



DWARFING MAN is this 14 foot culvert being installed in the C.N.R. by-pass wall that is surrounding the town. The culvert, 270 feet long, is located between the Base Line Road and Bronte St. It is one of two such culverts that will carry the stream through the railway embankment. The steel culvert with the necessary bolts will weigh 181 tons when completed.

● IT SEEMS rather evident from the turnout at the plebiscite on Monday, that the people are quite content to have others make the decisions for them even when it comes to spending money. I've often felt the ratepayers should be permitted to register their opinion on more of the debenture issues, but it seems they couldn't care less. Fortunately, some care enough to vote.

● SPEAKING of visitors, you might be interested in inviting your friends to Milton for the Labor Day weekend. The steam show that has attracted thousands in the past couple of years is scheduled for Milton on the Labor Day weekend. And if plans of the local business section materialize, the event could be almost as gay as the Centennial celebrations of 1957.

● MAN'S ingenuity is surely expressed in the variety of types of fences you can see on a country drive. Of course there's a similar variety of suburban type fences but their origin was always in the lumber mill. The farm fences originated from an abundance of something in the area. It would be impossible to estimate the number of hours of work that must have been invested in some of the stone fences around the country. But it was a utilization of something that, to the farmer, had no other use. Similarly the stump fences represent hours of work. Compared with the single strand of wire of an electric fence the stump, stone and rail fences are overpowering in their appearance and background.

Editorial Page

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

GLANCING BACK TO 10 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, June 25, 1953. A letter was received from Milton Public School at the Council meeting Monday evening requesting the Council to provide \$9,630 for school purposes, not in the budget. This amount was made up as follows: \$5,780 for a portable building, to relieve the overcrowding at the school; \$1,500 for furnishing the building and \$2,400 for a new school site, just over the boundary of Milton to the South, between the extension of Thomas and Commercial Sts. The request follows a visit of representatives of the School Board to Council last week. J. E. Marcellus retires this month after a total of 31 years as a teacher in Milton. At least two generations of Milton scholars have known Mr. Marcellus as their principal, for many parents of present-day pupils had him as their teacher also. Coming to Milton first in 1912 from Flesher-ton, Mr. Marcellus was principal of the Milton public and contin-

GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, June 24, 1943. Present prospects, states Agricultural representative J. E. Whitelock, point to increasing food shortage this coming winter. He pointed out that less than 50 per cent of our 1943 acreage of oats and barley had been sown this spring and with seeding six weeks later than a year ago, it is difficult to see much hope for anything like a normal crop, even on the acreage sown. With prospects for a short crop of grain in Ontario and with difficulty of getting grain from the West owing to transportation problems, and with the shortage of protein concentrates, the hay crop must be saved if we are to have anything like enough milk for our urban markets this winter. It is said that for the first time in history there was no ice cream, nor bottled ice cold

GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, June 26, 1913. The Hydro-electric power went off throughout the system three times last week, causing great inconvenience generally and loss to the industries. The cause was found to be defective insulators, principally those made in Germany. They have all been removed. Everything is now in perfect order and is expected to remain so. Auto polo, the fastest game on earth, will be played at Exhibition Park, Toronto, on July 15. One of the two rival teams has just arrived from England and the other is from New York. The game is played with two cars on a side, each manned by a driver and a "mallet man." The ball is of leather, 8 inches in diameter and is air-filled. The board of trade met last night. Proposals from a manufacturing firm for the establish-

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

Dominion Day is on the way! Let's have a celebration. It may be our last chance, they say, To mark it as a nation. Yep, according to the gloom-pots, this may be our last opportunity to celebrate with our customary fervour that glorious national holiday revered by all Canadians: The First of July.

Such eminent hysterians as Pierre Berton are sounding the tocsin, raising the storm signals, and making like Cassandra. Quebec, their sob, is gonna pull out the confederation. All will be lost. Canada will become a banana republic.

It is rather a paradox that the groans of anguish emerge, for the most part, from the very people who devote a great deal of time, and a vast number of words, towards convincing everybody that Canada is already little more than a banana republic.

They are the people who have unselfishly volunteered to act as the conscience of this country. They are the people who bludgeoned us into a nation; they are the people who hang, with embarrassing obsequiousness, on the every word of every foreigner who speaks of this country, its habits and its people.

They are the people who, via Dawson City or Glace Bay or Hayfork Centre, descend upon our cities and set themselves up as arbiters of our taste, our opinions, our morals, our manners. Armed with incredible glibness and a facility with words, they are revealing their ineffable scorn for Canadian custom, cooking and culture.

A plague upon them all! In the face of their insults and insinua-

DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER WITH ROY DOWNS

THE IRREGULAR attendance of pupils and the indifference of parents toward schools was a big problem in the early days of Halton County's school system. The fact was emphasized in the school inspectors' reports listed in an 1869 publication by the Government, loaned to The Champion by M. J. Carton, R. R. 3, Milton. "Too many (parents) are more particular to have the little brothers out of the way than to have them at school," reported the Oakville inspector Charles H. Lusk in his annual report to the government. "The result is, numbers through the streets, learning and practising evil and pernicious habits, whose time should and could be spent undergoing the necessary discipline to prepare them for subsequent usefulness," he explained. Let's hope the truant officers of today's mandatory attendance system note the problem their predecessors faced. Thank goodness there's little truancy today!

more parental interest. Georgetown had one school with three departments and 360 enrolled, as well as two private schools with 20 pupils, and a new common school was being planned. (The inspector noted one teacher was in charge of 70 pupils.) THE HALTON JAIL in 1869 was also a far cry from the present. The inspector reported to the government there were eight prisoners in confinement, two as dangerous lunatics. "The accommodation of this goal is entirely insufficient for the wants of the county," he wrote. "In the same corridor I found two sentenced criminals, a woman waiting trial, and a very noisy and dangerous lunatic." The inspector warned County Council it should enlarge the prison to enable jail officials to classify prisoners "in the interests of humanity and common decency." IF THE WOMAN who fixed up a den for her husband expects him to do all his growling there, she's doomed to bitter disappointment.

The Overwhelming Minority ...

One third of the ratepayers eligible to vote, cast their ballots on the first local money-by-law in several years. The result was the defeat of Library Board plans to construct a new library. The interest of voters in the project was pathetically feeble. In fact it was disgusting. Weather conditions were ideal for the vote and there was no reason the percentage voting should not have been higher. The interest of the voters does not auger well for the town's future. Frankly we are disappointed the town will not have the opportunity to bring its library facilities up to a reasonable standard. No one likes the thought of spending \$77,000, but similar amounts of money are spent collectively on many less important things.

Probably the most disastrous blow to the library board's cause was in the timing of the plebiscite. Council's finance committee this year has been dogged with financial requirements for capital purposes that are far above normal. The two school boards are seeking funds, the parking authority has a proposal, a water line is anticipated between the town and the Kelso wells, and the library proposal, several years in the preparation, was tossed into the capital expenditure salad.

The vote was a close one with only 45 ballots spelling the defeat of the project. The vote was light with less than 30 per cent of the voters taking the time to register an opinion. Summed up, the outcome of the vote was

really dictated by an overwhelming minority. It would have been the same if it had gone the other way. We stand up and pound our chest about the will of the majority and at election time we sit down and sheepishly fail to vote. We stand up and yell about educational standards and point with disdain at the "younger generation" and we fail to vote for educational facilities that can have long range effects on the training of men and minds of the future. The big difference is that talk is so cheap, and action sometimes calls for sacrifice.

The overwhelming minority has decided that the town's library facilities are adequate, but at least they cared enough to register an opinion. It's the apathetic majority that concerns us the most. It's the same apathetic majority that fails to show at nominations but are so vocal in their criticism; it's the same apathetic majority who are residents of the community but who seldom participate in community service work.

The outcome of the vote is secondary to the salient feature that becomes evident - the apathetic public. The unnamed mass of Miltonians who prefer to be residents but not participants are the real threat to the community. Government in this town, like so many other towns, is by the overwhelming minority. It is this way because of the apathetic majority. It will continue this way until the toes of the individuals who compose the apathetic majority are trod on and then and only then their screams will be heard in the next county. Such a wake-up solution should hardly be necessary.

A Continuing Growth ...

Monday is Canada's birthday. It may be a little hard to realize it by the absence of flags and local celebration but nevertheless it was July 1, 1867 that marked the formal beginnings of Canada as a nation. While July 1 is significant, the growth in nationhood has been a continuing one which a review of history indicates.

In 1864 delegates from the Maritime provinces had assembled to discuss a maritime union. The Union of 1841 having been frustrated by recurrent instability, delegates from Canada were sent to the Maritimes conference to propose a wider union of all British North America. A conference was convened at Quebec later that year to discuss the proposal and to make recommendations to the Colonial Office. Under the BNA Act of 1867 which resulted, Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were united in the Dominion of Canada.

The responsibility of the executive to the electorate achieved under Lord Elgin was

limited to colonial affairs. Gradually the Government of Canada extended its control to Crown lands, trade relations, tariffs and other activity. Independence in foreign policy, however, was not achieved until the First World War, when Canada assumed membership in the Imperial War Cabinet, sent delegates to the peace conference at Versailles and became in its own right a member of the League of Nations.

Under the Statute of Westminster of 1931, Canadian sovereignty was given final recognition. No law of Canada can now be voided because it is repugnant to British law; no law of Britain is effective in Canada except with the consent of the Dominion; all laws enacted by Canada have extra-territorial effect. In 1947 Canadian citizenship was defined as distinct from British citizenship; in 1949 Canada obtained authority to amend the BNA Act; in the same year appeals to the Privy Council's Judicial Committee were established; in 1952 a Canadian was appointed Governor General.

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NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

GEORGETOWN - E. W. Bliss Co. of Canada Ltd., manufacturer of traffic signalling devices, road signs and industrial timers, has announced plans to buy the vacant Sykes Tool Corporation manufacturing plant here. The seven-year-old, 16,300 square foot plant fronts on Highway 7.

WATERDOWN - A developer has offered council \$15,000 to buy the Waterdown Memorial Hall on Highway 5, with plans to convert it to a restaurant with liquor facilities. But The Review, in a front page editorial, opposes the sale because it is the community's only public meeting place and is used for a Legion-sponsored youth program. It was erected in 1922 in memory of first war veterans.

BRAMPTON - Free parking on municipal lots ends July 15 when meters go back into operation, the first time since January 1961. Council claims a contract with the Chamber of Commerce, whereby merchants paid the town to compensate for lost meter revenue, has not worked and the Chamber is behind on payments.

COOKSVILLE - Some northern Peel County Liberals have protested the recent county Liberal nomination meeting, charging teenagers and a nine-year-old boy were allowed to cast votes for the candidates. Organizers defended their action in allowing delegates under 21 years of age, stating they were accredited members of the Young Liberals. Their protest was not upheld and Ted Glista was named candidate.

PEEL COUNTY - A county-wide police force was proposed by a Port Credit councillor last week, as more effective and less costly than 10 scattered forces. "Ten municipalities and 10 chiefs of police mean a duplication of services," Deputy-Reeve Jack Plaus told county council.

OAKVILLE - The Oakville Yacht Squadron has rescued the town's 1889 lighthouse and at a Saturday ceremony it was re-dedicated by Mayor William Anderson. Torn down a few years ago to make way for a new beacon on the pier, the lighthouse was procured by yacht squadron enthusiasts, moved to the yacht club property, and restored to its original form.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "I have made mistakes and I may make some more if I stay here. This is inevitable, I suppose, if one's objective is to get things done regardless of the difficulties to be overcome." - Hon. W. Gordon, Minister of Finance in the House of Commons