

# Lively Hurlburt Household Provides The Background For A Busy Family Campaign

By JANICE MAWHINNEY

When you knock at the door of the Hurlburt home in Willowdale, the door is opened by a little girl in a bright pink dress. She smiles and says nothing, but invites you in with a gesture. After shyly inspecting you for a moment, she runs to get her daddy.

Gordon Hurlburt, Progressive Conservative nominee for the federal riding of York North, appears at the top of the stairs and invites you in. Since he is finishing his supper, you settle down in the living room to wait with the little girl, who tells you she is Cathy, and she is eight years old and in grade three. Cathy and her fat grey and white cat, Jingles, bounce around the sofa, unable to keep still for even a minute. Their energy and activity seems somehow incongruous

in the calm, muted greens of the living room.

Soon Cathy's mother hurries into the room, moves you to a more comfortable chair and sits down near it, on the sofa. Pat Hurlburt has short dark hair and a quick smile. She is wearing a smart pink suit and matching jewelry.

Cathy goes outside to play with her two younger sisters and Gord Hurlburt comes in and seats himself beside his wife. "We're very encouraged by the response we've had from the campaign so far," he tells you.

"We've been living here ten years," Mrs. Hurlburt says, "but we'll soon be moving to our new house — located in the riding, near Cummer Avenue and Leslie Street." "I represent that area for council, and have for years," her husband adds. He is sen-

ior member of the Borough of North York Board of control and acting mayor.

How is all the flurry of the election affecting their three daughters?

"I tried to explain the idea of Parliament to them the other day," says Mrs. Hurlburt, "and I think they could grasp it fairly well."

"This is our fourth election," Controller Hurlburt points out. He has been a member of North York Council for six years.

They tell you about the many coffee parties they have been to recently, meetings with people in different neighborhoods to discuss the issues.

"It's like one long question and answer period," explains Mr. Hurlburt. "It gives me the opportunity to tell them what I think about the issues."

"And it gives them the op-

portunity to assess you as a candidate," his wife continues. "There aren't just Conservatives at the coffee parties. We get some good, worthwhile questions from members of the other parties."

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Elections are nothing new to the Hurlburts.

"I remember when I was in training we had all the girls on one floor of the nurses' residence painting signs for Gord's campaign for the Student Administrative Council at University of Toronto," Mrs. Hurlburt reminisces.

Besides serving on this council for two years, Mr. Hurlburt was elected to the Hart House Debates Committee while he was in a civil engineering course at the university. He graduated in 1955.

"I've always been aligned with the Progressive Conservatives," he recalls. "Even in my university days I worked for them."

"I decided it would be necessary to run for MP when Robert Winters was defeated for the Liberal leadership, and he didn't accept the confidence of the new Trudeau administration."

"To me, Winters represents the responsible business community. The question is whether we want a continuation of the kind of government we've had for five years, or whether we need a new one."

Controller Hurlburt finds that his ideas and Robert Stanfield's ideas coincide to a great extent. "I'm amazed at how my thoughts align with his," he tells you. "In my nomination speech May

6, I proposed a department of housing and urban affairs. On May 31, Stanfield proposed the same thing."

He explains why his views on the farmer's problem seem to fall in somewhat with the Liberal stand. "From the practical experience point of view, I feel that the only solution is the expansion of markets, which will also promote world peace."

"For an individual member to be worth anything at all, he must have his own ideas. I don't think representative government would work any other way, and I would argue for my ideas."

In that case, could he see himself as a Conservative Ralph Cowan?

"No," he answers. "I would accept the authority of the party."

Mr. Hurlburt is 35, comparatively young to be seeking the office of MP. "I think politics has become a young man's business," he states. "Politics makes demands that young men can best fulfill."

With his wide experience in municipal politics, he feels he is ready to tackle the federal field. "I've always been interested in federal politics," he affirms. "At the federal level I believe I can make my greatest contribution to this community."

"I know the problems as they affect the urban and rural areas."

Controller Hurlburt operates a construction company in Willowdale. He doesn't think his business and his political life will interfere seriously with one another. "I've always been able to

run the company with the assistance of my employees," he explains.

Will the people in the York North riding vote for the party or the man? Mrs. Hurlburt leans forward eagerly.

"We feel that if a person votes for a representative and gets the best representative in the area, you'll have a strong Parliament; if not, you don't know what Ottawa will be like," she answers.

Mr. Hurlburt goes to answer the phone and returns with the news that he must leave immediately to speak at a meeting.

It seems a good opportunity to ask Mrs. Hurlburt if she has not felt any touch of Trudeauania, and if she thinks the ladies in this riding will be influenced by the personalities of the party

leaders. "I don't consider the personality the major part of what we look for in a politician," she replies thoughtfully. "The dependability, the integrity and the stability of a man in government are what counts. He must be dedicated to his country."

This kind of dedication encompasses more than just the individual. "It's a big job for a man to be a representative in parliament," she points out. "The whole family must be dedicated."

After a cup of coffee, she sees you to the door. This time, all three little girls are there, and they wave as you step outside. The last thing you notice as you pull away down the street is that the car in the next-door neighbor's driveway is covered with Hurlburt stickers.



York North's Progressive Conservative candidate Gordon Hurlburt relaxes in the living room of his Willowdale home with three of his staunchest supporters: his charming wife, Pat, and their three little girls, Heather, Cathy and Susan.

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