

Editorial Page

Milton's Role

There is growing concern about the future of Milton and the role it may play in the area. Most of the concern is expressed in a question like "when is the town going to annex some land?"

Annexation has been a popular topic now almost since the last annexation in 1953 when 572 acres was added to the original 400 acre town. The application was for 739 acres.

In 1955 there was agitation for further annexations and the topic has been a recurring one ever since.

There are two areas of concern in consideration of annexation. First the obvious need for annexation is suggested in the lack of industrial land available. Canadian Meter, Canadian Felling Zinc Oxide, the James H. Matthews Co., Copeland Lumber, Milton District Hospital, the site for the new County buildings, Milton Plaza and originally the site for the Milton District High School, are all outside the town boundary. The assessment created by these industries does benefit the town, however, since they are located in the area from which funds for the public schools are raised. Since a number of them are serviced with water and sewers they contribute to the town through those rates. They also contribute to the operation of the fire department through the area arrangement.

The second area in considering annexation is the possibility and economics of providing services to a much larger area. The economy is the major factor here since the sewage treatment plant is geared for a population of 7,000 and we're given to understand the water supply and potential is adequate for a larger town.

But overshadowing both these factors are the more significant events around us. Burlington now goes as far north as Milton and stretches from the lake. It is within a mile of the town's west boundary. Trafalgar and Oakville are on the verge of a form of amalgamation that could either make one municipality from the lake to Milton on the east of the town or create a metropolitan centre to the south with an agricultural com-

munity that might look to Milton for inclusion.

It was in April of 1959 that the grandiose scheme for amalgamating Oakville, Trafalgar, Milton and sections of Burlington, Esquimes and Nassagaweya was announced.

The plan was scoffed at and generally rejected as it concerned Milton, Burlington, Esquimes and Nassagaweya. So Oakville and Trafalgar continued talks on amalgamation. Milton's voice has not been injected into those discussions because there were apparently no suggestions to be offered. The end result will be some form of solution for the south with new problems for the lower assessment area of the north.

Milton's role, after the juggling of municipal boundaries, can be one of two things. Either the town can remain as it is, locating and servicing industry in another municipality or it can develop some aggressive thinking, planning and action to create a realistic municipality with sufficient land for expansion and sufficient controls to avoid bankruptcy.

Last year a council committee was formed on annexation. The only report we recall was an agreement to disagree and no progress. The town planner has maintained his inability to bring in a report suggesting annexation because he lacks sufficient evidence on the potential of the water supply. The water committee has maintained there is plenty of water.

We do not maintain that annexation is the best thing for Milton. We frankly don't know. What concerns us though is that no one else seems to know or be searching for the answer while all around us municipalities have or are juggling their boundaries and Milton's leaders have not propounded any course of action or future thinking.

There is a need for aggressive leadership on this subject. It has been the subject of countless council and planning board sessions but surely council can reactivate its committee, seek the help of the planning board and develop some imaginative and practical thinking on Milton's boundaries.

More Winter?

Did he or didn't he? What's that... Why did he see his shadow... the groundhog, of course.

You see today (February 2) is the day everyone is supposed to keep their eye on the sun or perhaps peered for a groundhog to find out just how much more winter there will be.

The old folk tales say that if he does see his shadow we will be in for six more weeks of winter.

The woodchuck, its proper name is famous as a hibernating animal. Early in the autumn it retires to its den at the bottom of the burrow and rolls up into a tight ball with the head and feet drawn up tightly.

The old story has it that on February 2 the groundhog slowly emerges from his hibernating den to the daylight. If he emerges in bright sunlight and sees his shadow he at once returns to hibernate through another six weeks of winter weather. If he comes out

on a cloudy day and sees no shadow, winter is over and the groundhog remains active.

Considering the date this story must have had its origin in New England or further south in the region of Maryland or Virginia, where woodchucks do emerge early in February. There may also, we're told, have been some connection with the religious celebration of Candlemas Day, which falls on February 2.

We can imagine that in Ontario, groundhogs usually come out much later when the weather warms up so don't put too much stock in the old story.

Matter of fact we could probably predict another six weeks of winter right now not knowing whether the weather on Thursday will be sunny or cloudy. Seems that last year we had some ice storms in February in some sections and spring never really seems to come until we get a lot closer to Easter.

Await That Day

The public hearings of the Royal Commission inquiry into the economic climate for Canadian publications have ended.

Now of course the Commission, headed by fiery Gratton O'Leary, just has to come up with its proposals that will make the competitive field sufficiently healthy for Canadian publications.

If the hearings did nothing else, they did bring sharply into focus our dependence on the U.S. for news magazines. Their Canadian content is limited and indeed left out of the main editions.

Canada has only one publication that is national and reflects Canadian thinking and attitude. That is Macleans and it just lost over \$100,000 last year.

Surely though there is some group or journalistic wizard that could capably launch a Canadian based counterpart to Time or Newsweek. Capably handled it might even gain a few readers south of the border

where there is surely a growing interest in northern neighbors.

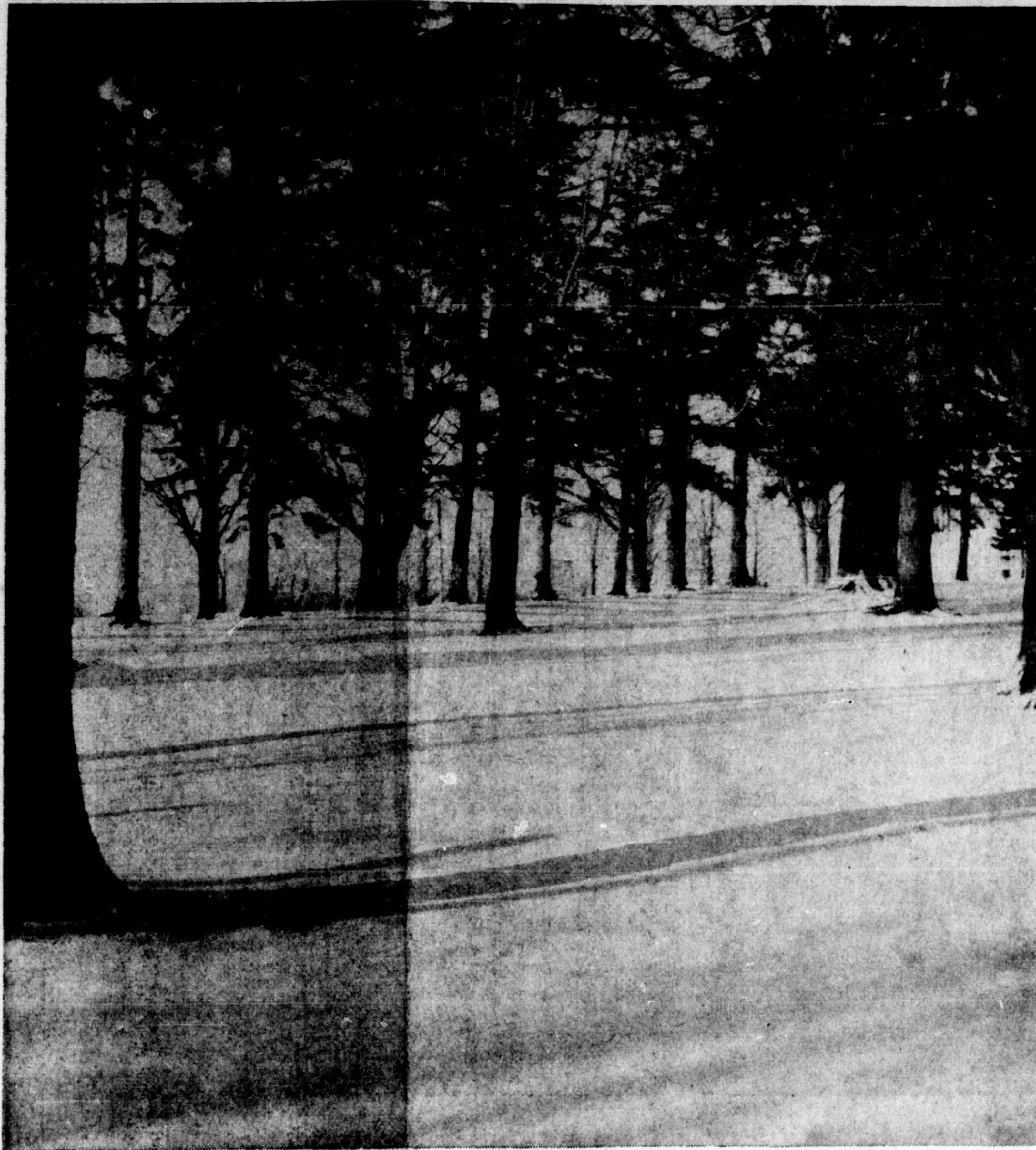
Launching such a publication is of course no simple task either financially or editorially. Canada is a broad land with a complexity of regional problems and a scarcity of potential readers because of its relatively small population.

Of course such a publication might be fostered by the Canada Council or through the government like the CBC but neither of those solutions appear very attractive.

It would seem that Canada will have to depend on U.S. based news magazines unless the recommendations of the Commission are more drastic than anticipated or until a financier and a true journalist get together.

We look forward to that day because the impact of true Canadian attitudes and ideals will be more effectively transmitted through the medium of the printed word.

"Five O'Clock Shadows"



—Photo by Esther Taylor



Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● THEY TOOK a lot of empty bottles away from the blood donor clinic on Tuesday night. Too bad there weren't a few more full ones. Miltonians aren't called on very often to contribute their pint of blood that can mean life or death.

● A GOOD number no doubt enjoyed celebrating Robbie Burns night on Saturday. Some local Scots went to Galt, a good number to the Lorne Scots Pipe Band Robbie Burns night in Brampton Armoury and nearly 100 to the event sponsored by the Maple Leaf Group at Knox Church.

● MILTON'S industry and commerce has been growing, perhaps quietly but none the less impressively. Earl Black, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, has done an excellent job of compiling a pretty complete list of local business and industry. It's interesting to note 19 industries here and 114 businesses.



Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

owly moods in which she won't even take "yes" for an answer.

She had one of those attacks this week. They often come in midwinter, when my resistance is low anyway. She sits down firmly and produces lots of paper and a pencil. Then she compiles fantastic lists of stuff everything from tires to toilet paper, from oil to oranges, puts a price on everything, and adds it all up.

This takes about two hours, during which we discover the following: that I don't know how much life insurance I have; that I don't know how much the taxes are; that I can't remember whether or not I've paid the interest on the mortgage, and such-like.

Perhaps that's why I dread these sessions so much. With a few strokes of the pencil, I am transfixed. Instead of the firm, kindly mentor of the family, the only one with both feet on the ground, the rock on which the cruel waves of life are shattered, the bringer-home of bacon, the captain of our little ship, I am revealed as a sort of village idiot, an adept burden on the slim shoulders of my spouse, a clay-footed idol, a juggler with shaky hands, and an utter economic flop.

I know the mortgage wasn't paid last year, the taxes are overdue, we've had five bills in a row from the dentist, and I've missed the discount on the hydro bill, which has been in my hip pocket for three weeks. But these things don't really bother me too much. It's when my wife gets on one of her financial-genius kicks that life becomes pretty ghastly around our place. She invariably does it when she's in one of those

● ACCORDING to the Ontario Motor League, there is a new hand signal for motorists. If you see a car approaching and the driver has his hand out the window and is rhythmically opening and closing his hand, it means you have failed to cancel your turn signals. I just hope it doesn't become too confusing. It reminds me of the story of the motorist whose car had just been hit by a woman driver. "Look," wearily replied the male, "your arm was out, I'll admit. But, first it was up, then down, then into circles, then straight out. That's a left turn signal!" "Silly," she retorted, "the first two might have been wrong but didn't you see me erase them and give you the correct sign?"

● NOTICE where Acton is going to get a completely new \$90,000 post office on a new site, according to estimates of the Department of Public Works.

● After this week's ordeal she announced triumphantly that we were going in the red at the rate of \$50 a month. That seemed to make her feel better. It made me feel a lot better, too. From the way she'd been acting, I figured they were about ready to send me off to a place for retarded children.

Then she went into the next part of the ritual, which never varies. Where were we going to cut down? I always suggest paring the food bill. "Those kids would be a lot better off if they ate more porridge and cheap healthy stuff like that," I always say. This merely leads to an outburst in which she claims that I have just accused her of being an extravagant and wasteful cook. This puts me on the defensive.

And that's exactly where she wants me. Now the pencil stabs the paper relentlessly and comes the inevitable question, "Do you realize how much you spend on cigarettes?" And it turns out, as it always does, that if I stopped smoking, and gave up my pre-dinner bottle of ale, the budget would balance, the sun would shine every day, and my family would love, respect and obey me. So I promise to do it.

Next day, the Old Lady feels so good about having balanced the budget and reformed me, that she buys a new dress. So I reckon that if she can afford a new dress, things aren't so tough, and I slip downtown and pick up a deck of weeds and a small box of beer. And we're off for another happy, budget-less six months.

The Turning Point

By J. M. Starr

"I remember, I remember, the house where I was born,
I know the little window where the sun peeped in at morn!"
—Thomas Hood.

How many of us remember with happiness a favourite window? Who wrote "Where there is light... there is life also"? One of the very best ideas of our modern times is the creation of great golden windows. Nothing is so important in a home, have you been in any of the new schools or hospitals lately? If you have, you will realize how the new picture windows have happily resulted in a shedding of the stark, institutional appearance. Big windows inspire us to look beyond, and beyond us to feel gay with the warmth and light that streams in. Lucky indeed are those whose windows look out on trees and gardens and beautiful vistas.

Some of you will remember that a number of years ago it became a sort of fad, or fashion, to have blinds and curtains almost always drawn and an atmosphere of darkness and gloom was presented. Even in winter-time the world of nature is a busy one and much happiness is created at the windows of our homes where our interests are kept alive perceiving the antics of the birds, the capers of the squirrels, the glory of the snow bedecked branches, and the tiny flakes in countless design falling to earth. Some of my happiest reading and writing is done at a desk before windows where I can look with amusement on the children earnestly learning to skate, or happily building snow-men, and see the traffic of cars and people. These panes of glass frame our view and form the go-between that unites our thoughts with the outdoors, giving us a fresh and cheerful outlook from the palest beams of dawn to the golden bands of sunset. It is surprising how our thoughts keep changing as the shadows cast on the brick of the houses, and the snow, and the moulded blue rim of the distant hill, keep changing. It seems that the more we look out the more thoughts we invite within!

People cannot hope to do their best work in dark corners, for every one thinks, lives and works a better and a happier life where there is light. The poet Jonathan Swift described "The two noblest things of life" as "sweetness and light!" It has often been said that the eyes are the windows of the soul. Babies and small children quickly seek out your eyes for their tiny minds can perceive so much in what they see there. If we desire to seek what is best in everyone we meet, we should look at everything through kindly eyes!

Time and again we realize that it is not the rare gifts that make us happy. It's the common simple, universal gifts — it is the glance of sunshine in the morning; it is health and fresh air; it is the friend and the kindness that meets us on a journey... or it may be only a smile, a word, a look! These,—and not any rarity of blessing that are His gentle art of making us happy! It was Wordsworth who wrote:

"Come forth into the light of things,
Let nature be your teacher!"

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion Feb. 2, 1911.

Rev. Dr. S. Cleaver, of Trinity Methodist Church, Toronto, will deliver his celebrated lecture, "Jean Val Jean," in St. David's Presbyterian Church, Campbellville, on Monday, February 6, at 8 p.m. To hear the story of Jean Val Jean, as told by Dr. Cleaver, is to become acquainted with the most interesting character ever introduced to the book world. The story, the masterpiece of Victor Hugo, is told in such a manner that the listeners are held spellbound. Don't miss it.

H. H. Chisholm, the Lakeview skip, who won the single rink championship of Toronto, is an Oakville old boy. Dr. Wylie, vice-skip of Mr. Chisholm's rink taught school in the Scotch Block, not many years ago. Rev. W. M. MacKay, of the Milton Club, has reason to be proud of the fact that, at Toronto last winter, he beat the Chisholm rink 17 to 12. The players were the same as this year except the second man, who was Rev. H. A. Macpherson, a splendid curler.

E. C. Featherstone and Vic Crozier, of Toronto, and David Hammond, of Chicago, spent Sunday at the home of W. E. Featherstone, Victoria Ave.

Alvin McDonald, second son of Ronald McDonald, 4th line, Esquimes, fell a distance of 25 feet in the barn last week while repairing a rack lifter, dislocated a shoulder, was badly bruised and unconscious for some time, but is recovering.

Acton played the M.B.A.C. seven at the rink on Tuesday evening. The game was fast and exciting and those who saw it got the worth of their money. Milton won 6-4, had to play hard to do so and there was little to choose between the two teams. Plant and Clark starred for Acton. Clark has been in hard luck all this season. Up to Monday evening he had been hurt in every match in which he played this season. This time he escaped injury, but at the end of the first half he discovered that his feet had been frozen during the drive from Acton to Milton. He had to retire and Teller went off to even up. Teller played good hockey for the locals and Sinclair did great work at the net, stopping many a hard shot. N. Ryder was a good referee.

20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion February 6, 1941

Mr. H. H. Champion, who has been teller at the local branch of the Bank of Toronto for nearly three years, has been moved to the branch at Leveck, 30 miles north of Sudbury. During his sojourn in Milton, Mr. Champion has made many friends who are sorry to see him leave. His place has been taken by J. L. Arthur, who was transferred from Oil Springs branch.

Quatre Bras School Burned.—Only the flame-blackened walls remain standing of Quatre Bras school, three miles north from Milton, in Esquimes Township. Built in 1873 and known as Sproats' school, this red brick building was destroyed by fire shortly after midnight Friday. Cause of the fire unknown. Loss is estimated at \$3,000. The teacher is Miss Adeline Fraser. Accommodation for the school classes has been found. School will be held in Harvey Moffat's house on fifth line, beginning next Monday, February 10, when Miss Fraser, who has been ill, will be able to resume her duties.

Thomas Dear, who was employed by George Kibler up to last week, when Mr. Kibler sold his complete stock of boots and shoes to a shoe merchant in Hiron county and retired from business in Milton, has gone into business for himself in the old Hydro office, next door to Paddy Wilson's butcher shop. We wish Tom all kinds of success.

Early's Sales and Service, Campbellville, used cars and trucks, 1940 Ford Deluxe Tudor, Radio and heater. This almost a new car \$945. 1939 Ford Coupe, a real smart car in wonderful shape \$725. 1937 Ford Coupe, like new \$545. 1936 Ford Tudor, new tires, brakes, and generally good \$445. Trucks, 1938 Ford 1 ton, mechanically perfect, looks and runs like new \$645. 1937 Ford Dump Truck, with Brantford Anthony hoist. This truck has had good care and is in real shape \$595. 1933 Chev. Maple Leaf, 12 foot platform, racks, good tires, and in generally good condition \$295. 1933 Chev. Stake, 9 foot platform guaranteed good, a real handy truck \$225. The above cars and trucks are fully guaranteed. We also have a number of Fords, Chevrolets, Whippets, Durants, etc. at prices ranging from \$50.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

WITH ROY DOWNS



ACTON—Two youngsters, aged seven and 10 years, confessed to causing malicious damage at Ajax Engineering plant two weeks ago, and it is expected their parents will have to make restitution. Over the recent weekend, 22 windows were smashed in the factory and heavy plastic material covering equipment stored in the yard was ripped open and parts were removed from 14 aqua towers.

GEORGETOWN—Approval has been received to proceed with many local improvements under the government-sponsored Winter Works program. Councillors approved improvements to the water wall, a complete survey of the highway within town limits, and brush clearance in a woodlot. The government pays 75 per cent of the labor costs.

BURLINGTON — Georgetown's volunteer ambulance service system may be copied in Burlington, because council feels a dependable ambulance service is necessary now that the new hospital is opening. The Joseph Brant hospital opened its doors to maternity patients yesterday (Wednesday) and two operating rooms will be opened February 7. Emergency cases will be accepted later.

BRAMPTON—Over 600 guests were present last week as the first shipment of Rambler automobiles rolled off assembly lines at American Motors Limited's new \$3,500,000 plant here. The plant employs 500 and is initially geared to produce 32 cars a day.

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