

# Review Top 1959 Developments

Now that 1960 has arrived, the editors reviewed the top news stories of the past year which have reflected the most progress in the growth of Milton and district.

Here, as we swing into 1960 and another year of development, are capsule comments on the most outstanding events witnessed during 1959. There are more important things being undertaken, but perhaps they can be better reviewed at the end of 1960.

## Arrow Dead

On January 12, 1959, a public relations man from Orenda Engines at Milton told a large meeting in Milton that the Avro Arrow, touted as the highest performance available in North America, was a long way from obsolete.

Five weeks later, on February 20 ("Black Friday") to 14,000 Milton workers) the Arrow was obsolete and 246 Milton workers were unemployed; their \$1.4 million yearly wages lost; Milton was on the verge of becoming a pariah ghost town.

But thanks to a group of efficient workers in Milton, the Milton and District Mutual Employment Service was formed and within two days, 185 registered for new jobs and offers of aid were pouring in from all over Ontario. Today, only a few remain jobless in town. Many have moved to other parts of Canada or the United States, some have returned to England, a few have been called back to Milton, and many more found local jobs through the Employment Service.

Exact figures on its job placing are not available, but without the local self-help agency, over 200 breadwinners for families in town could have been jobless for a longer period of time.

## Hospital Open

Not just a successful project of 1959, but of the four years preceding 1959, the new Milton District Hospital opened its doors for patients on December 14, following an official opening ceremony Nov. 21.

This \$830,000 building, complete with modern equipment and facilities planned for a future expansion of up to 150 beds, stands

today as a tribute to those men and women who pioneered the construction of a public hospital back in 1954. Their work over the past five years, and the culmination of the gigantic task during 1959, will be remembered by the thousands who use the public facility in the years to come.

## 401 is Here

A town's progress and development, among other factors, partly hinges on its facilities for rapid transportation of manufactured and produced goods to a ready market. So for years to come, the new Highway 401 will be a main selling point for industrial salesmen in Milton.

Officially opened on Nov. 26 to Milton, Highway 401 brought the town a 76-mile stretch of four-lane superhighway stretching to the east to Newcastle, past the busy Toronto market. Its facility to passenger cars, as well as transports, will also be felt in the Milton district as the Queen Elizabeth and Highway 5 to the south of town become more heavily travelled day by day.

Highway 401 west to Highway 6 may be opened within the next year, bringing Milton and district further into contact with Ontario's golden horseshoe of development.

## Amalgamation

With much talk of annexation and joint services in the wind for the past several years, Trafalgar really leaped on the "let's-get-together" this year when Dr. E. G. Faludi unveiled in April his plan for a monstrous city of 200,000.

His suggestion — include all of Milton and Oakville, and portions of Nassagaweya, Esqueving and Burlington into one grand municipality of Trafalgar, using the natural boundaries of watersheds and mountains for a new town boundary line.

The plan met stiff opposition from all quarters and a provincial order-in-council finally demanded the Ontario Municipal Board make an enquiry into the plan. Hearings were delayed when Oakville and Trafalgar got together for a joint services plan for the southern township, and no decision has yet been made.

Milton meanwhile, has been urged to take a bit of Trafalgar. Again, no decision has been made.

## Manor Doubled

Among many construction projects undertaken this year, one new undertaking was the million dollar addition which, when finished, will double the capacity of Halton Centennial Manor.

Work started in April on the \$802,280.08 contract by Dell Construction of Toronto. Total cost of the project is an anticipated \$995,000. The addition includes a circular chapel, an auditorium, enlarged service facilities and a 62-bed hospital wing. While present accommodation is 105 beds, the addition will double this to 220.

The addition will be ready sometime in the new year.

## Dissolve Board

At Georgetown's urging, the North Halton High School District Board after today is dissolved and the three towns and two townships which formed the area board will set up three new district school boards centered around the three towns.

Termining the operation "unwisely" Georgetown representatives urged the split in the board which operated schools in Acton, Milton and Georgetown and served pupils from these three towns and the surrounding townships.

Ratification of the dissolution was given by the County Council. To date, members of the new Milton, Acton and Georgetown boards have not all been named. They will take over the schools' operation January 1, 1960.

## High School

A new \$435,000 district high school was one of Milton's larger undertakings this past year. Located just below the town's southern boundary, the school is not yet completed but is in operation for the 1960-61 fall term, officials explain.

A 12-room unit, it will also include a gymnasium-auditorium. The 10 acre site was annexed to the town from Trafalgar. A circular driveway approaching the front entrance will provide a

covered loading area for buses, and parking for 50 cars is indicated on the plans.

While officials of the North Halton High School District Board had hoped to have the school available for this year's fall term, delays in approvals and construction held up the erection. A Christmas opening was also delayed.

## More Water

Milton has gone through a never-ending search for that common commodity — water — for many a year.

But 1959 saw two definite steps in planning for future expansion. A new million gallon reservoir was built and council authorized the Ontario Water Resources Commission to study the town's water supply with a view to servicing possible expansion of the town's boundaries.

The water study had been urged by members of the Milton Industrial Commission when the commission's report suggested the town annex 6,220 acres to make the boundaries seven times the size of the present municipality.

A water supply pumped up from Lake Ontario was also suggested this year with a large artificial lake near Milton to serve many surrounding municipalities.

## New Schools

The old days of the one-room country school are drawing swiftly to a close in this area, and decisions by both Nassagaweya and Esqueving township school area board to erect large, consolidated schools at central points in the respective townships, have been quite important to all residents of the townships.

Nassagaweya's \$160,000 school will be the eight-room Brookville School, that is to be erected just north of the Township Hall on the Guelph Line. The five-room Esqueving school is already under construction on Highway 25 at 17 Sideroad, and can later have two rooms and an auditorium added.

Both schools are to be occupied next year.

## Church Opens

Not without considerable diffi-

culty, the small congregation of the local Pentecostal Assemblies faith erected their new \$40,000 Highway Gospel Church on Wakefield Road at Highway 25.

On January 17, a fire ripped through part of the building and held up the official opening for several weeks while doors, stairs, seats, walls and roof were repaired. The opening was finally held on March 29. In June, a new organ was dedicated at the modern building.

## New Commission

In March of 1959, an Industrial Commission came into being with the blessing of council, the merchants, and the unemployed.

The Milton self-help mutual employment agency, which was founded after the Malton plants closed in February, made strong demands for Milton to set up an industrial commission, to lure enough factory jobs to the town to take care of the 250 cast out of jobs at the closing of the Arrow project. The Chamber of Commerce joined in the petition, along with council's representative to the Hamilton Industrial Commission, Art Desjardine.

Named to the commission were chairman Art Desjardine, secretary Norman Pearce, and Frank McNiven, R. C. Cunningham, and Ross Pearen. Their appointment by council is yearly.

Their first new industry arrived about a month ago when construction began on the James H. Matthews and Co. plaque plant, from Pittsburgh. The commission is presently working on procuring several other industries interested in locating here.

## Trade Fair

The Milton Chamber of Commerce had one of its most active years in 1959, and the biggest success of the year was the mid-September Trade Fair which was seen by thousands.

The three-day event was held in the arena, which was filled with displays of 32 merchants and three industries that emphasized the manufacture and retailing of a wide array of goods right here in Milton. Nearly 5,000 visitors saw \$125,000 worth of goods on display, and nightly entertainment was available for the guests.

So successful was the event that another is planned for this year. Space is already being sold for the 1960 show.



—Staff Photo

**ESQUEVING SCHOOL BOARD** held their inaugural meeting in Stewarttown School on Tuesday afternoon, to make plans for the coming year. Pictured above are four of the members, secretary and school inspector. Shown seated, front row, on the left is last year's chairman R. J. Cunningham and on the right is Ernest Batkin, secretary. In the back, left to right, are Clarence Coles, school inspector W. L. McNeil, Mac Sprowl and A. Roy. Missing when picture was taken was Rev. G. L. Royal.

## Grandstand

Halton Agricultural Society, sponsors of the annual Milton fall fair and producers of this past September's 107th annual county show, erected a new \$50,000 grandstand seating 1,000 people this summer.

The new grandstand replaced an ancient, crumbling wooden structure. Baseball fans made use of the new seating facilities prior to fall fair time, and it was nearly filled to capacity on the Saturday afternoon of the county show.

Department and municipal grants assisted the society in erecting the costly cement and steel structure.

## LOOK BACK IN CAUTION

Sudden application of your brakes should be followed invariably, and instantaneously, by a glance in the rear view mirror. The danger from behind may be greater than the danger ahead.

## "Little" Accidents

### Cost Us \$3,000,000 Yearly

Each year, "little" accidents which seldom make the headlines, cost Canadians more than \$3,000,000, according to the All Canada Insurance Federation.

Many of these accidents occur during the winter, and most could be avoided through care and attention. The Federation, which represents more than 250 Canadian fire, casualty and automobile insurance companies, makes these recommendations for winter safety around the home:

#### Recommendations

1. Keep sidewalks shoveled and clear of ice and snow at all times.
2. Check exterior stairways and entrances for loose boards, nails and other dis-repair which might cause injury.

3. Clear large icicles from the eaves. They can cause serious injury when they fall.

4. Make sure that snow shovels, garden rakes, children's toys and similar items are kept clear of walks and not hidden under a deceptive layer of snow.

#### Watch for Burns

5. Cover accessible steam and hot water pipes which might cause burns to the unwary.

6. Keep children away from portable heaters, stoves and fireplaces.

7. Keep hot ashes in a metal container—never in cardboard or wooden boxes.

8. Don't let children play hockey or other winter games on or near the street.

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