

Former MP Attewell may run for seat at Queen's Park

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Correspondent

Bill Attewell, former MP for Markham-Whitchurch-Stouffville, has declared his intention to consider seeking the provincial nomination for the Markham riding should present MPP Donald Cousens decide to run for mayor of Markham.

"Running provincially is something I am thinking about if Don (Cousens) decides not to run," said Attewell. "Should Don seek the mayor's job I would seriously consider it."

However, Lee Hoover, Provincial Riding Association president, said there has been no formal mention of Attewell's intention. "I have not heard anything from Bill. He told me that he had not made up his mind," said Hoover, but added "Bill has a great deal of support

in the community so I would love to have him as a candidate."

Hoover is convinced that a Harris majority will be the next government in Ontario and that Cousens would be minister in the cabinet.

However, the political web becomes even more tangled with the possibility of Stouffville's Joe Sherron, who ran for the Reform Party in the federal election, also thinking of a provincial seat.

Sherron said he has not ruled out the possibility of running provincially under the Progressive Conservative auspices. "Right now I am not ruling out any options. If I saw great support I would seriously consider running as a Progressive Conservative; but right now there is not that support."

Sherron also hinted at the possible creation of a provincial

Reform Party. The primary concern over a provincial Reform movement hinges on the fact that two right of centre parties could split the conservative vote in the province resulting in a possible Liberal victory --

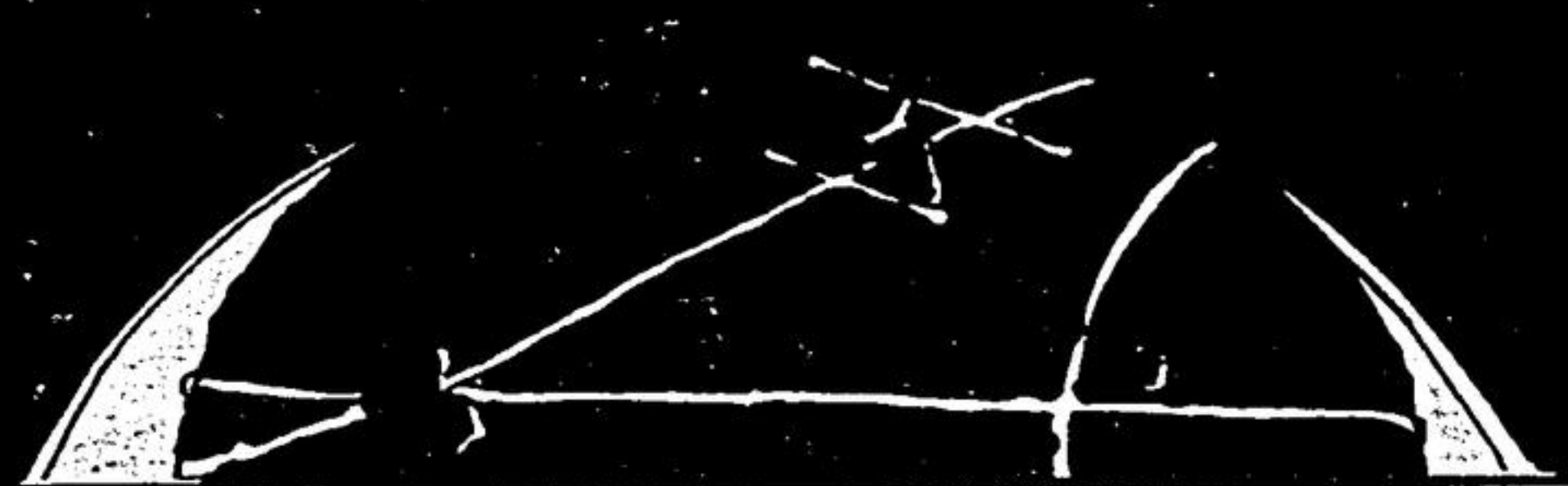
much like what happened federally.

Hoover agreed that it was important not to split the vote and said the Tories were working closely with Reformers towards the upcoming provin-

cial election. He added he was not aware of Sherron's intent to consider running but would not rule him out as a viable Conservative candidate.

The provincial NDP's mandate runs out in 1995.

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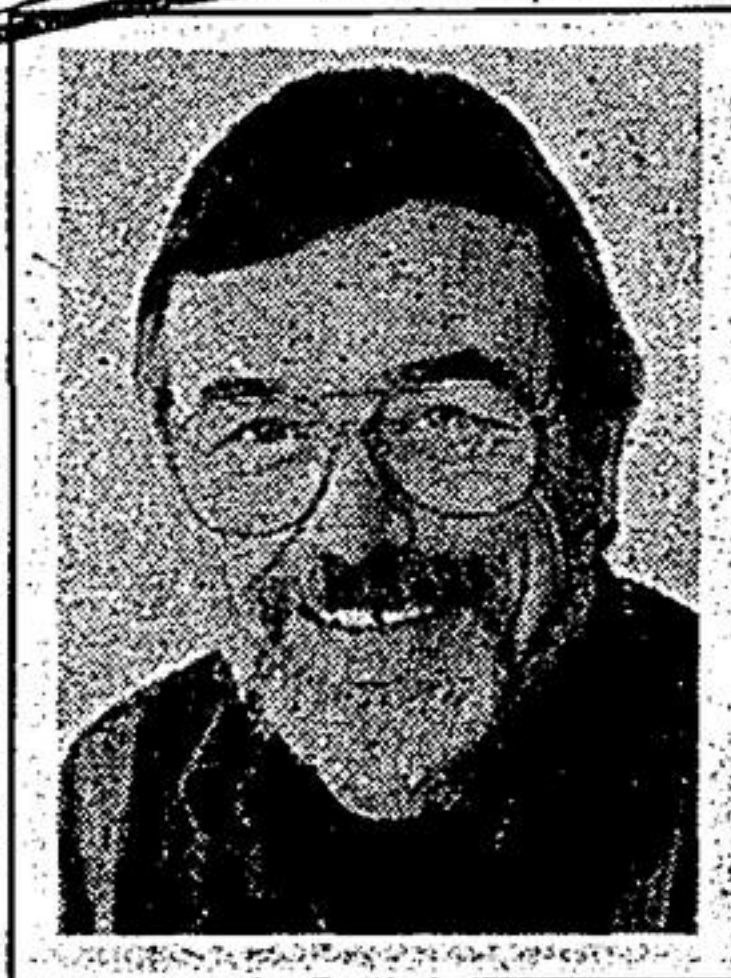
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