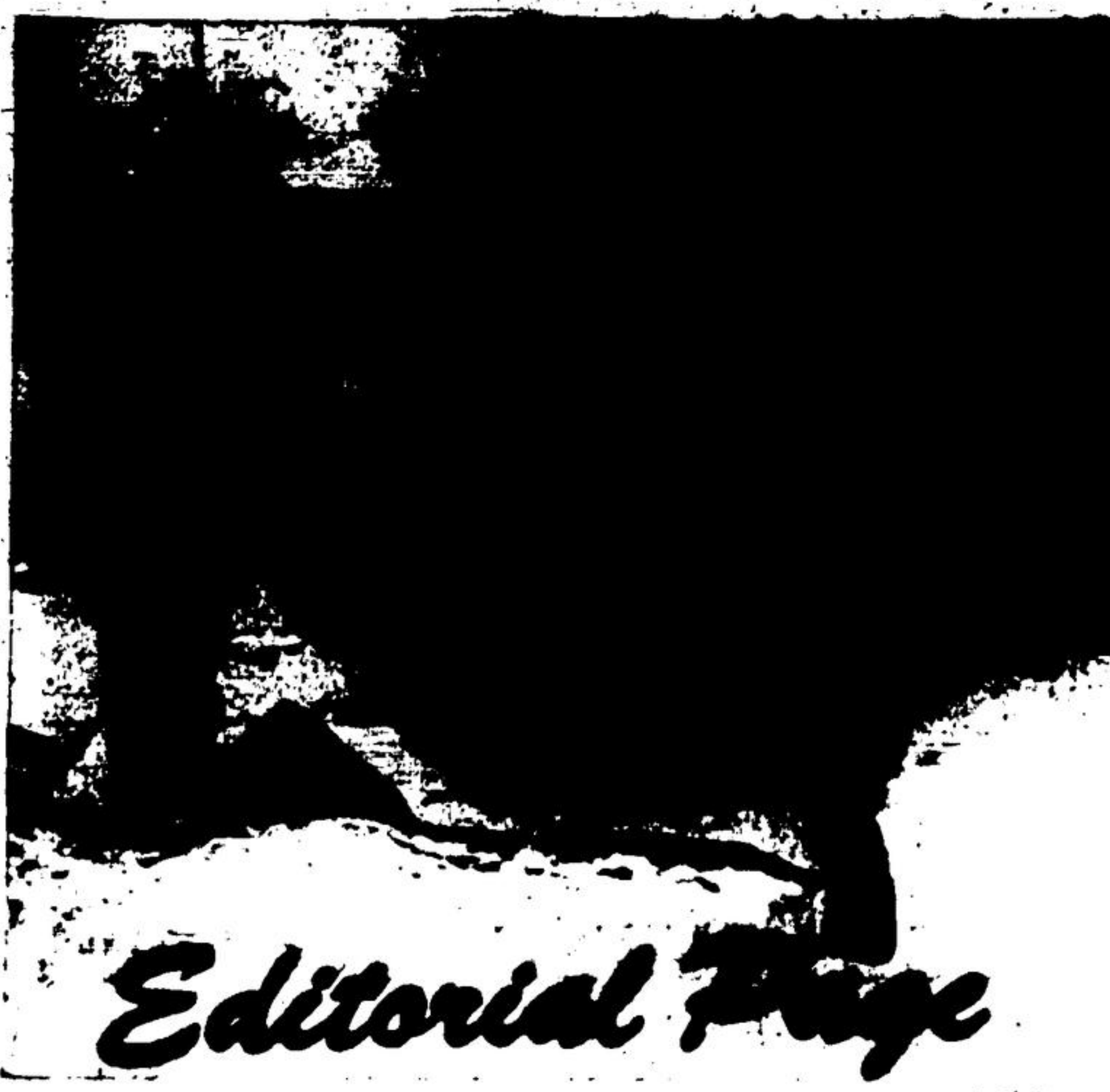


"Timber"



Editorial Page

FAIR OLDER THAN THEY, this elm tree was toppled in the Robert Little public school play ground. It is estimated to be nearly 250 years old and the two youngsters trying to count the rings to make certain of its age are John Van Der Kooy and Colin Price. There were two soaring elm trees taken down due to the Dutch Elm disease.

A New Warden...

Members of County Council this week chose Gordon Gallagher as their Warden for 1964. The contest for the position was one of the most keenly conducted in recent years. The contest charged the inaugural meeting with a certain atmosphere that is not always conducive to the good beginning for a year. Supporters are required to indicate their preference for Warden by an open vote. The vote can be conducted with the aspirations in the room. The result of this voting could be that, when the contest is so keen, opponents could be singled out for personal snubbing at a later date, no matter how unconsciously this might be done. Our congratulations to this year's warden. As head of the county government he has an important position and important responsibilities. If county government is to maintain its position of importance and strength, it must continue to keep pace with the times. It is an age of larger and larger municipalities. If Halton is to retain its stature it must continue to weld common services under the more central administration, without affecting the local autonomy that citizens expect to be exercised by their own councils. Halton has achieved a position of importance in provincial circles because of its progressive and forward-looking attitude. As

indicated in the comments of the retiring warden C. A. Martin, more thought will undoubtedly go to new areas of centralization like assessment and planning. Fire services are already co-ordinated on a county basis as are the social services like the Halton County Health Unit and the Children's Aid Society. Judicial departments have been centralized for some time, of course, but now a larger Conservation Area has been established to place the majority of Halton in one unit. Industrial promotion, through such things as a display at the Plowing Match, has also been beneficially conducted at the county level. Many are unfamiliar with the operation of county government and it is in this area that one of the real challenges to its members exists. It is vital that citizens of the County be made aware of the important role a County Council plays in the scheme of local government. There are those who would minimize its role and emphasize its cost to paint a politically sad picture. Members of County Council, participating and close to the daily operations of this government, have an obligation to explain and interpret its role. This, we would suggest, is one of the important personal responsibilities of the new Warden.

Brief Comments...

There has been a great deal written about Roy Thomson since he was named for elevation to the title Lord. Much seems to be centred around the problem of "control". It is a well-known fact that the Thomson organization owns more newspapers than any other group. One has only to look around the area in Guelph, Georgetown, Brampton, Oakville, Port Credit, Orangeville and Galt to see evidence. It is obvious though, that there is no direct control over the dissemination of news or editorial policy from that central organization. Roy Thomson has said quite bluntly he is only interested in the balance sheet. This is, perhaps, a little more obvious. There has also been growing concern over the control of the country's newspapers by an outsider. This, it seems to us, should be a challenge to Canadians to invest in their own country's enterprises, whether it be publishing or steel making. It will be difficult for a government to legislate local

ownership without imposing a new form of restriction on the press itself. Smokers have now received some pretty official word that they are "taking their lives in their hands" when they light up a cigarette. The old jokes about cigarettes as "coffin nails" are apparently not too far off base. The United States report will make its most important contribution if the smoking habit is tackled at the school age level. Confirmed smokers can make their decision one way or another, no one else can make it for them. The relationship between smoking and cancer though, has now been pretty well established, whether we like it or not. **HIDDEN CHRISTMAS DEBT** Add to Christmas shopping debts a hidden one—your share of your community's borrowings. A survey shows that municipal debts in 19 large urban areas average \$268 per person. High on the list Edmonton with a \$403 average. Low St. John's with \$75 per citizen.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

20 YEARS AGO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Jan. 13, 1944. The parents of Pte. George Lacey have received word he was wounded in action on December 28 while serving in Italy. Pte. John Graham is reported to have back and arm injuries in Italy. Two men from this district, James Wallace and Karl Frank, both of Nassagawewa, are included in a story of heroism in Italy in the Toronto Telegram. A small company went to the rescue of a group of 40th Highlanders cut off by the enemy.

All box office records in Acton were broken last week by the War Service League players' presentation of "Soap Stock" when the gross receipts reached \$500 from the show. Not since the days of the famous Marks Bros. has the town hall had such continuous crowds. It is estimated over 1400 people saw this musical comedy and we have heard nothing but praise. On the closing night on Saturday, there was a prolonged ovation given Mr. R. R. Parker, the producer and director, and Mr. F. Salt, who provided all the musical piano accompaniments. There was an announcement from the box office that the receipts were just \$230 short of the \$500 objective and the response from a half dozen places in the audience made up for the amount needed. And so the curtain goes down on another fine presentation which will benefit 211 boys overseas from this district. We predict it will be long remembered.

Howard May, reeve of Esquesing township is Halton warden for 1944. Council has decided to levy the same rate as last year, 47 mills, less the provincial subsidy of one mill. In connection with this, which seemed very small, Chief Harrop made the report that offenders seemed to prefer rather than parting with cash. Council decided to make a grant of \$50 to the Boys Band. Caps and capes will be supplied. The Mosquito is now recognized as the fastest bomber in the world. A Swiss report puts its speed at 400 miles per hour or just over seven miles a minute.

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, January 15, 1914. Not for several years have our citizens been aroused by the blood curdling wail of the midnight fire alarm, until yesterday morning about one o'clock when the residence of Mr. W. W. Beardmore, Church Street, was found to be on fire, and was subsequently completely demolished. Owing to the extreme frost, the fire alarm bell rope was broken with the first two strokes and the alarm had to be given on the town bell, which being much less penetrating, failed to arouse many of our citizens, who were entirely unaware of the disastrous circumstances until morning. The maids sleeping in the rear part of the house were awakened by the smell of smoke and awakened Mr. Beardmore. He was found in an incipient blaze had developed in the ceiling over the maids' dining hall. In a commendably short time the firemen had the engine and firefighting apparatus in place, but after repeated efforts they failed to make the engine perform. The temperature of 22 degrees below zero froze the water, despite all efforts. Connections with the tannery pumps were made but the water in the long lengths of hose was frozen before reaching the nozzle. The water supply in adjoining wells and domestic tanks were soon exhausted and nothing further could be done. At most all the contents of the building were saved. One factor which led to the success of removal of the contents was the fact electric light was supplied from the tannery as hydro power had been off for 24 hours. The palatial building is of historic character. It was built in the early seventies by the late Robert Little. Some workmen thawing pipes in the vicinity may have caused a short circuit. Councillor R. M. McDonald at council thought some effort should be made to relieve the northeast corner of Mill and Main Streets of the crowds who sometimes loiter there, especially on Sunday evenings. He suggested an electric lamp of powerful capacity. He felt an abundance of light would have the effect of checking any tendency to rowdiness and insulting results.

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL BRADY

A young couple I know had a terrific experience when they visited her parents during the holiday season. The parents, solid folk, had recently retired. They bought a new home in a rather swanky development in a good-sized Canadian city. They have a 17-year-old daughter, nice kid, who lives with them. When my friends arrived to spend Christmas, it was obvious Mr. had been busy. Everything in the new house was sparkling for their visit. She was proud of her home, and with reason. They had a pleasant Christmas. A couple of days later, the four adults were invited to a party down the street. Then teenage daughter employed to have a few friends in for pop and music. Her mother gave in, specifying that 10 kids was the limit. The adults went to the party along the street, and enjoyed it. Beer caps and empty vodka bottles fought for attention on the rug, which was a squishy

The conversation, as so often, turned to puzzlement over teenagers. You know the sort of thing we old squares discuss: the switch-blade knives; the debutante party reported in Life, which wound up demolishing an old mansion; the couple in some distant place who came home and found their teenage daughter on the second night of a three-day, all night party, in their home. Emerging from the party at a conspicuous hour in this circus-spect suburb, my friends and the parents were astonished to see the quiet street lined with cars. What was up? They found out, in about two minutes. Every light was blazing in their new home, and there was a sound of revelry by night whose location was unmistakable. They hustled home. The son-in-law, a six-footer, was set in ahead, to give notice that the party was over. He was shaken to the tips of his number ten when he walked in. There were about 40 people, mostly young males, in the modest living room. Ninety-four per cent of them were drinking beer. The other six per cent were drinking something else. Who were these hoodlums, punks, vandals? A motorcycle gang, maybe? One of them was the son of a national television figure. Another was the son of a professor. Most were university students, in their jackets proclaimed proudly. The rest were high school kids from good middle-class homes in the area. What happened to the girl who was hostess? Nothing. She's temperamental and might leave home if crossed or upset.

Let's Play Bridge

For the avid bridge player, there is nothing like starting off the new year with a bridge tournament. A team from the Acton Bridge Club played in the non-masters' team of four in Toronto on the first weekend of the new year. The results were not as good as we had hoped for. Our team tied for sixth place in a field of 23 teams. It seemed to me that my partner and I spent the whole session on defense. I would like to present one hand that we defended. The defense is easy only because declarer did not take full advantage of his cards. I have rearranged the positions so that declarer is sitting South. I was sitting in the East position. Both sides vulnerable. Dealer—West. North S-K-Q-9-7 H-A D-A-9-8-7 C-K-4-2-2. West S-10-4-2 H-5-4 D-K-6-5 C-10-6-5. East S-A-K-6-3 H-K-Q-J-2 D-Q-4 C-J-8-1. South S-1-5 H-10-8-7-6-3 D-J-10-2 C-A-0-7. The bidding: West North East South Pass 1S Pass 1NT Pass 2NT Pass 3NT. First, let me say that I don't care for the bidding. North should open one diamond to make things easier for partner. However, the final contract is not too unreasonable. My partner opened his fourth best diamond, declared in dummy and I won with the queen. It is obvious that I should return the two of hearts and knock out dummy's ace. Now, the point I wish to make is that declarer should, in fact, try to steal the contract. Assuming that clubs will break and that the diamond king is with West, declarer can count on eight tricks. He must get a spade fast and he can really put east on the spot with a low spade lead from dummy. In fact, he led a club and then tried the diamond knave. When that worked, he led a spade. But it was too late. I knew that clubs would break, so I grabbed the ace of spades and took my three hearts to defeat the contract one trick. If you need only one trick to steal a contract, always try for it early in the hand. Often the defense will not see the need of taking a trick at an early stage. Last week's winners: First, Duke Wilson, Mike Lorusso; second, Art Norris, Bruce McQuarrie; third, Earl Emmond, Jack Hooper.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

BRAMPTON — A 15-foot deep effluent pool at the Elizabeth St. South sewage plant nearly claimed the lives of two Brampton youngsters last week. Three-year-old Kathy Sullivan and four-year-old Gail Lyuben fell into the water after their toboggan hit a six-foot fence, and landed in the pool and propelled them under the wire. The kiddies were saved by Mrs. Sullivan and William Scanlan, a 17-year-old school boy.

OKAVILLE — Okaville Chamber of Commerce will celebrate Chamber of Commerce Day in April, by saluting Service Clubs in the community. Six local service clubs, the Kinsmen, the Kiwanis, the Lions, the Civitan, the Rotary and Optimist Club will be saluted.

BURLINGTON — Town council will issue two large debentures this year valued at approximately \$300,000, council learned from town clerk William Sims. The first issue for \$1,300,000 would cover the civic administration building, the Nelson High School addition, the Mountain Gardens Public School addition and the Public Utilities Commission tax water intake. The second debenture issue will cover other school additions, local improvements, street lighting work on creek beds and several other town projects.

GEORGETOWN — Fulfilling an election promise Mayor Joseph Gibbons, in his inaugural address recently, that he will not accept the \$2,500 mayor's salary, has done so. "More able men than I have served with-out a fee in the past," he said.

MILTON — A town man received severe burns to his hands recently as he rescued his daughter from a burning house on Mill St. Tom Mills is still off work suffering hand burns. His daughter, who lives across the road, escaped without injury, but firefighters later said "she was very lucky to have escaped at all."

Halton Plowmen Hold Annual Meet, Election

Lloyd May, Milton RR 4, was elected president of the Halton Plowmen's Association at the annual meeting held on Monday January 6, at the United Church, Hornby. A. H. Creighton, Department of Immigration and Agricultural Development of the Canadian Pacific Railway, was guest speaker. Mr. Creighton has been in charge of tours of farm groups to foreign countries. In his remarks he outlined a recent tour of 30 farmers to the Hawaiian Islands, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong and Japan and pointed out differences in farming in these various countries. **New State** The election of officers resulted as follows: honorary president, Clebert McDowell, Hornby RR 1; past president, Stanley May, Hornby RR 2; president, Lloyd May, Milton RR 4; vice-president, J. C. Cuylingham, Georgetown RR 3; second vice-president, George Swann, Galt RR 2; secretary, treasurer, J. Allen Francis, Milton. **Directors:** Wigglesworth, Georgetown RR 1; Clifford Wigglesworth, Georgetown RR 1; Roy Currie, Milton, RR 3; John Wilson, Norval RR 1; Bill Spack Hornby RR 1; associate directors, Keith Leslie, Georgetown RR 1; Cameron Marshall, Milton RR 4; Thos. Howden, Hornby RR 2; Jack Marchmont, Streetsville RR 2; associate directors, Wm. Rayner, Milton RR 1; Burlington RR 1; Elton, Milton RR 1; Brock Harris, Milton RR 6; Fyvie Gunby, Burlington RR 1; Ed Segsworth, Burlington RR 2; associate director, Gordon Thompson, Milton RR 2; Nassagawewa, Sam Finnie Sr., Hornby RR 1; "Red" Huron, Campbellville RR 2; Ross Gordon Rockwood RR 2; Lloyd Stokes, Campbellville RR 2; associate director, Jack Turner, Milton RR 3. **Honorary Directors:** Hugh Warrington, Milton RR 2; J. E. Edington, Milton RR 1; A. Dixon, Milton RR 1; Elliott, Milton; Ernest Irvine, Okaville; Clancy Pickett, Georgetown RR 2; George Radcliff, Milton RR 2; Ross Segsworth, Burlington RR 2; Spencer Wilson, Norval RR 1; Leonard Lister, Hornby RR 1; J. H. Taylor, Burlington RR 2.

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Standard Time
Eastbound
6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8:54 a.m. (Daily except Sat., Sun. & Hol. - Espaville); 8:18 a.m. (11:11 a.m. - 2:06 p.m. - 9:04 p.m. - 6:21 p.m. - 8:11 p.m.; 10:18 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.)).
Westbound
7:17 a.m. (Daily except Sat., Sun. & Hol.); 10:37 a.m.; 12:17 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:37 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:32 p.m.; 1:02 a.m. (Sat. only).
CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
Standard Time
Eastbound
6:56 p.m. to Toronto, daily except Sat. and Sun.; 7:36 a.m. to Toronto, daily except Sat.; 9:53 a.m., daily except Sunday and Monday; direct connection from Owen Sound etc.; 7:42 p.m. to Toronto, daily except Sunday; 7:47 p.m. to Toronto, Sunday only; 9:25 p.m. to Toronto, daily, based at Georgetown only.
Westbound
8:51 a.m. to Stratford, daily except Sun.; 6:23 p.m. to Stratford, daily except Sat. and Sun.; 7:04 p.m., daily except Sunday; 12:49 a.m. to Stratford, daily except Sat.

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