

The Canadian Champion

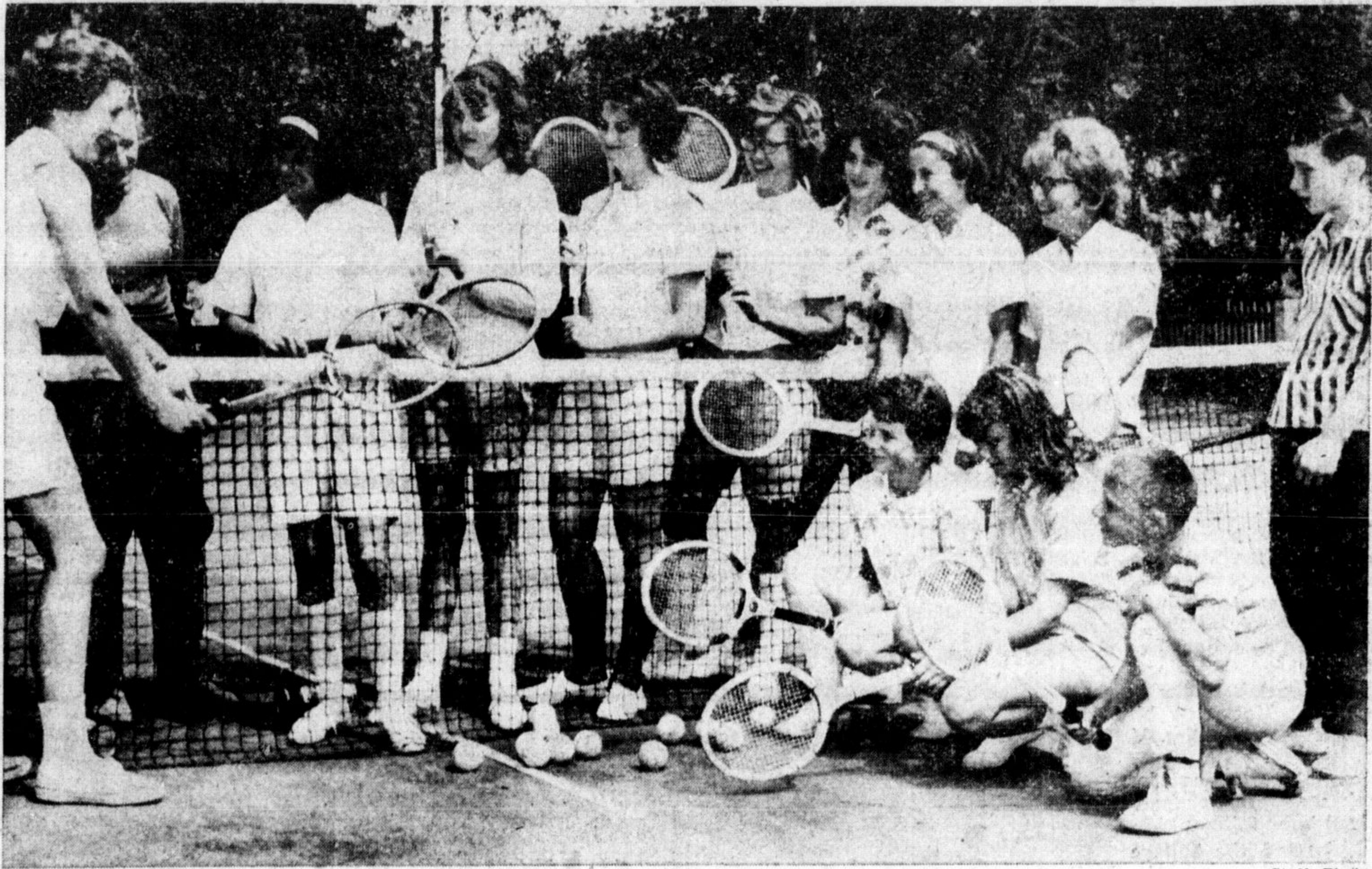
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Milton's Own Newspaper
Serving the Community for 104 Years

MILTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JUNE 18th, 1964

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—Staff Photo

WEEKLY TENNIS LESSONS began on Saturday morning with Mrs. D. Ptolemy, president of the Milton Tennis Club, conducting the lessons at the Main St. Courts beginning at 9.30 a.m. About 20 teenagers showed up for the first classes and learned several of the elementary tennis moves. Racquets and balls are available if necessary for club members. Mrs. Ptolemy is shown

as she demonstrates the proper way to grip a racquet, as Mrs. J. W. McCutcheon, left, looks on. The courts are now ready for play and club members can be seen in action every evening of the week, weather permitting. Quite a few memberships are now in and the fees are \$6 for junior members and students, \$10 for adults, \$12 for couples and \$15 for families.

Accept Mill Pond Offer For Centennial Project

The Letter ...

December 18, 1963.

Corporation of the Town of Milton, Milton, Ontario.

Gentlemen:
The Mill Pond has been an integral part of our Town for many years. Prior to the fire at our Plant last February, the water from the pond had been a source of power for the Mill. The pond has also been a beauty spot in our Town and our Company is desirous that it continue as such.

We, therefore, offer to donate the Pond, together with certain other lands adjacent to the Pond and now owned by us, to the Corporation of the Town of Milton, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the pond not be disposed of by the Corporation (with one possible exception, viz the Conservation Authority) and that it continue to be zoned as a "Conservation" area, or "Parks" area.
2. That its potential as a possible recreational area for the benefit of the citizens of our Town be fully explored by the Town, and if found to be practical, that the site be developed as a recreational or park area.
3. That there be no change in the drainage rights from our present mill property to the creek.
4. That the expenses connected with land subdivision be borne by the Town.
5. That the pond and the area be named "Robin Hood Park."

We will be pleased to discuss with you the exact outline of the property contained in this offer immediately upon your acceptance of the proposal.

Respectfully,
Supersweet Formula Feeds,
Division of Robin Hood Flour Mills Limited,
W. J. Kennedy.

The Acceptance ...

After heated debate, Milton Council Monday agreed to accept the Mill Pond and land included in the Robin Hood Flour Mills offer. The town solicitor was instructed to prepare the agreement between the town and the firm.

Reeve C. A. Martin, opposing the action, pointed to the absence of any engineering or cost estimates on the project. He noted the land could never be used commercially anyway, but by accepting it, the town would be saddled with the costs for all time.

He called on Councillor Pearce to indicate the boundaries of the property, and explain why 15 acres of marsh land should be taken over by the town. "There should be a very clearcut outline of what we are accepting and what costs are involved," he concluded.

Charges Delay
Councillor N. Pearce charged innuendo on the part of the Reeve. "I have always been of the opinion the offer is a generous gesture. I feel we should accept it despite conditions imposed." He continued, outlining the work of the centennial committee, the considerations of various projects and the final decision the development of the pond and town park land was an appropriate centennial project.

He explained he had walked around the property "including that referred to as swamp." He suggested other areas filled and developed can be attractive as park land. A sluiceway would have to be built at one end of the pond to keep the water on the move, he suggested, and a small area adjoining Martin St. might be filled.

Threatens Resignation
The councillor stressed the need for action since applications for centennial grants had to be filed by August 1, 1964. "If you are inclined to throw road blocks and procrastination on this I would feel it necessary to resign from the committee," he challenged.

"We've heard about personalities, but no concrete figures," Reeve Martin charged. "You can not take it over without costs. If

you take it over it should be known as Milton Centennial Park. You should not establish a precedent by taking over land that property owners have no further use for."

Councillor C. Fay voiced his support for taking the pond over as a project for the Centennial Committee, but opposed attaching the name Robin Hood to it. He also suggested the town should be free in 20 years to turn it over to the Conservation Authority or put it to the most desirable use. "I feel Robin Hood are trying to tie us down a little too much."

Costs First
Councillor C. Menefy expressed his appreciation of what was being taken over. He suggested, however, that since costs would have to be filed in the application for grant purposes, they should have been prepared for presentation to council with the proposal.

Councillor Pearce reviewed centennial grants available would be about \$19,500, of which one third would be raised by the town. "We accepted this as the limitation," he suggested. He explained the plan to drain the pond for a year, then bulldoze it deeper before refilling.

The possibility of a parks board being formed was discussed.

Councillor B. Best suggested all councillors were to blame for not having sorted the problems out before this. He noted the offer was made in December. "Unless we take a constructive approach on this and other matters, we'll never get civic-minded people to take part in local groups," he emphasized, noting the recommendation for acceptance came from the local centennial committee.

Reeve Martin stressed he would like to further the project. He reported he had already asked Robin Hood to indicate the property boundaries, and allow the area to be known as Centennial Park. He noted one property line was the centre of the creek, making it difficult to develop just one side.

As discussion concluded, the vote on the motion was carried by a narrow majority.

Increased Costs

Nix Main St. Widening

Milton Council, with three members not participating because of personal interest, decided Monday not to proceed with the widening of the Main St., a project that was initiated last year but not continued.

The widening would affect the section of Main St. from roughly Commercial St. to Ontario St. Councillors C. Johnston and B. Best and Reeve Martin disclosed a personal interest in the subject through ownership of property, and declined to participate in the debate.

Two Schemes

Under the scheme recommended by engineer Hinde, of the firm of V. R. Anderson and Associates, an equal amount of

property on each side of the street would be taken. Another scheme, which would have given a perfectly straight street, would take all the land from the south side. The engineer noted however, this would require removal of the front wall of the Charles Hotel and the now-empty store on the south side of Main at Commercial. With the slight jog provided in the other scheme, this would not be necessary.

"Who started all of this?" one councillor wondered.

Engineer Hinde referred to a 1963 Department of Transport traffic study recommending the widening of the street to at least 42 feet but preferably 44 to 48 feet.

The subsidy on the project (originally estimated at \$117,000) would be 90 percent on construction and 50 percent on land acquisition. Costs to the town were variously estimated between \$24,500 and \$27,000. An amount of \$16,000 was included in the capital budget for the project.

The widening would require extending the bridge on both sides. The present road width varies between 28 feet and 35 feet. The widening would provide parking on both sides and still allow two lanes of traffic.

In the face of the increased costs over the amount in the capital budget, councillors agreed to table the project for one year.

Kelso Pool Opening In July this Year

Kelso Swimming Pool will open for its third year of operation in mid-July, following the installation of new filtration equipment. Before it opens, the pool will be deepened to a depth of nine and one-half feet, and it is also expected that a diving board will be installed.

Lifeguards at Kelso this summer will be July Abel and Jane Maxwell of Oakville, Mary Jean Coulson of Burlington and John Komow of Milton. Pat Coulson of Burlington will be the spare lifeguard. Derek Duvall and Pat Cochran of Burlington will be lifeguards at Carlisle Park, which is also a swimming area operated by Halton Region Conservation Authority.

Praise Rescuers 2 Nearly Drown In Kelso, Trough

In two separate incidents this past week, a 16-year-old Milton youth and a 16-month-old boy were rescued from drowning in the Milton area.

Authorities praised a crowd of picnickers at the Kelso Conservation Area Sunday, who pulled Edward McLeod of Milton from the waters of Glen Eden Lake and applied artificial respiration until a trained lifeguard arrived — and a 71-year-old Campbellville area grandfather who found his grandson floating face down in a horse watering trough on the family farm, and applied artificial respiration the way he had read it in a book.

Both Very Lucky

Today both Edward McLeod and 16-month-old David Brown are alive and well and show no serious after-effects of their near brushes with death. Police said both were extremely lucky there were quick-witted people nearby at the time.

Eddy McLeod was visiting Kelso Sunday afternoon with his parents, three sisters and a brother.

Switch Periods this Week

Saturday Watering Drains Reservoir

The new Monday-Wednesday-Friday watering restrictions went into effect in Milton this week, and town foreman Bruce McKerr must have breathed a sigh of relief!

Bruce reports the million gallon town reservoir level dropped four feet Saturday night, as hundreds of hoses in the south side of town drained the regular pumping facilities and dipped in

to the reserve supply, during the 7 to 9 p.m. watering period. The reservoir was still down two feet on Monday morning, but had refilled to its normal 12 feet deep level by Wednesday.

Originally the town banned all lawn and garden watering and hose use, but condescended to allow residents north of Main St. to water Friday evenings for two hours and people south of Main St. for two hours on Saturday night.

The Friday watering worked out alright, as this is the smaller populated section of town. However, the Saturday watering on June 6 was too much of a drain on the water reserves and council decided to split the south half of the town — with residents east of Bell St. watering on Wednesdays and those west of Bell St. using hoses Mondays. This came into effect Monday — and it rained Monday night, so there was little watering done with hoses — but before a heavy Saturday watering period put such a big drain on the reservoir.

Residents are urged to remember their hose use periods and obey the restrictions order, in order to conserve a sufficient water supply for emergency or fire use. Those north of Main St. remain on the Friday watering period.

120TH ANNIVERSARY

Grace Anglican Church, Milton, observed its 120th anniversary services on Sunday with Assistant Bishop of the Diocese, the Right Reverend C. R. H. Wilkinson as guest speaker at the 11 a.m. service. Rector Dr. T. M. Dustan was in charge of the three other services during the day. The Church was founded in 1844 and the first Grace Church was erected in 1852. It is now the Parish Hall and the present church was built in 1895.

—Plan to meet all your friends at Campbellville next weekend, at the June 26-28 celebration of the 50th anniversary.

Retires After 37 Years Here

School Board, Teachers Honor Miss Gemmell

An inspiration to her pupils, and a model for the other teachers to look to, Miss Margaret Gemmell retires this month after completing 40 years of public school teaching — 37 of them in Milton Public Schools.

She was honored by the school board and fellow teachers at a dinner in Knox Presbyterian Church hall on Tuesday evening, and will be further honored at a community night this evening (Thursday) in St. Paul's Christian Education Centre.

Tuesday's dinner she termed "the greatest honor of my life" after the popular teacher listened as her inspector, her supervising principal and her fellow staffers heaped praise upon her humble shoulders. "I can only say thank you all, so much," she added.

Here in 1926

Miss Gemmell graduated from Hamilton Normal School and spent her first three years teaching S.S. 19, North Dumfries, near

Galt. She came to teach Grade 4 at the old Bruce St. school in Milton in September 1926, and remained on that school's staff until 1954, when she transferred to the new J. M. Denyes school on Thomas St.

Inspector W. L. McNeil suggested "a gathering such as this is a credit to the town of Milton, in its purpose" as he addressed Tuesday's dinner. "Miss Gemmell has spent her life with us, imparting wisdom and knowledge, and she is a highly respected member of the teaching profession."

Her Contribution

He pointed out that in 1926, when she joined the staff, J. M. Denyes was inspector and daily attendance at Bruce St. school was 316. She watched the town's educational facilities grow and during the years "through her influence on children she has given a great deal to this community." On behalf of the Department

of Education, he congratulated her on her 40 years of service, and praised her "outstanding attributes of the teaching profession."

W. I. Dick school principal Raymond Long, on behalf of the school staff, pointed out it took all eight teachers from the school to equal Miss Gemmell's 37 years of teaching in Milton. "We wish you all the best, may you have many years ahead to enjoy the fond remembrances you have gathered," he said.

Several Adjectives

John Bell, principal of Bruce St. school, suggested the best adjectives for the respected teacher were "sincere, dedicated, interested, thoughtful and kind," among others. "We are proud to have been associated with you — good health and pleasant retirement."

Supervising principal E. W. Foster reminisced about many happy memories of Miss Gemmell's teaching days, from the

day he first met her through to the present. He recalled her choir of boys that won a music festival trophy three years in a row, her efforts toward the school concerts that were once held in the high school, her job as "official recorder" for the field days, her

(Continued on Page Eight)

County Population Hits 129,111 \$271,115,819 Total Assessment

Halton's equalization by-law — the basis on which county costs are assessed to local municipalities — passed without a question at County Council on Tuesday.

Basis for the equalization by-law was a report from County Assessor presented earlier to the county assessment committee and endorsed by the representatives unanimously.

Population 129,111

The Assessor's report shows a county population of 129,111 with the actual total of assessment at \$271,115,819. Burlington had the top population with 51,587, while Oakville had the largest assessment at \$120,607,625.

Oakville, by virtue of its assessment leadership, will pay 44.2 per cent of the county costs and Burlington will pay 38.54 per cent. Georgetown comes third with only 5.82 per cent followed by Esques-

ing at 3.69 per cent; Milton 3.28 per cent; Acton 2.64 per cent and Nassagaweya 1.57 per cent.

In terms of assessment balance, Acton comes closest to reflecting the best between residential and industrial-commercial. Acton has 51.7 per cent residential assessment compared with a high in Burlington of 78.59 per cent.

Acton Industry

Acton leads in industrial assessment, percentage wise with 32.7 per cent compared with 10.2 per-

cent in Burlington. Only Nassagaweya has a lower rate at 5.9 per cent industrial. Nassagaweya has the highest percentage of commercial assessment at 24.4 per cent, followed by Milton at 18.8 per cent and Acton at 15.5 per cent.

The percentages of assessment in the county are 66.73 residential, 18.47 per cent industrial and 14.79 commercial.

The schedule of equalization will be as follows for 1964:

Municipality	1964 Equalized Assessment	1964 Percentage
Acton	\$ 7,178,156	2.64763%
Burlington	104,492,524	38.54166%
Georgetown	15,790,280	5.82418%
Milton	8,899,621	3.28260%
Oakville	120,453,859	44.28925%
Esqueving	10,029,439	3.69932%
Nassagaweya	4,271,940	1.57569%
	\$271,115,819	100.00000%



MISS MARGARET GEMMELL, completing her 37th year of teaching in Milton Public Schools, is retiring this month and a community night in her honor will be held this evening (Thursday) in St. Paul's Christian Education Centre. On Tuesday she was honored by the Milton Public School Board and fellow teachers, at a dinner in Knox Church, when the Board presented an

inscribed silver tray and the teachers presented her with a beautiful oil painting. The beloved teacher is board chairman G. C. Gowland, who presented the tray, and teachers Mrs. H. Babcock and Mrs. E. Presse who presented the painting.

—Staff Photo