



P.C. William Hodgson

Inflation fight supported

YORK NORTH—Bill Hodgson, York North M.P.P., in the last legislature came out this week in a strong support of the Davis Government's recent moves to battle inflation. Mr. Hodgson was high in his praise of the Premier's decision to drop the Provincial sales tax on both North American manufactured cars and imported models. "The Federal Liberals only answer to the serious inflation facing this nation was to add an extra 10 cent tax to the cost of every gallon of gas. Premier Davis has frozen the gas price for 90 days, a move followed by four other provinces. Mr. Hodgson's public career has included service as a school trustee, municipal councillor, including seven years as the Reeve of King Township and Warden of York County. "I have always endeavoured to give the problems of our citizens close personal attention." Mr. Hodgson was first elected to the Legislature in 1967.

He supports Premier Davis' stand on law and order, and gun controls. The government is ready to act to control the indiscriminate sale of firearms. Turning to the provision of health services to the people of Ontario, the Conservative candidate emphasized that the best health and hospital care to be found anywhere in Canada is right here in Ontario.

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Liberal Margaret Britnell

'Deficit causes inflation'

YORK NORTH—In five years, the Bill Davis government has more than doubled the net provincial debt, incurred since Confederation. York North Liberal candidate Margaret Britnell charged this week. "Since becoming premier, Bill Davis' government has spent \$5.3 billion more than it has taken in in taxes," the King Township mayor said. "That means the taxpayers of this province in 1975 are paying \$1.9 million per day in interest alone. "Paying the interest on Ontario's debt is the fourth largest expenditure in the provincial budget after health, education and social services." Mayor Britnell pointed out that deficit spending is a major cause of inflation. "When you pay more for less, that's inflation. When you pay more for nothing — which is virtually what interest is all about — that's inflation at its worst. "Because the provincial budget is such a significant factor in the economy, deficit spending can stimulate the prices of all goods upwards." The Ontario budget for 1975 is \$10.1 billion, she noted.

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public relations firm, was paid \$3,000 to handle the publicity when eight ministers in the resources group of the cabinet held two days of meetings in Belleville this year. "This expenditure was made despite the fact that, collectively, these ministers already had close to 200 public relations people on staff, at a cost of about \$4.5 million." "That's about three times bigger than General Motors of Canada, six times bigger than International Nickel, seven times bigger than Gulf Oil Canada and eight times bigger than Stelco." Instead of "stoking the inflationary furnace, the government should turn the heat down and cut back on many of its wasteful spending programs," the mayor suggested. "Millions are being spent, for instance, on advertising and public relations to promote and bolster the image of the Davis regime," she said. "For example, a private

NDP Bob Lewis

Conservation his main platform

YORK NORTH—York North N.D.P. candidate Bob Lewis has made conservation of York Region's country character a main plank in his election platform. "I promise to be a voice for conservation. Not someone whose only word is 'no' but a moderate and practical defender of our countryside and small towns. There are no 'ifs' and 'ands', and no 'buts'. It is more than a promise. It is a pledge—the character of York North will be protected." "This does not mean a blanket opposition to growth," Mr. Lewis maintains. "No growth at all means stagnation which would also be undesirable. Our own housing and employment requirements demand some growth. But we need planned and coordinated growth, not haphazard expansion." Lewis, who made conservation and ecology the bases of his campaign in the 1971 election when he placed second behind the Conservative winner, believes they are even more vital today. "We're being threatened on all sides. I don't think it is some great devious plot but that doesn't mean it isn't happening. By the time the next provincial election comes, we'll already have a major international airport to our immediate east and it will inevitably force all kinds of industrial expansion into our area." "The 'big pipe' will be well underway and that too will increase the pressure for more expansion." "The Ministry of Housing will continue to insist that the regional government accept more and more housing development." "In short, by the next election, it may be too late to put on the brakes." "The forces will be too strong to slow down and we'll be faced with a future of virtual city from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe." "If I wanted to live in Toronto, I'd move there. But I don't want to live there. And I don't want it to move here."

"A New Democratic Party government will protect this area. But, regardless of whatever party forms the government, I promise to defend York North. I will speak forcefully, responsibly, and positively."

New headquarters for NDP hopeful

YORK NORTH—The York North New Democratic Party has opened its committee rooms for the provincial election. The office is at 12 Yonge St. in Aurora and is best known as the former home of the Aurora Banner. "The telephone number is 727-4252. Candidate Bob Lewis remarked that people were coming in to offer help even before the office was opened. "It was amazing. There was a sign in the window while the place was being cleaned up and all sorts of people came in off the street." Mr. Lewis was asked why there is only one committee room. "We

don't like to waste our money," he said. "And I like to think that a party that doesn't waste its own money develops good habits when it comes to spending the taxpayers' money. People from outside Aurora can phone us collect and we'll see that they get whatever information they want. We can provide the same service at a lot lower cost." "The same philosophy of watching pennies predominates at the N.D.P. sign shop on Bathurst Street. Here party volunteers print the election signs that appear on supporters' lawns and along the roadsides." "We do our own signs for less than half the cost of commercial printing," said Mr. Lewis. Besides, it is also a social occasion when a group of friends can get together for a few hours and have a good time. Elections are serious enough as it is; we need activities like this to keep the fun in."

Mr. Lewis referred to a recent statement by Toronto Conservative candidate, Mel Lastman. Speaking about the new provincial election expenses legislation, Mr. Lastman said it left him wondering "which law to break". Did he not pay some of his bills or should he break the law and raise more money than permitted?

Britnell says valuable farm land must be saved

YORK NORTH—Preservation of prime farmland and a voluntary farm income insurance plan are two major planks in the Ontario Liberal Party's platform. York North Liberal candidate Margaret Britnell announced this week. "As part of an overall land-use plan for Ontario, we should preserve class 1 and 2 agricultural lands and, where necessary,

provide compensation for lost development rights to landowners whose property rights are restricted to meet this planning objective," the King Township mayor said. The Liberals would also "establish a voluntary farm income insurance plan to guarantee a viable income to full-time farmers who are prepared to enter into the plan and contribute premiums. "When market prices fall below the established cost of production, a make-up payment would come from the insurance plan."

The mayor pointed out, however, that "unlike a program for subsidy, this plan would provide insurance only against the failure of a policy which will be directed towards having the consumer pay the legitimate cost of a quality food supply. "It's time we started to realize that without our farmers and our food supplies, there would be no Ontario," Mayor Britnell commented, "and our farmers are tired of having their interests ploughed under by a government more concerned with providing rich harvests for its

development oriented friends. "If Davis isn't plunking some development right on top of rich farmland, he's running Hydro wires or freeways over it to serve some development somewhere else." The mayor pointed out that a recent study by York Region's planning department shows that farm acreage in York is seriously declining. "In a world where famine kills millions every year, it's madness to cover our valuable farmland with asphalt."

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