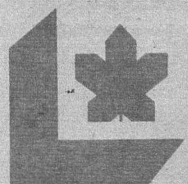


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ELECTION FINAL



**the
grit**

VOICE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

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A Message from Gordon Gibson

Leader of The Liberal Party
in British Columbia

My priorities in this election are simple:

- work to defeat the NDP;
- work to end polarization and the politics of fear in our province;
- present a positive, straightforward platform and a solid alternative for the people of B.C. in this election.

How do all these things fit together?

First of all, to defeat the NDP.

The current government has to go. It has worked out its popularity and confidence with astonishing rapidity. It made some useful and long overdue social reforms after entering office, but it has been downhill ever since in economic terms.

Look at some of the indicators:

- our worst year ever of labour strife — far worse than the rest of Canada. Almost two million man days lost.
- new investment in the forest and mining industries at a standstill.
- unemployment at an all-time high.
- massive unproductive government expenditures.
- an unsatisfactory welfare situation and too many people taking more out of the barrel than they are putting in.

These things start to undermine a society, Mr. Barrett can wave his arms and tell jokes all he likes. The government has done some positive things — how could they avoid it, spending \$3 billion of our money this year? Over \$1,300 per man, woman and child in B.C. But they can't hide the economic rot setting in, as people keep arriving in B.C. and money keeps leaving.

The Liberal Party is part of the solution to that problem of the NDP. We will take votes from them, and that is the way to defeat a government — you take their votes.

You don't beat a socialist government by forming the wagons into a circle on the right and stirring up hatreds. You beat them by going into the trenches where the war for votes is being fought, on the left and in the centre, and that is where the Liberal Party is operating.

As the party of the centre, we can take socialist votes. That's not a theory; it was proven in the last federal election in B.C. where the Liberal Party took most of the former NDP seats. We can do the same kind of job provincially.

If the Liberal Party disappeared, a majority of the votes we hold would go left. We aren't going to let that happen. We are going to expand the 185,000 votes we had at the last election and take from the left.

As a second priority, the Liberal Party will work to end polarization in B.C. politics.

Polarization is that situation where you are told that you have to vote for one group because the others are so bad and they are the only alternative. The Social Credit and the NDP both use this argument. It is electoral blackmail. And it's a familiar cry "You'll have us — or doom". That is no choice for B.C.

Polarization between the left and the right has now been at work for two generations in Britain. Quite simply, it has destroyed that once great country. When government changes lead to massive swings in public policy, no one can plan for the future, so they spend their time squabbling over the limited wealth of the present. Investment dries up. Productivity declines. Labour strife rises. Sound familiar?

There is another way, and it is the way of the centre. The next election will be the first in a generation in B.C. when the electorate will have a real chance to go for the centre, because the two old extreme antagonists are so evenly balanced. At the centre, the Liberal Party will, at a minimum, hold the balance of power, and we will use it to good effect.

We must end this kind of electoral blackmail forever. I and the Liberal Party pledge as a **very first item of business** in any Legislature where we hold the government or the balance of power, the

introduction of electoral reform — the return of the transferrable ballot to B.C. In any contest, nothing is more basic than the rules, and the voting rules we have in B.C. were designed for two candidate situations. They are out of date.

No political party uses the system for its own elections that we make the public put up with. All use some variation of the transferrable ballot, where names are generally dropped off and preferences registered until finally someone has an **absolute majority** — over 50 percent.

When the French reformed their election laws in 1958, they had chaos in politics and their economy — less than two decades later they are a stable and prosperous country. It is just that important.

WHAT WOULD A LIBERAL BALANCE OF POWER ACHIEVE?

The party holding the balance of power can bargain for the things that matter. It can bring about moderation. It can restore responsible government.

Holding the balance of power, your Liberal representative in Victoria would work to achieve

- Improved co-operation between provincial and municipal governments on land assembly. A cutting through of red tape at the municipal level to speed up land development and building. Direct incentives to the private sector to build thousands of units of low cost housing.
- Continuous improvement in the climate between labour and management to ensure better labour relations and to do away with destructive negotiation by confrontation.
- Restore confidence in the province as a good place to do business thereby encouraging investment in our basic industries. Accelerate resource development in order to provide more jobs and a larger tax base for the province.
- Redistribution of limited education dollars. For example, universities are now spending two to four times as much per student as are the community colleges. That is probably out of line, and should be redressed in favour of the colleges. Increased resources should be shifted from the later years of education to earlier years, particularly kindergarten and pre-school but also elementary. These are the formative years of learning achievement and should receive the emphasis.
- Progressive denticare and pharmacare for children. An examination with all members of the medical community to find ways of reducing costs since these are rapidly getting out of line with the rest of the world.
- **Social Programs**
 - generous programs for those unable to help themselves.
 - minimum help for those able to help themselves.
 - no help for single employables under 40 when jobs are available anywhere in the province.
 - incentives for the working poor through progressive increase of the minimum wage and special family supplements when necessary.
 - expanded day care under a tough needs test; others to pay.
 - expansion of family planning services.
 - introduction of intermediate care facilities on the Alberta model; i.e. provincial subsidy to patients in private homes up to government standards, thereby releasing acute care beds used for this purpose now.

YOU CAN HELP TO RESTORE BALANCE IN GOVERNMENT

In many parts of the world, local governments are suffering because of lack of funds and the centralizing power of big governments. We would work to reverse this trend with better distribution of funds back to the local level where they are needed and a more responsive reaction to the needs of local government.

A vote for the Gibson team, is a vote for balance in government.

A vote for straight talk and common sense.



GORDON GIBSON
North Vancouver-Capilano

Born in Vancouver, Gordon Gibson was educated at UBC and the Harvard Business School. He is married to Valerie Gibson and they have three children.

An exponent of the free enterprise system, Gordon Gibson has owned and operated a small prefabricated building business, and is recognized today as a newspaper columnist, radio commentator and political and economic analyst.

Always interested in politics, he has served in various capacities in Ottawa, including executive assistant to the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

HOUSING worst in the country

As a direct result of NDP policies, the current housing situation in British Columbia is the worst in the country.

British Columbia surpassed Ontario this summer for the dubious honour of the highest "average" price for housing. Housing starts are down to a serious low, and the accommodation that is being built is either "social" housing for senior citizens and/or handicapped, with other units quite beyond the reach of ordinary people.

Rental housing is almost non-existent: the government simply must encourage the construction of rental housing.

The price of land is the key factor, which more than anything else has made it impossible for the average young couple to even contemplate buying their own home.

Changes Possible

The Liberal Party has an 8-part program, designed to change the near-disastrous housing situation in the province.

The municipal act should be changed in such ways as to encourage, and even require, faster action by councils on development applications.

Faster action must be provided for appeals on building-code requirements!

To cut down construction cost, effort must be directed towards planning site work and construction efficiencies (which in many cases will mean

working with the building trades) to ease and sort out questions of jurisdiction and technological change.

The Liberal Party would commence a program of subsidized rental housing by private developers in return for limited rent agreements, to get new rental housing on the market quickly.

The Liberal Party would make use of leased land techniques where possible and public land is available.

Cooperative housing should be fostered as one part of the solution.

A program of "growth grants" should be commenced to encourage local governments to approve developments. As it stands now, each new dwelling is costly for the host municipality in terms of new facilities, roads, sewers, parks, schools, etc. To lift the cost from the local taxpayer and spread it over the entire province, the provincial government should give a grant of \$1,000 for each new dwelling unit authorized by a municipality.

Finally, today's interest rates hit housing harder than any other sector of the economy. They must be brought down by the fight against inflation. In the meantime, the provincial government should work to strengthen the new Ottawa program of "Interest Reduction Grants".



SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES MEET AT PROVINCIAL CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS ON TUESDAY MORNING, NOV. 18th.

Reading from left to right, back row: Joe Conroy, Columbia River; Bob Tanner, Burnaby-Edmonds; Fred House, Fort George; Jev Tothill, Cowichan-Malahat; Bob Kanngiesser, North Vancouver-Seymour; Art Bates, Delta; Terence O'Grady, Victoria; Moshe Shillow, Burnaby North; Des Martin, North Peace River. Seated, front row, left to right: Armand

Foisy, Yale-Lillooet; Gordon Chambers, Vancouver South; Cecile McKinnon, Alberni; Gordon Gibson, leader of the Liberal Party in British Columbia and candidate in North Vancouver-Capilano; Jim Siemens, Vancouver Little Mountain; Norm McLaren, Comox; and George Milne, Rossland-Trail.

Liberal thoughts on Native Rights

The native peoples of B.C. number almost 5% of our populations — some 110,000 people, roughly half status and half non-status. The history of our relationships has not always been a good one, but never has the time been better for improvement than in this present election, when native representatives are taking such a prominent part, both in the forefront of political parties, in organizations, and at the voting level in constituencies around B.C. In the event of success in achieving a balance of power, now is the time for the Liberal party to press for reform in native rights in B.C.

The basic question that must eventually be resolved is that of aboriginal rights, and the role of the Liberal party of B.C. must be to bring the provincial government to the bargaining table on this issue. Both the federal government and the native people are ready, but no progress can be made without the participation of the province as custodian of the land in question. The problem is not one of cost for the provincial taxpayer, since the B.C. Liberal party takes the position that any provincial lands required in settlements must be compensated by the federal government. But the province must be at the bargaining table.

There is much to be done on all sides. The two levels of government must come to terms on their exact roles. The native peoples and their representatives must agree on their roles in the negotiations and the settlements. Extensive research, technical and legal, must be done.

Most of all, a process of education must be undertaken, to ensure that each group of native people has had a chance to consider in detail what the settlement question means to them, and to give time for the non-native community to come to understand the historical basis and equity of the claims. This will take time, but is indispensable to proper settlement.

The land question is in effect many local questions, and not one simple province wide issue.

There are some priority areas such as the cases of the Nishga and Haida peoples, and the Liberal party would establish a provincial land claims task force to look at these and other questions as they arise.

Other native grievances that fall under provincial jurisdiction must be addressed at an early date. These include full provision of provincial services, and the relationship of services exchanged between status Indian land and adjoining municipalities, as well as the opportunity of bands to administer municipal type services.

Decentralization of funding and responsibility to the local level is central to the development of native rights and native responsibility and leadership at the local level. This applies to both federal and provincial programs.

Special problems of legal services, rural housing and education, also need tackling.

The human and economic case is extremely simple: it only makes sense to cooperate in any possible way to make the native peoples of B.C. self-supporting in dignity and with the resources to do this, rather than the traditional and soul-destroying "hand out" philosophy of governments.

But the ways of achieving this will be very long and complex. They will depend on native leadership, now and forthcoming, to point the way to this future. Some accommodation will be required from the non-native community, but compared to existing conditions, it will be neither a great deal more costly or complicated — just a great deal more productive.

Native organizations have led in this fight. BCANSI went after 100% of the Burns Lake development, but the NDP held them down to 8% — but it was a start.

The UBCIC has done a tremendous amount of work and research on aboriginal title.

Various bands have fought and won the "cut-off lands" issue, and the Liberal party led that particular fight in the Legislature to assist that cause.



LIBERAL LEADER GORDON GIBSON

welcomes Fort George candidate, Fred House.

The Liberal position on Northern Development

Northern British Columbia has always attracted a highly individualistic type of person willing to leave behind the luxuries of our cities, being content with the challenges and beauty of the North. But times are changing and our northern citizens now want their fair share of the material and cultural benefits available in the southern part of our province. And if southerners want to see our population begin to be distributed more evenly throughout British Columbia, a large part of the increase in our population will have to be directed northward.

Moreover, if we are to maintain our present standard of living, our economy and material productivity must keep pace with this ever-expanding growth rate, and thus the vast resources of energy, minerals and timber in the North must be

developed and put to the benefit of all the people of British Columbia.

There is no avoiding the fact that the increased development of the North is going to be expensive, but we cannot afford not to carry it out. Fortunately, the results of this development will far outweigh the cost as the entire province begins to benefit from the new North.

To provide an incentive for British Columbians to move northward to this vast and rich area of our province, many incentives will have to be provided. These include tax incentives (through lower income and/or sales taxes); establishment of a College or University of the North at Prince George. Better transportation links are needed. These include upgraded highways in general and subsidized air services in particular.

Other incentives include a full

range of television service throughout the North, expansion of other cultural and recreational amenities; adult education; arts programs and sports centres. We must also consider the decentralization of some government departments by moving them out of Victoria and into various northern locations; with continuation of the ICBC territorial discount.

Programs of this nature (and others) will have to be provided before the fulfillment of the North's potential becomes a reality. Through the cooperation and support of all British Columbians, this great area will become an outstanding tribute to the faith of our people who have the vision, courage and skill to develop the North while preserving its heritage. The benefits of a sound and well-planned expansion of our province must include benefits to our Northern people!

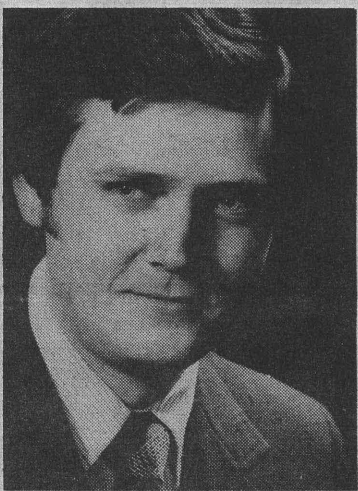
THE LIBERAL SLATE.....

(Up to



GORDON CHAMBERS
Vancouver South

Born and educated in Vancouver, Gordon graduated from U.B.C. with a B.Comm. He has acted as an economic consultant in a wide range of business activities and is recognized as an insurance specialist. Active in community affairs as well as politics, Gordon Chambers has worked with the Boy Scouts, the YMCA, Cystic Fibrosis and community service associations.



RICHARD (RICK) JOHANNSON
Vancouver South

Rick Johansson is an air traffic controller and a union councillor of the Canadian Air Traffic Control Association. Married with two children, Rick was born, raised and educated in Vancouver East. He is a former director of the Kinsmen Club of South Vancouver. Rick has been active on the political scene.



BEV BALLANTYNE
Little Mountain

Born in Vancouver, Bev Ballantyne studied at BCIT and UBC and is currently employed as a dental hygienist. She has also been most actively involved in the Coast Floating Home Society. Twenty-seven years of age, Bev is married and lives in Vancouver.



ARMAND FOISY
Yale Lillooet

Thirty years old on December 6, Armand Foisy was born in Mission. His family moved to Lillooet when he was a child and he received all his education in Lillooet where he continues to live. Armand was a school trustee until 1974 and currently works as a co-owner and mechanic at the family garage. An active sports enthusiast, Armand works with many high school students assisting in recreational activities.



CORDELIA "KITTY" MARACLE
West Vancouver-Howe Sound

Mother of 7 children and grandmother of 8, born on the "Six Nations Reserve", Brantford, Ont. Kitty moved to West Vancouver 8 years ago.

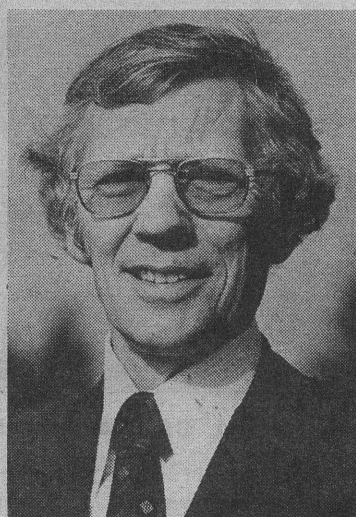
She has served on the original Vancouver Human Rights Commission and helped co-ordinate the Human Rights Conference in Quesnel.

Kitty co-chaired the conference on "Multiculturalism in a Bi-Lingual Society", organized by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

Kitty owned and operated the "Longhouse", the first Native Indian Craft Shop in Vancouver.

Involved in Native organizations across Canada, she is the Past President of the B.C. Native Women's Society.

"Kitty" Maracle is the first native woman to win a nomination for a Provincial or Federal seat anywhere in Canada.



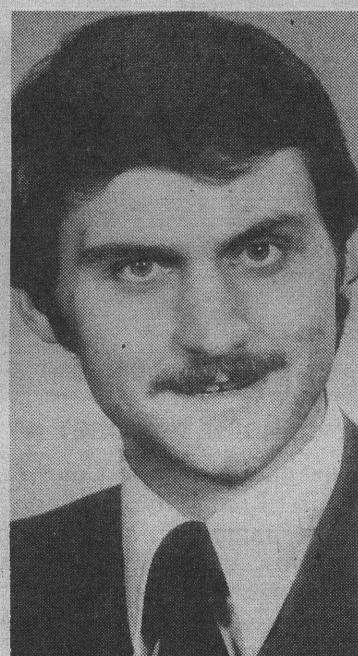
ART BATES
Delta

A northern resident for most of his life, Art Bates moved to the Lower Mainland in 1971. He and his wife operate a graphics and design business in White Rock. Art was born in Saskatchewan in 1921 but moved to B.C. when he was nineteen. He served with the Navy during World War II, then returned to northern B.C. where he worked for several years. Most recently he was with the local radio-television station. Since moving to the coast, Art has become active in community affairs in White Rock.



DAVID ANDERSON
Victoria

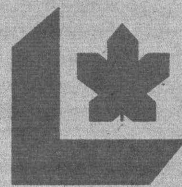
Born in Victoria, David Anderson was first elected to the B.C. Legislature in August, 1972. He was educated at Victoria College, University of British Columbia and the University of Hong Kong and has won two silver medals for Canada, at the 1959 Pan American Games and the 1960 Olympics. Elected to the House of Commons in 1968, he served as chairman of the House of Commons Special Committee on Environmental Pollution. He was a member of the Select Standing Committees on External Affairs, National Defence, and on Fisheries and Forestry.



DAVE WILLIAMS
Richmond

For the past twenty-five years, Dave Williams has been a resident of Richmond. He attended Steveston high school and obtained a bachelor of science in zoology and an M.E. in science education from U.B.C.

He is currently an alderman in Richmond, and is campaign chairman of the Richmond Electors Association. Dave Williams is a teacher and district curriculum co-ordinator for secondary schools in the Richmond School District 38. Thirty years of age, Dave is married with one child.



JOE CONROY
Columbia River

Joe Conroy is a general contractor and prospector. Active in community affairs, Joe is Chairman of the West Side Water Improvement District. He is married with three children.



FRED HOUSE
Fort George

By profession - heavy equipment operator. Member of the Heavy Duty Equipment Operators' Union. 6 years member of B.C. Association of Status Indians. Presently studying law - self-taught. Hopes to become a lawyer. Recording artist - has a record out and is presently cutting an album.



RICHARD J. DURANTE
Point Grey

Dick Durante, a Liberal is the principal of Hill Elementary School. A seasoned campaigner in the political field, Dick was elected to Parliament in 1972, the first Liberal ever to be elected in Comox Alberni.



TERRY O'GRADY
Victoria

Terence O'Grady is a solicitor and has been Victoria Solicitor for the past eight years. He is General Solicitor for I.C.B.C.

... THE GIBSON TEAM



OYRA A. ROBERTS
Vancouver-Point Grey

time Point Grey and an active Liberal Roberts has an im- business career. For years she was an ac- in a paper mill. For the ven years she was a ker for a local company y involved with the ver Stock Exchange. y, she is provincial of a real estate repor- npany which provides l data to the industry. e busy political career, erts is a past member ovincial Executive. She een president of the Columbia Women's Commission and a l representative at the level.



LEN STEPHENSON
Esquimalt

Born in Grand Forks, B.C., Len Stephenson moved to the Victoria area in 1941 after serving with the New Westminster Regiment. A barber, he is an executive member of the barber's union and the international barber's union delegate to the Canadian Labour Congress. He has also served as president of the View Royal Community Association, is a member of the Spectrum School Community Organization and a deacon of the Elk Lake Baptist Church. Len is married with three children.



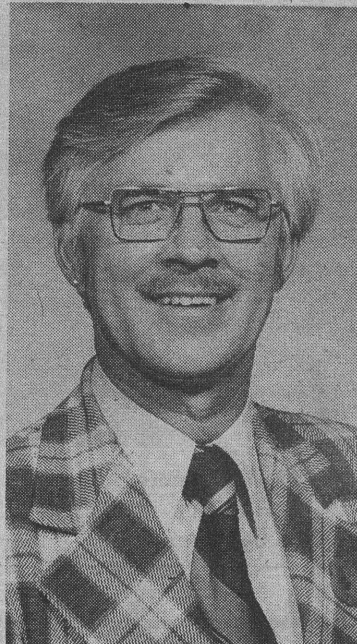
MOSHE SHILLOW
Burnaby North

Although his profession is property management, Moshe Shillow holds a BSc in Biology. Extremely active in University affairs, Mr. Shillow is a member of the Board of Governors of Simon Fraser University and a member of the SFU Senate. He is 33 years of age.



CECILE MCKINNON
Alberni

Currently completing her eighth term as a school trustee, Cecile McKinnon is no stranger to community activity. She has been president of the Alberni Valley Social Action Council since 1968, is a member of the board of SPARC, was actively involved in the development of the Robertson Creek Fish Hatchery and is a former president of the Parent-Teacher Council. Cecile was born on a homestead in Saskatchewan in 1921 and moved to British Columbia at the age of thirteen. She is married and the mother of eight children.



BOB TANNER
Burnaby Edmonds

A public accountant, Bob Tanner has had thirty years' experience in the mining and forest industries. He was born in Winnipeg and is a graduate of McMaster University. Active in his community, Bob is a member of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, the Canadian Association in Support of the Native Peoples, Committee for an Independent Canada, Burnaby Art Gallery, Masons, the Royal Canadian Legion and Kinsmen, having served in executive positions in several of these organizations. He is married with four children.



BOB KANNGIESSER
Vancouver-Seymour

Kanngiesser is a nan active in com- affairs. Presently vice- of the North Van- hamber of Commerce, een a member of that n for several years. ally he is on the of the Inter-River Association and has n the council of the mium development lives with his wife Jean ter Sandra. Employed counting manager at Chemicals, he served y with the Royal Air Force. Bob was Lacombe, Alberta in received his bachelor ce degree from the of Alberta in 1969.



JEV TOTHILL
Cowichan Malahat

Born in Toronto, Jev Tothill attended public school in North Vancouver, and graduated from UBC with a degree in agriculture. He worked as a logger, sawmill worker, truck driver and salesman before becoming a school teacher. He has lived in the Cowichan Valley for 12 years, and is the programme director of the Community Cable TV Station, and director of Cowichan Bay Koksilah Area to Cowichan Valley Regional District.



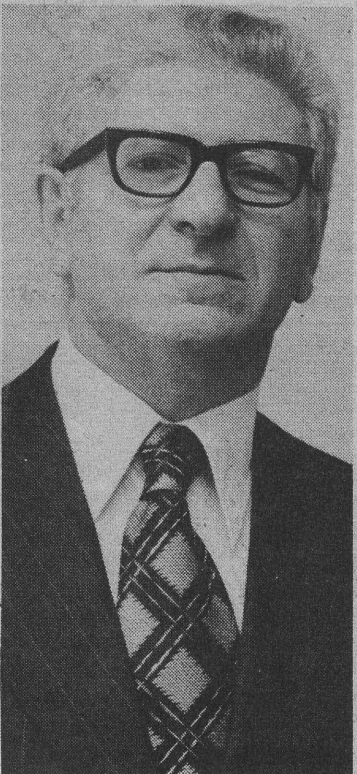
NORM MCLAREN
Comox

Honoured as the Campbell River Citizen of the Year in 1974, Norm McLaren has been an active participant in community life for many years. He is a past president of the Jaycees and of the Chamber of Commerce. Married with one son, Norm in 38 years of age and is employed as a loans officer at a branch of one of Canada's major banks.



GEORGE MILNE
Rossland-Trail

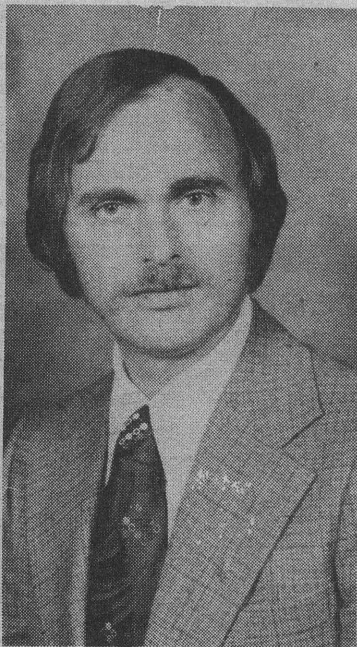
A director of the Kootenay Boundary Regional District, George Milne has been a resident of Trail for forty years. He retired in 1974 from Cominco, after thirty-seven years. Currently he is a carpentry repairman. George Milne is a community worker having served in the Trail Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion as well as many other community organizations. Born in Moose Jaw in 1914, George is married with seven children and seven grandchildren.



NORM CHAMBERLIST
Vancouver East

Norm is a business man who is involved in the construction of small hotels. Prior to this activity he was employed as an electrician.

Norm Chamberlist has an excellent knowledge of the workings of the political system having served as a member of the Territorial Legislature of the North West Territories.



JIM SIEMENS
Little Mountain

An accountant by profession, Jim is owner/manager of a marine propeller manufacturing firm. Prior to this, he operated his own accounting practice for several years. A native British Columbian born in Chilliwack, in 1939, Jim received his early schooling in Burnaby. He is a member of Big Brothers and has been a Vancouver resident for nineteen years.



GORDON GIBSON, facing a battery of cameras during his acceptance speech to the September Convention. On the left is Eileen Brennan, Assistant to Rudy Warshawski, election chairman. Co-chairman of the convention, Bruce Gilbert is on the far right.

Liberals urge a responsible program of Social Assistance

The Liberal party believes that government has an obligation to provide certain basic social programs for all its citizens and specific programs for individuals who require special help.

In the health field, the most obvious program for all British Columbians is the medical health plan. Similarly, Liberals would work to bring about Pharmacare with special emphasis on the inauguration of a progressive pharmacare for children. It is also our ambition to see a progressive denticare system for children. Intermediate medical care facilities should also be introduced. These could perhaps be modelled on the Alberta system, whereby a subsidy is given to patients in private homes which meet government standards. This would release acute care beds in our larger hospitals thus enabling these institutions to serve their original purpose more fully.

Other specific programs which a Liberal balance of power would continue are Mincomé, which is primarily

Federally financed, and child care and day care, ensuring that such services are available to all... but establishing a needs test so that those who can afford to pay for the program will be required to do so.

Turning to direct financial assistance, the Liberal philosophy stresses individual responsibility and dignity, while providing assistance for those who need it. It would stress:

- Full assistance for those unable to support themselves due to age, disability or other circumstances.

- Emergency assistance for those who are ordinarily self-supporting but are temporarily dependent.

- Further programs would include provision for a gradual increase in the minimum wage; cooperation with the Federal Government in its plan to supplement the income of the working poor and appropriate retraining programs for those whose jobs have been lost through mechanization or automation.

The treatment of the juvenile offender has been hotly debated.

There is no one simple answer. But treatment centers are obviously required at points throughout the province. Liberals stress increased counselling and psychiatric services before behavioural problems lead to delinquency.

Turning to the municipal scene, many community resources boards have now been set up throughout British Columbia. A Liberal Balance of Power would urge a "wait and see" attitude toward these boards, allowing them a trial period to prove their effectiveness.

In summary, Liberal policy would provide social service to all citizens of British Columbia where there is a demonstrated need. Programs, however, would reflect a balanced fiscal policy insuring that no particular segment of society would be required to shoulder the burden of these programs.

Finally, the Liberal Party believes that availability of social services should not be dependent on where a person lives. Our goal is to achieve regional equality for all programs.

Liberal view on the Status of Women

Certainly one of the most important revolutions going on in the whole world in the second half of this century is the change in the status of women. That involves directly half the human race, and indirectly everyone, because change in the status of women has profound consequences for men as well. The issue is not just "liberation"; it is an opportunity for greater fulfillment and productivity that is greatly to be desired by both sexes.

The Liberal party realizes that most of the changes in the status of women are being achieved by women themselves — but there are some areas where governments should be taking action as well. These include:

- moving towards legal recognition of the contribution of a housewife to the marriage partnership in financial terms through her efforts in the home, if occasion should arise for division of matrimonial property (i.e. assets acquired by the efforts of the spouses through the marriage period.)

The principle is clear. The translation into law is currently haphazard, sometimes directly against the basic principle, and should be codified. The proper procedure in an area so complex is the production of draft law for extensive discussion prior to enactment.

- provision of daycare centres for children of working mothers, and eventually all young children (on a voluntary basis) through the extension of the kindergarten system.

The need is greatest for children of working mothers, as is the direct financial payoff — work is performed in society that would be otherwise undone, and that in itself makes the concept viable in economic terms.

In the longer run, the concept of "daycare" should be integrated with that of education, for the first six years of a child's life are the real learning years, and far too precious to simply keep them "in care". The kindergarten system should be progressively extended down to age three, with public funding, and our very best teachers should be devoted to that age level. The school system can never replace the home at this or any other age, but it can serve as a tremendously useful supplement.

• make equal pay for work of equal value a reality in our government. There still remain too many cases of avoidance of this principle by different classification of essentially similar jobs as between men and women.

- affirmative action by the provincial government to move into the executive ranks at a deliberately accelerated pace, women of competence for senior government positions. (Political parties have a particular responsibility in this area, and the Liberal party has made significant progress at the executive level.)

- work with federal government to amend the Canada Pension Plan so that the stay-at-home spouse should be eligible for CPP benefits as a matter of right. This can best be done in the first instance, and at no additional cost, by a system of splitting pension credits — i.e. making half of the CPP entitlement the actual property of the stay-at-home spouse, rather than entirely that of the working spouse as at present.

In the future, provision will have to be made for enriching this plan to provide for government payment of premiums into the CPP scheme for mothers raising children, but this needs further actuarial study to determine costs.

- establish an advisory council on the status of women reporting directly to the Premier. (The idea of a Minister of Women is rejected as being incompatible with real equality, but the need for counsel is recognized to continually search out proper areas for further government help.)

Clean up problems in Education

In recognition of current economic realities in British Columbia, we have to accept the fact that the percentage of financial resources available for education is not going to increase significantly. Some significant shifts in the utilization of those funds are, however, possible and necessary.

Universities are now spending from two to four times as much per student as are the community colleges. This should be corrected and be made more equitable.

Financial resources should be shifted from the later years of schooling to the earlier years, particularly kindergarten, pre-school and elementary levels. These are the formative years of learning achievement and should receive the proper emphasis.

Notwithstanding a recognized need for human social development, fundamental skills must be given top priority as an indispensable base for further development and training.

In cooperating with the B.C. Teachers Federation, teacher performance standards must be continually improved.

Student performance must also be more carefully audited and insisted upon. This is a decision for parents which requires their cooperation and active support, for the early development of good work patterns is vital to the fulfillment of a child's future potential.

In order to economize as well as to enhance the learning process, specialized schools, (marine, police and labour for example) should be developed in conjunction with existing institutions.

Accredited independent schools should receive operating funding from the public treasury on the same scale as a similar number of accredited hours would merit in the public schools. Double taxation for independent schools should be ended; this has been long time Liberal policy. The public school system is strong enough to stand and benefit from some competition.

The basic collective bargaining mechanism for teacher and support staff salaries should be maintained.

Long term planning must be implemented to end the stop and go development of education.



ARMAND FOISY, Yale-Lillooet and Jev Tohill, Cowichan-Malahat with Frances Brown, the newly elected membership chairman of the Liberal Party in British Columbia.

PLATFORM HIGHLIGHTS:

Labour-Management Relations

Encourage continuous bargaining rather than confrontation bargaining. Repeal the Fair Employment Practices Act. Introduce new techniques to settle disputes. Enact essential services legislation. Ensure that the minimum wage is raised on a continuous, planned basis. The fundamental change required is attitude.

Education

The Education tax should be removed from residential land immediately. Our emphasis for education should be shifted from the later years to the earlier years; from the secondary to the primary, from the universities to the colleges. The development of work patterns is necessary at a very early age.

Housing

The housing situation in B.C., rental or otherwise, is the worst in Canada. Housing starts and rental accommodation must be encouraged.

Northern Development

Incentives for northern expansion are a must. B.C.'s growth rate must be directed north for the further development of our northern resources of energy, minerals and wood.

Social Problems

The Liberal focus is on those not able to entirely provide for themselves because of disability or age. A Liberal balance of power would support continuation of Mincome, Pharmacare, child care and day care.

Growth

The choice is between planned or unplanned growth. We have to plan in order to manage growth — plan for places for people to live and places for people to work.

Productivity

Incentives for productivity must be built in. That means letting the producer keep more of his earnings, and transferring a little less rapidly to the non-producer. What you take out of the barrel is directly related to what effort you put in.

Inflation

Inflation has to be brought under control. The fast and equitable way to do that is through productivity improvements — and that means massive incentives to producers — labour, management, and capital alike.

Economic Development

B.C. is in the economic doldrums because of the NDP government. The economy works best if there is room for as much initiative as possible, and as much competition as possible.

Federal-Provincial Relations

Canada is a federal country and it is essential that there be a healthy balance of power between the federal and provincial governments.

Native Rights and the Land Question

The B.C. government simply must undertake to sit down at the bargaining table with the federal government and native representatives to start negotiating on this issue.

Urban Needs

Municipal governments are closest to the people and deserve an expanded measure of authority with adequate financial resources.

Government Reform

Reforms are necessary in the government sector to provide for better protection for the citizen against the excesses of government, better internal working procedures, and better ground rules for the enforcement of public sentiment on government behaviour. We begin with the offices of Ombudsman and Auditor General.

Recreation and Conservation

The Liberal Party would:

—establish gun registration legislation if the federal government fails to move. Crimes committed using guns should be subject to much heavier penalties.

—provide for hunter training and/or weapons training as a prerequisite to registration.

—move to ban the leg-hold trap and accelerate development of humane substitutes.

—offer protection for killer whales.

Liberal Philosophy

"To help each person make the most of their individual lives — that's liberalism." If the NDP puts its trust in the state, and the right wing puts its trust in the past, liberalism puts its trust in the individual. We are optimists. We believe in people. And we believe that we are all better people if as individuals we have some responsibility for our lives and some freedom to achieve according to our efforts and our desires.

On Public & Private Ownership and Government in Business

ICBC

—end monopoly, and re-admit competition.
—charge honest premiums (i.e. recover full cost of system).

—relate premiums to accident record.

—retain claims centres.

—retain territorial discount for northern incentives.

—bring back "assigned risk" pool so that private companies could not skim off all of the cream and leave only the bad risks to the ICBC.

Ocean Falls

Special case — keep it going.

CanCel, Plateau, KFP, Chicken Plants

First of all, remove from politics — Ministers off of Boards of Directors.

Secondly, spinoff to B.C. Development Corporation (owned by the people).

Thirdly, as the market will accept it, sell off ownership to British Columbians and other Canadians in these companies, and use the proceeds (and other monies added in) to repatriate ownership in still more foreign firms — a progressive recycling of the taxpayer's money.

Management of growth - a priority

Growth is the fundamental problem of British Columbia. Every year there are 60 - 70,000 new British Columbians, essentially all by immigration from the rest of Canada or abroad. This growth rate (about 3-1/2% a year) represents three times the growth rate for Canada as a whole. At 3-1/2% growth rate per year, our population will double in 20 years.

What does this fantastic increase in population mean to us? With the course of action followed by the present N.D.P. government, it means overcrowding! Since most of these people will continue to move into already overpopulated areas it means potentially higher unemployment! Unfortunately, it has a devastating effect on schools, teachers, highways, parks and hospitals . . . in short, there is no end to the amount of money and facilities required to absorb these new people into our society!

Most of us welcome newcomers and we need immigration to maintain our vitality, but not so much as to be disruptive.

So, with boring regularity, the question is asked . . . What do we do?

We can ask the Federal Government to slow down immigration, perhaps cutting it by half from about 200,000 per year throughout Canada to 100,000.

We can further demand grants from Ottawa to help British Columbia bear the cost of services for these new citizens as our province receives a disproportionate percentage of new immigrants.

We can also lessen the attractiveness of our province by establishing a waiting period or residency requirement for certain B.C. benefits such as Mincome and Pharmacare.

But these methods, although useful, will merely slow down the problem, not solve it. To solve the problem we must embark upon massive programs and implement ideas that:

- Create many new places for people to live. This can be very flexible, particularly for retired people where proximity to work is not important. In line with this we can greatly expand our housing industry through encouragement of the construction of rental housing, making more non-agricultural land available, establishing a program of "growth grants" to municipalities to help subsidize their costs resulting from new housing; and numerous other measures.

- Create more places for people to work. It is obvious that there is no benefit derived from having the bulk of our population in one small area of our province. We therefore recommend the deliberate decentralization of jobs in B.C. to be performed directly by the government and indirectly by the private sector as a result of government incentives. In connection with this, great emphasis must be placed on the development and expansion of the North.

- To carry out these measures we will need a provincial, Cabinet-level planning group, responsible for the problems and opportunities of growth. We will also need close contact between Victoria and local governments in order that specific areas are given the necessary resources to provide for that growth.

Lastly we will need to offer incentives to the private sector to encourage them to decentralize their operations.

British Columbia no longer has the luxury of choosing between growth or no growth.

The choice now is only between planned growth or unplanned growth. A Liberal government will make all possible effort to insure that the future growth of our province is planned — carefully, creatively and optimistically — with the needs of all our people in mind.



A SMILING GORDON GIBSON with his wife Valerie, daughters Michelle and Melissa, and son Marc, in the garden of their North Vancouver home.

Action on Labour-Management

Effective collective bargaining is vital to the economic and industrial development of British Columbia. Collective bargaining is also a principle which the Liberal Party endorses.

Labour management relations in B.C., however, have deteriorated over recent years into increased bitterness — strikes, lockouts, wildcats, jurisdictional disputes and 'hot' declarations have become the normal course of events.

The NDP, which was to have brought labour peace, has brought us labour conflict. 1975 is becoming one of the worst years for labour strife in our history.

Today, however, the NDP remains beholden to labour; Social Credit remains beholden to big business.

To encourage better labour management relations, a Liberal balance of power in Victoria will work towards the following goals:

- continuous bargaining rather than confrontation bargaining. There will always be some 'crunch points'. There will always be some strikes and lockouts. But many of the issues could be discussed, resolved, and changes implemented on a

continuous basis, long before that 'crunch point' is reached.

- repeal the Fair Employment Practices Act. This Act provides that the government can only do business with firms operating under a union contract. It discriminates against numerous small firms whose employees are not union members. Any law regulating government's relations with other firms should state only that the companies used must

pay fair and comparable wages.

- the introduction of new techniques to settle disputes. Greater use of **voluntary** binding arbitration and the concept of 'med-arb' are two such devices. (Med-arb, mediation-arbitration, is a process of mediation merging into arbitration with the same third party involved at both stages.)

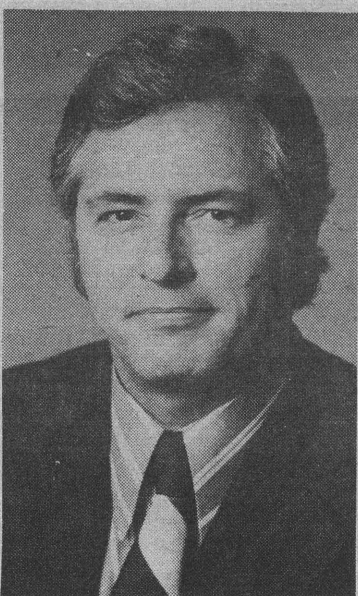
- essential services legislation should be enacted. Such legislation would state that employees in certain specific areas involving public health and safety would give up the right to strike as a condition of employment, with their salaries being related to other comparable jobs. The law would clearly, specifically and

narrowly define the jobs so excluded.

- the minimum wage should be raised on a regular, planned basis to ensure that workers at the low end of the scale don't get left far behind the rest.

- labour representatives should be admitted to every relevant decision-making council of a company. This should not be a matter of law; it is a matter of common sense. It will provide for better labour-management relations and for better productivity.

- voluntary extension of union organization should be encouraged. Any gains by the labour movement must, however, be earned, not imposed.



PAT GRAHAM
Newly elected President
of the Liberal Party
in British Columbia

The critical fight against inflation

In no province is the fight against inflation more essential than in British Columbia, and in no province has the government done more to cause the basic problem!

With the price freeze, the NDP is finally pouring some water on a fire that it has been dousing with gasoline for the last year!

The major prosperity we enjoy in British Columbia depends

on exports. Our mines, forests, fisheries and tourism, pay all of our wages in the end. To the extent any of these primary industries become uncompetitive, we are all the poorer.

If the wages of our export industry are forced up beyond a certain competitive point, we start to lose sales, and marginal producers lay off workers, or else much needed expansion simply doesn't take place.

Inflation hurts all of us. But people without power, people who can't force settlements that keep up with costs, are hurt the most. Inflation tends to harm and demoralize the old, the young, the unskilled and the poor.

Inflation has to be brought under control.

Here in British Columbia, we have witnessed a government that settled with the ICBC — and remember, ICBC started out with relatively good wages! It wasn't a catch up — for 39% over a little over 2 years!

We have witnessed a government that settled with the Hydro bus drivers for 40% over 2 years — just before sending the forest workers back for an eventual settlement of little more than half this percentage!

We have to make the national program of temporary wage and price controls work in British Columbia. The only fast and equitable way to do that is "productivity improvements" — and that means massive incentives to producers, labour, management and capital.

On Foreign Ownership

Land

Land is basic. To the extent there is an important element of foreign ownership in any given category of land, we must take action.

Foreign bidding for Canadian land does two things:

- it raises the prices (and taxes) for all Canadians on that type of land. (Land is basically an auction, and auction prices are always higher when there are extra people there with big bankrolls.)

- once in foreign hands, the capital gains go to foreigners — but they are caused by the people around, namely Canadians. That is not right.

Foreign acquisition of Canadian land, per se, does no good and some harm to our economy — it raises the value of the Canadian dollar, sells off a part of our patrimony in return, and raises the price of land for Canadians.

There may be some compensation depending on the type of investment.

We need two kinds of facts:

- what **type** of land is owned and been bought by foreigners and for what purpose?

- how much of what type is owned and how quickly is it being bought? For the government to move without having those figures would be irresponsible. Not to have those figures would be equally irresponsible. We need to know before giving an answer.

If action is required on any given class of land, the answer is simple: transactions become a **one-way street** — any sales must be only to Canadians or landed immigrants.

Other Assets

Case by case assessment on balance of costs and benefits to B.C. and Canada.

Mobilization of capital by government for repatriation from time to time.

Agriculture

The Liberal Party supports the concept of farm income assurance.

The Liberal Party supports the B.C. Land Commission, while at the same time suggesting that boundaries must be reviewed to remove some areas of land that are demonstrably non-agricultural. But we are not, like the Socreds, a party of developers who can hardly wait to trample through the fields once again.

The Liberal Party appreciates the need for orderly marketing and production institutions, but believes that current marketing board legislation can be much improved in favour of the consumer without detrimental effect on the producer, and that further such improvement must take place with reasonable dispatch if there is not to be a consumer's backlash in this area that will carry away with it much that is good in the marketing board system.

In the medium term, programs must be revised so as to promote greater efficiency and lower costs, an end to private profits on publicly granted monopoly (production) permits, and a generous cushioning of any impact this might have on individual producers who have in good faith been playing by the rules as they have been established by governments over the years.



RETIRING PRESIDENT, DOREEN BRAVERMAN, making her report to the annual meeting at the September convention. Members of the outgoing executive from left: Betty Hall, Shirley Bonfield, Susan Hutchinson, Evelyne Rosborough, Kilby Day, Jean Driscoll Bell, Gordon Chambers, Harold Freeman, Doug Denholm and Frances Elford.