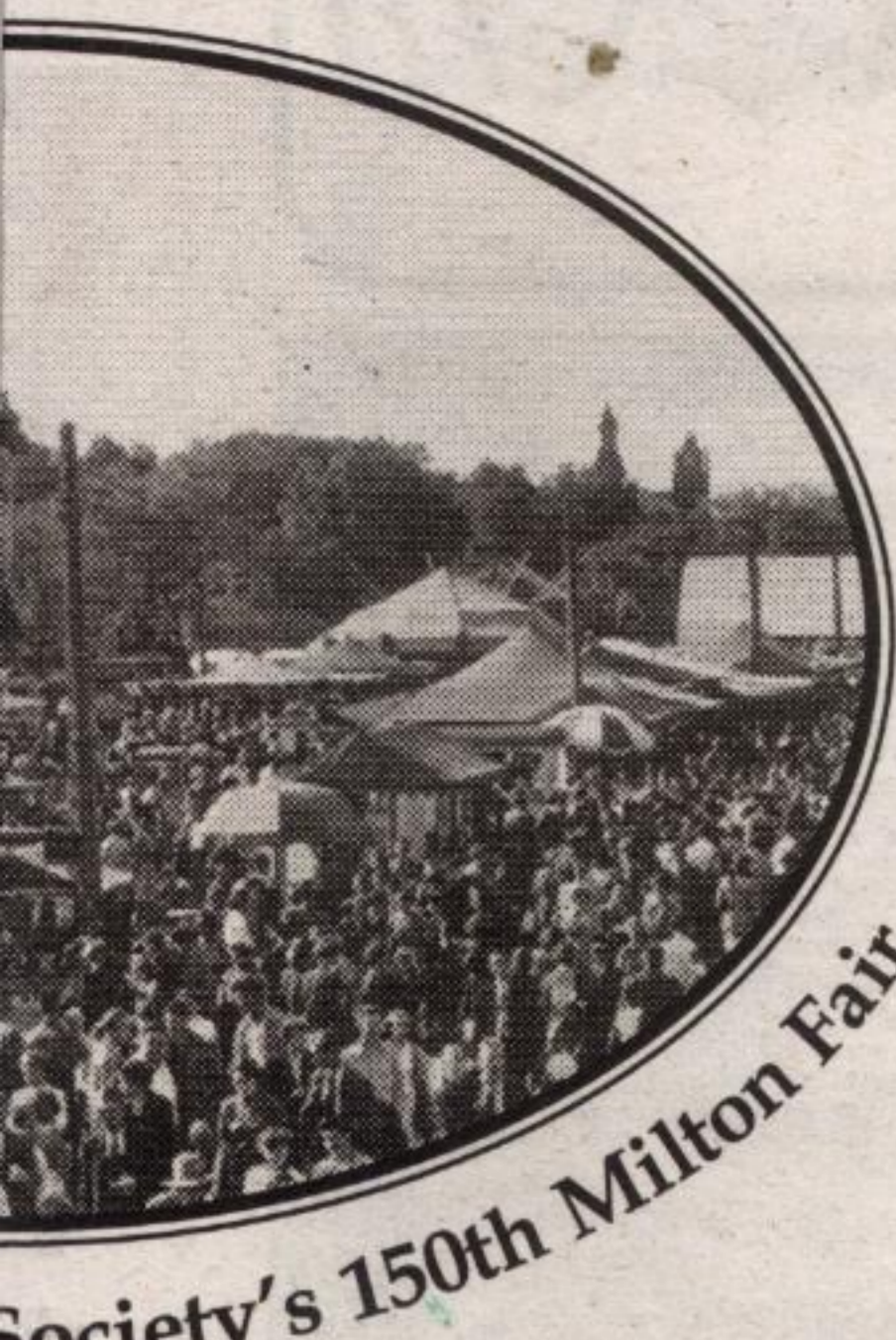


MEMORIES



Society's 150th Milton Fair



Long-time fair-goers: T. J. Chisholm and David Featherstone received 50-year membership jewels for attending Milton Fair for 50 consecutive years, Circa 1915.

Front row, left to right: Archibald McGibbon, Jim Willson, J.J. Chisholm, J.J. Wilson, David Featherstone, Mathew Dice, R.J. Campbell. Second row, left to right: Tom Graham, Mr. McCann, George Gastle, Henry Peacock, William Scott, Henry Turner. Back row, left to right: Henry Wilson, George Wilson, John Blacklock, Dr. Carbert.

burned down, so the board decided to build a hall in the centre of the racetrack. When the building was eventually moved to the present site of the Agricultural Hall, it was deemed too unstable and was replaced.

In 1900, *The Champion* reported: "Halton's Great Fair was a success in every respect. It was favoured by the finest of September weather on both days. In horses alone there were 445 entries. The fine new building erected by the society of the accommodation of the cattle had doubtless a good deal to do with this and will produce good results in the future..." The writer continued to discuss the displays of rugs and carpets, furniture, pianos, organs, sewing machines, cream separators and photographs exhibited by local manufacturers, vendors and townfolk - items that are not proffered today. "Carriages, buggies, carts, wagons, sleighs, etc. were shown in great variety by a number of exhibitors among whom Robert Ramshaw of Milton more than held his own."

A flurry of homebuilding surrounds today's fair grounds, but the 24-acre site is an oasis that offers space for far more than just an autumn fair. The Steam Era, 4-H, Sea Cadets, Junior Farmers, Halton Region Federation of Agriculture, Ontario Quarter Horse Association, Milton Horticultural Society and many other groups take advantage of the land located in the heart of Milton.

The 2003 Milton Fair theme is "A Time to Celebrate," which identifies with our seasonal harvest and hard work throughout the community, as well as making this a time to reflect on our heritage in Halton.

At the close of the first fair an enthusiastic reporter for *The Spectator* caught the mood of the day in an eloquent closing paragraph, one that will hopefully continue to mark present fairs as some of Milton's finest events. "The President, Thomas Douglas, Esq., of the Township of Nelson, in a neat and appropriate speech at the close of the Exhibition, declared his great satisfaction at the result of the day's proceedings, the great increase of members, the much greater number and superior quality of articles exhibited, and the good order and harmony that prevailed throughout the day... the Officers of the Society, and judges, with a number of friends adjourned to the dining room of Edward Hampton, of the Halton House, where preparations had been made suitable to the most fastidious taste, and which the labors of the day had prepared them to enjoy, and to which ample justice was done, after which all, or most returned to their homes well pleased."

Newspaper advertisement, 1935

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 1935.

COUNTY FAIR

ONTARIO

SATURDAY
September 28

F SPEED

Purse \$1.50.00
Purse \$1.25.00
Purse \$ 50.00

PRIZES

Prizes must be delivered to the donors at the gates.

34 SPECIAL (Not retained) INDUSTRY has provided funds for \$100 pounds.

..... \$6.00
..... 5.00
..... 4.00
..... 2.00
..... 1.00

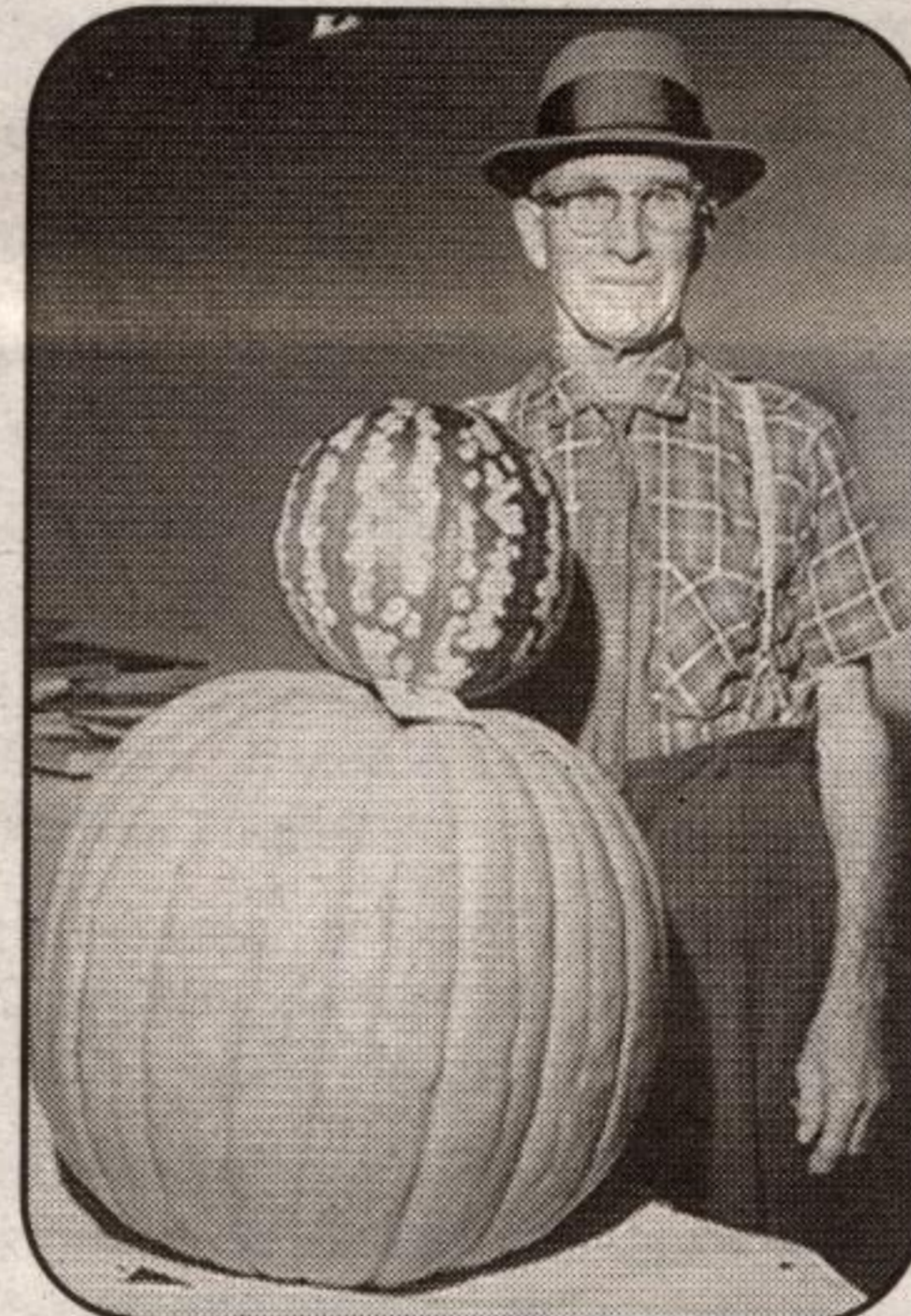
production.
one of these Special prizes at Fall Fair, will not debar an exhibitor from other Seed Fairs).
ity for malting, not for seed. The



Claude Picket of Hornby receives the Paul Beer Memorial Trophy from Halton Dairy Queen Carol Swackhamer of Acton. ~ Circa 1960 ~



1975 Halton 4-H Princess Annette Reed and Halton 4-H Queen Lynne Stewart



Tom Brownridge displays the largest pumpkin in the show, winning 13 prizes. September 27, 1969



The once popular baby contest returns in 2003 to celebrate the 150th anniversary. Baby winners in this 1952 centennial contest are, from left to right: Charles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Reed, and Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Pelletterio, winners in the infant to three month class; Joan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Gunby, and Steven, son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Smith, winners in the three to six month class; Susan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hackey, and Robert, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Andrews, Acton, winners in the six to 12 month class; and Mrs. F. Rouse holding Brenda Jean and Linda Susan, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. H. Miller, winners in the twins class.

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