



Mulrone wins, by Montreal *Gazette* cartoonist Aislin.

cast on the first ballot. At least 1495 were needed to win. Clark, who had hoped to begin with at least 1200, got only 1091.

Mulrone got 874, substantially more than his rivals had expected.

Crosbie was third with 639. Three other candidates, Michael Wilson, David Crombie, and Peter Pocklington, had more than the minimum of 75 needed to stay in the running, but Wilson and Pocklington dropped out and endorsed Mulrone.

On the second ballot Mulrone rose to 1021 and Crosbie to 781. Clark dropped six votes, to 1085.

Premier Brian Peckford, of Newfoundland, then tried hard to persuade the Clark people to accept defeat and throw their weight behind Crosbie. The suggestion was rejected with some asperity.

The third ballot showed Clark's support dwindling, to 1058, and Mulrone's growing slightly, to 1036. Mr. Crosbie rose to 858 but he had gone as far as he could go and he released his delegates, letting them choose their next move.

This set the stage for the dramatic fourth ballot.

Most of the Crosbie people moved to Mulrone; 2909 delegates voted (82 of the early voters had faded away) and Mulrone got 1584 votes, 129 more than he needed, Clark, 1325.

The Winner

Brian Mulrone is a handsome, articulate, self-made businessman, former President of the Iron Ore Co. of Canada, born to a working class family in Baie Comeau, Quebec. He became a labour lawyer and was appointed to the Cliche Commission which successfully investigated violence in the Quebec construction industry, where he displayed considerable courage and skill. He then moved into business. When he first ran for the leadership in 1976, he was criticized for excessive campaign hoopla and spending and he finished third. He ran more wisely this time, wooing delegates quietly but assiduously, traveling tourist class and watching the polls. Peter C. Newman described him as "neither rebel nor reactionary, he is less opportunistic than pragmatic and probably comes as close as anyone to personifying his party's label: a Progressive Conservative."

Pierre Berton, Canada's most popular historian, found him well-tailored, well-coiffed and resonant-voiced, ideally equipped for the television age. Mulrone made his fluent bilingualism his major selling point and projected a friendly feeling toward the United States. He seemed to many a man who could win in the country at large as well as at a party convention.

He opened strongly with 874 votes and from then on exuded an air of victory. After the fourth ballot gave it to him, he picked Clark's top parliamentary aide as his own. "Erik Nielsen said I was not his first choice for leader but I want you to know he is my first choice for House Leader."

He has a good many moves still ahead. He must put together a shadow Cabinet, gain a seat in Parliament (for which he has never run), learn new parliamentary skills and preside over the creation of a set of Progressive Conservative policies to present to the country at the next election.

He approaches the future with some clear advantages. He is from Quebec (where the PCs hope to make some dent in the solid Liberal vote) and has a businessman's appeal in the West. He went to school in Nova Scotia. He has a beautiful, vivacious and intelligent wife, the former Mila Pivnicki, the Yugoslav-born daughter of a Montreal psychiatrist, and they have three children.

They Also Ran

The leadership race began with a dozen candidates, declared or undeclared. Some, such as the gentleman who announced his candidacy with a mynah bird on his shoulder, began and remained obscure and others flashed by and faded.