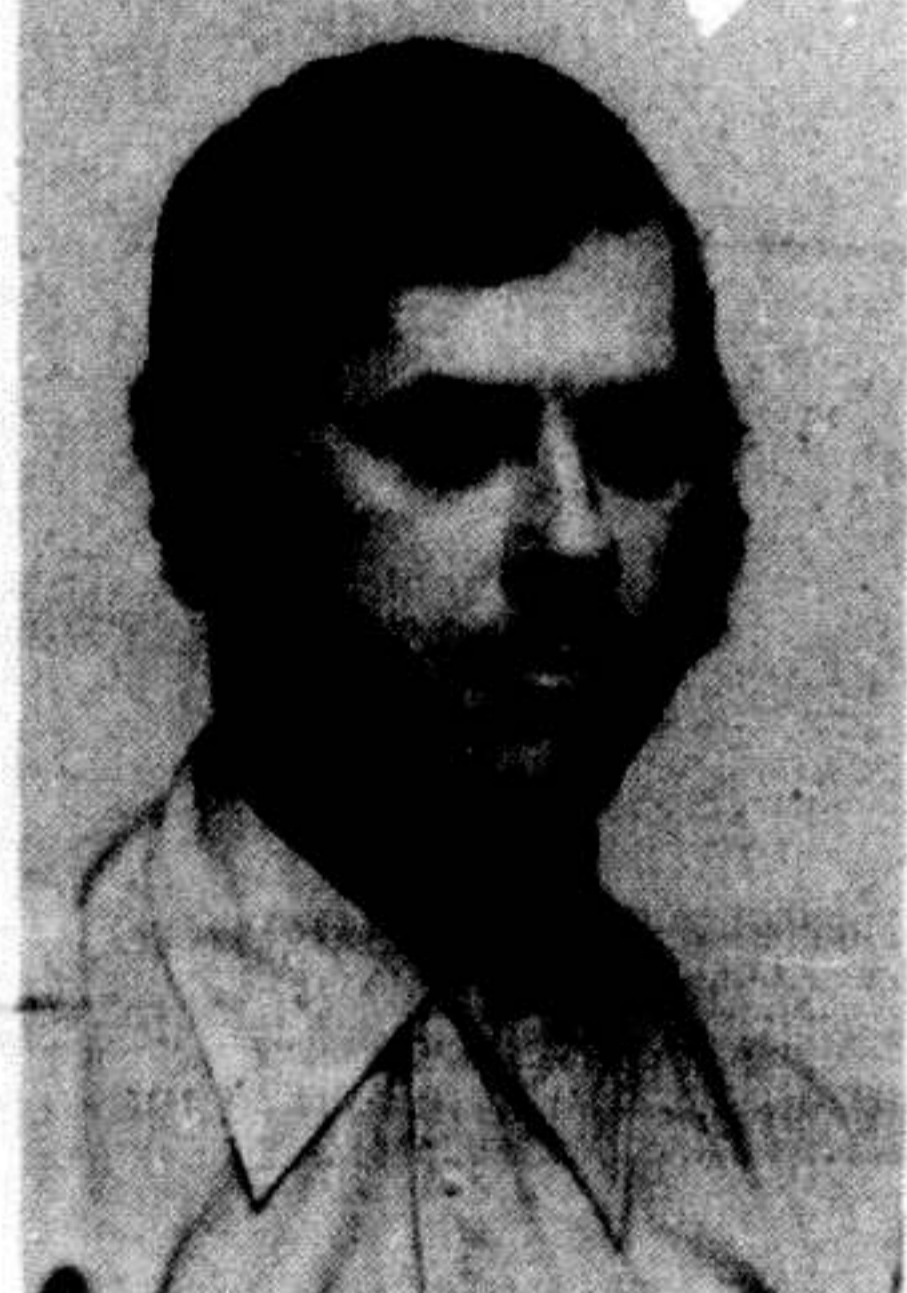
Former Halton MP Terry O'Connor found himself once again involved in federal politics when he accepted the post as Flora MacDonald's



**SANDY GUNN**  
Miss MDHS



**WICKED WILLIE**  
Was NDP candidate



**JIM WATSON**  
Controversial pool

campaign manager in her federal PC leadership bid. Halton Hills and Regional Councillor Len Cox died at age 56 after suffering a heart attack. He formerly represented Esquering.

#### SEPTEMBER

The annual Steam-Era was carried out in a sea of mud as rains set in Friday and continued for most of the weekend. A hardy bunch the steam buffs weren't to be put off, however.

The Ontario Agricultural Museum at Kelso official opening drew close to 1,000 people to the museum. Three provincial cabinet ministers spoke at the opening.

Marjorie Powys took a leave of absence from her job as a teacher at Milton District High School to devote full time to municipal politics.

Mrs. Powys had earlier indicated she would have to quit one or the other, due to conflicting schedules.

Milton Council held the first of several public meetings to discuss plans for an 1,800-acre industrial park north of Highway 401. Council has yet to vote on the official plan amendment.

Brian Brady assumed his duties as administrator of Milton District Hospital, taking over from Ron Woods who left to take a job in Toronto.

September 18 election results saw NORTH Halton elect a Liberal to Queen's park for the first time in many years. Julian Reed narrowly defeated PC Gary Dawkins and NDP Bill Johnson.

Ron Harris announced plans to leave Milton. Mr. Harris served for several years on town and regional council, Milton Chamber of Commerce and Milton Public School Board as well as working with a number of community groups over the years.

Mayor Anne MacArthur was named woman of the month by the Oakville Zonta Chapter.

Prominent lawyer Arthur Maloney was named Ontario's Ombudsman when the new post was created and he was installed in office late in October. He has a home on

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**JIM SINGLETON**  
Director of Ed. retires

## PC leadership convention

### Fran Baines tells why she supports Fraser

#### A special report

By Bob Burt

Fran Baines takes her politics seriously. For the past two years she has been clipping newspaper reports and reading speeches about and by Tories who have indicated a desire to be the next Federal Conservative Leader.

In an interview the Georgetown woman discussed the direction she feels the country should go and the man she feels best equipped to take it there.

She is one of several Halton residents who will be among the 2,600 delegates sharing in the task of selecting a replacement for Robert Stanfield.

Unlike many delegates who will flood into the nation's capital, or as close as they can get to it, Fran has made a commitment.

#### A "serious event"

Fran looks to John Fraser, an experienced British Columbia MP to turn the tide for the Federal Tories. "I've been watching since 1974, hoping I would have the opportunity to be involved. This is a serious event for our party and as a Tory, I hope it will be a serious event for the country."

"I've been reading copies of speeches for some time and taking a hard look at making a first choice. I'll work for John Fraser."

"Our delegation has met candidates on a few occasions now. Some blunt questions are being asked but there aren't as many blunt answers."

"The size of the government and the amount of government spending are the questions that keep coming up. There is a lot of concern about law and order as well."

"Governments have an increasing control over people's lives. A government has

to be tough and prepared to set controls that will be unpopular," she said.

#### Don't take initiative

Fran recognizes the need for government to be involved in a lot of areas but pointed out the dangers.

"A government and society that won't help those who can't help themselves is not much of a society—but some of the controls and restriction take away the initiative for people to do things themselves."

"If people can sit back and know they'll be taken care of, it takes away the desire and initiative to take care of one's self."

Fran says idealistically that John Fraser can go all the way. "I believe he is what the country needs." A first choice has to be made but I'm realistic enough to know I



"HE'S WHAT the country needs."

could have to make a second choice."

She describes Fraser as a very determined and positive person. "His determination and directness appeal to me. You can count on a direct answer if you ask him a question, even if the answer is, 'I don't know.'"

#### One failing

Fran says the inability to say "I don't know" is the failing of many politicians. She says she doesn't feel the average voter expects politicians to have an answer for every question. Those who talk around the question miss the point, she says.

"There just are not a lot of easy answers. It's not an easy time for governments to govern."

"Trudeau has no lack of intelligence but what he does lack is warmth. John has that. He appeals on a personal basis."

"I think we need someone who can appeal to more than the sophisticated people or the top 10 per cent of the population."

There again, she feels Fraser can fill the bill. "Life hasn't been a silver spoon for John. He comes from a middle class family. When he graduated from law school he had pack horses and ran a pack train until he paid off his debts."

#### 8-10 are serious

Fraser ran in the 1968 election and was defeated, ran again and won in 1972 and was re-elected with a fantastic majority in 1972. Fran said, noting that British Columbia is a province where the PCs haven't done well.

Of the 18 declared candidates for the leadership, Fran regards eight or 10 of them as serious candidates but few of them have the experience in the party that Fraser offers, she says.



"I'VE MADE a first choice."

"His experience in the party includes President of the BC youth organization and National YPC president. He has served as labor critic and environment critic. In all he has been in the party for 26 or 28 years and we don't have many people in the house with that kind of experience."

Keeping in mind the vast geographical area and the many regional differences in Canada, a leader from outside English speaking Ontario has certain advantages, Fran feels.

"You need someone from outside the industrialized area of Ontario to realize the real differences that exist. You find a lot of the same problems but there are many problems Ontario people don't know about and don't understand. The west feels just as alienated from English speaking Ontario as Quebec does."

#### Regional feelings

"People have to have the feeling that government is for all languages and all people. It's almost impossible, but there is a feeling in the country that almost always the special attention is here (Ontario)."

"There is a lot of regional bitterness. Too often when a government does something for people in the north it is done from a lack of understanding—from our point of view."

"People in Nova Scotia say you don't understand us. We could relate better if our leader was not from Ontario."

During a six week holiday trip across Canada last summer Fran met a lot of Canadians, gained a better insight into Canadian life and had many of her personal convictions confirmed.

"Today I'd say Canada is the number one country to be living in. But we aren't really utilizing our resources or our people to the fullest."

#### Broader spectrum

"Charisma is not as important as it once was," Fran said, noting the new leader whoever he is will have to relate to a broader spectrum of the population—not just to the sophisticated level at the top.

"There is a feeling that the strong right wing people would like to turn the clock back. You can't do that. But there is a common feeling that there must be a return to some of the old time values. There's a feeling that we've gone too far with permissiveness and it's time to come back. I think all of the parties feel this."

Fran's commitment to Fraser has led her into an active role on a national level to persuade delegates that he is the man to be

the next PC leader and the next Prime Minister.

When the convention rolls around in February she will find herself working and working hard to keep track of delegates and persuading those hopefuls who drop out to swing their support behind Fraser.

#### And one for Flora

The convention slated for Feb. 19-22 will be held in Ottawa. For the Halton-Burlington Tory president, it will be her second federal leadership convention.

While she is busy promoting Fraser, another prominent Halton Tory is working around the clock and travelling across the country doing what he can do to promote Flora MacDonald as the new leader. Former MP Terry O'Connor has been working in that capacity for about two months now.



"OUR LEADER should be someone outside English-speaking Ontario."