



Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● ONE OF the most encouraging sights in the municipal horizon for 1965 is the appearance of optimism for better liaison between the members of the Planning Board and Council. In recent years the two groups just don't seem to have been on the same wave length. To a town like Milton that can be an expensive luxury. This year, however, the Board has been enlarged and its stature seems to be elevated in the minds of the council. A co-operative year can see accomplishments that will be vital to the town's future.

Kerr had achieved special honor at Queen's Park by being designated chairman of the Ontario Legislature standing committee on government commissions. His committee is charged with questioning the operation of all government commissions. Among the boards and commissions it deals with are the Hydro Electric Power Commission, The Liquor Board, the Ontario Water Resources Commission, the Ontario Northland Railway and Ontario Racing Commission.

● ONE LOCAL camping enthusiast suggests that Milton consider in its park program an area for overnight campers. The suggestion is coupled with the Centennial Committee plans to develop the mill pond area as the town's centennial project. After hitting the camping trail last year for the first time with a family I'm increasingly aware of the number of people who holiday this way. It's fun, and if Milton can accommodate some of them it could be good for the municipality.

● THE often-reported trend to basementless houses just never seems to catch on. I'm not sure why, but one idea on why houses continue to have basements hit me on the weekend. Seems basements provide continuing chal-

lenge. They happily accommodate all the things a family considers may someday be useful and as the quantity increases so does the challenge to control it. Then one day in desperation at not being able to wend your way through the accumulation you set out to clean it up. The challenge continues as decision after decision must be made on whether to keep some and reject other items or whether to scrap the whole works. And once that dreadful chore is accomplished the challenge remains in how to keep it cleaned up.

● RABIES seems to be in the air again. A couple of cases in Hamilton recently involved skunks. While it isn't hard to warn children to stay away from skunks the disease is not necessarily confined to that animal. It wouldn't hurt to repeat your warnings of previous years to children about handling strange animals. Better safe than sorry.

● IF YOU like boats you won't miss the Boat Show in Toronto. Took it in over the weekend and while I'm not an enthusiast, I couldn't help but be impressed with the fantastic variety and price range for craft to cover the waterways. The most posh seemed to run to about \$30,000 but of course there were canoes for slightly less.

Danger Zone



Editorial Page

THE C.N.R. CROSSING on No. 10 Sideroad south of Milton is a busy crossing, with hundreds of cars and trucks driving over the tracks daily. After little rail traffic over the route for the past two years, the Burlington-to-Georgetown line has been re-opened and within a few years up to 40 trains a day will be passing through. Only flashing lights warn vehicular traffic of the danger there, and no provision has been made for installation of crossing gates. (See Editorial, below.)

Increase Warnings Now...

Before they increase train traffic on the C.N.R. Toronto by-pass to 40 trains a day, and before we have to start picking up bodies of unwary motorists at the 10 Sideroad crossing just below Milton, wouldn't it be a good idea to have the crossing protected by extra flashing lights and crossing gates?

The new line is now operational, and anytime now rumbling freights will start rolling past the town. Immediate plans don't call for very heavy traffic, but CN engineers figure there will be up to 40 freights a day within two years' time.

This potentially dangerous crossing carries only two warning lights to warn motorists of approaching rail traffic. The present protection is inadequate, considering the heavy vehicular traffic that uses the busy route.

Ten Sideroad is perhaps one of the busiest "rural" roads in the Milton district. It is the main traffic artery to town for hundreds of rural residents living in the Lowville-Kilbride area. It is the easiest route for dozens of Canadian Meter Co. employees who live in Hamilton and district and who must use the dangerous crossing twice a day. The route through Kilbride, Carlisle and down Highway 6 is the most direct way to Hamilton for those from town who work or shop or visit the city. And the road is a main artery for east-bound truck traffic from the five

gravel pits further west on 10 Sideroad and in the Kilbride area.

A Champion staffer made several spot checks at the crossing, one check showing 160 vehicles using the crossing in an hour. The survey was made last week when there was no gravel truck traffic.

One official estimated that up to 100 trucks at a time could draw gravel from the area pits. If all the pits were supplying loads in an area that necessitated these trucks using this level crossing, the figures could be projected to show 100 trucks crossing the tracks up to 16 times (eight trips) a day each, which would mean 1,600 truck trips a day over the tracks, or two a minute, in a 12-hour workday.

Unfortunately, drivers can get lulled into a false sense of security. They drive over a railway track a dozen times and there are no trains... then on the 13th time a combination of the driver's hurry and carelessness and an unexpected train, cause a collision... and death.

For the past two years rail traffic on this line has been negligible. Local motorists know this. It will be difficult getting used to heavy train traffic, and those flashing lights don't help much when there's a bright sun shining at you.

We urge the Department of Transport to conduct their own traffic studies, and see if there isn't a need for more adequate protection for the motoring public.

Now We Are Two...

It appears that in the next provincial election Halton will become two ridings rather than the one it has been for years. The decision to split the riding was not unexpected. County growth has been phenomenal in recent years, more than doubling in the last decade.

We find no quarrel with the splitting of the riding. It was made necessary in the maintenance of the representation by population principle.

Two things do, however, surprise us. One is the reason for not splitting the county in a straight vertical line rather than placing Acton in the Burlington riding along with the north end of Esqueving township. The other is why the riding could not better be known as Halton East and Halton West rather than by the names of Burlington and Oakville.

The division of the county as suggested, was probably to maintain some population balance and perhaps our suggestion of a straight north south line would not have

made that possible. It would, however, have made for less confusion in the minds of voters if in the next election the line had been on the existing municipal boundaries.

In the second problem, that of naming the ridings, we understand George Kerr has already agreed to look into this. He has agreed to press the province's redistribution committee to rename the two new electoral districts as Halton East and Halton West. He noted recently he had received calls from citizens outlining the objections Acton, Georgetown or Milton people would have to being included in a Burlington or Oakville riding.

The legislation implementing the recommendations of the redistribution committee, will be placed in the Legislature shortly, Mr. Roberts has said. This being the case it is time now for those interested to support the suggestion on the renaming of the ridings to Halton East and Halton West. You can write Mr. Kerr at Queen's Park and indicate your support. But don't put it off.

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THE GOOD OLD DAYS

GLANCING BACK TO 10 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of The Canadian Champion, Feb. 10, 1955.

Budget for the Halton County Health Unit should be held up for further study by the Hospital Committee members of County Council decided at their regular monthly meeting in Milton Tuesday afternoon. This action was taken soon after Dr. Archie F. Bull, Medical Officer of Health, presented an \$82,850 budget for 1955. While it was emphasized that half of the \$82,850 was paid by the provincial government, Members felt costs were soaring and there was insufficient information as to how all the money was spent.

There was a good attendance from all Lodges in Halton at the annual County Orange Lodge meeting held in the I.O.O.F. Hall in Milton. Attendance from the different Lodges was as follows, Acton six members, Georgetown four members, Bronte two, Hornby eight, Oakville six, Campbellville six, Milton seven, Stewart-

town one and one Grand Lodge officer was present. Election of officers resulted as follows, county master Jack Stokes, Campbellville; Deputy County Master Ernest G. Wilson of Milton; Chaplain Harold Kelly of Oakville; recording secretary Ernest Rawson of Georgetown; financial secretary George Collins, Campbellville; treasurer C. B. Beaty of Hornby; Marshall Percy Hall; first lecturer John Wilson; second lecturer James McLennan.

More than 100 patients gathered to honor Dr. H. R. McDonald of Kilbride. In an age of specialists, Dr. McDonald is one of the few remaining old-time family doctors. During his 30 years of practice in the communities surrounding his home in Kilbride, Dr. McDonald has used every means of conveyance from horse-cart to snowmobile to reach his patients in spite of impassable roads. He has delivered more than 3,000 babies in this area.

GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of The Canadian Champion, Feb. 8, 1945.

The February meeting of Esqueving Township Council was held on Monday afternoon. Deputy-Reeve George E. Cleave and councillors George Currie, C. H. May and R. N. Brown were present and Reeve G. W. Murray presided.

Ross Segsworth of Freeman was elected president of the Halton Holstein Breeder's Club at the annual meeting held on February 3 in Palermo Community Hall. Emmerson Ford, Hornby, was chosen first vice-president; Claude F. Pickett of Georgetown as second vice-president and Victor J. Lawrence of Oakville was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

People living east of Hornby have had to make their way out on foot or by means of horses and sleighs for several days recently. Ever since the big blizzard of January 31 and February 1, the Base Line has been piled

full of snow. Several plows tried in vain to make their way through. One of them from Milton broke down completely and had to be abandoned on the road. The marooned snow plow was towed out to Milton on Tuesday where it is undergoing repairs to be ready for the next blow.

The annual meeting of Lowville United Church was held on Tuesday evening. After a fowl supper provided by the ladies of the congregation, the meeting was called to order, with pastor, Rev. E. M. Carter taking the devotions. Reports of all organizations were very gratifying with a balance on hand in all departments. The treasurer's report was read by Chas. Headhead; session report by Rev. E. M. Carter and A. W. Coulter; Sunday school, George Coulson; Y.P.U., Helen Millar; Church Trustee, George Colling; Parsonage, E. C. Foster; Cemetery, F. W. Harbottle.

GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of The Canadian Champion, Feb. 11, 1915.

A local constable is indignant. He says he procured the conviction of a citizen who had dumped in a wheelbarrow full of nightsoil into the creek at Pearl Street, while residents further down were using the water for domestic purposes. The constable reports that the defendant was liable to a fine of as much as \$100 but that he only had to pay \$1 plus costs.

The Women's Auxiliary of Grace Church, Milton, will hold their annual pancake social in Northington's parlors on Tuesday February 16. Pancakes, maple Syrup, bread and butter, cheese, tea and coffee, all for 15 cents. Hot oysters 25 cents.

The official board of the Methodist Church met on Tuesday evening. A unanimous invitation was given to Rev. M. R. Wilson

who will complete three years' service as pastor next June, to remain for a fourth year. When it was announced that Mr. Wilson had received an invitation to the pastorate of Emerald St. Church, Hamilton, it was decided to relieve him here, as the Hamilton appointment is a very desirable one. The board has invited Rev. C. D. Draper of Acton to Milton. Mr. Draper has accepted the invitation.

Four Milton Rinks went to Galt on Friday. In the morning they lost to the Granite Curling Club by 20 shots. In the afternoon they defeated the Galt Curling Club by nine shots. Members of the Milton rinks were Harold Earl, S. Andrew, Chester Earl, John Macted, J. Lecocq, H. Coulson, W. I. Dick, Elgin Ford, Joe Willmott, E. E. Yates, R. L. Hemstreet, W. Panton, Dr. Gowland, F. Robinson, J. F. Little and J. W. Blain.

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

There's no better indoor sport than versifying. And there's no better versifier around these days than George Bain. Find out for yourself. Read this book, "I've Been Around... and Around and Around and Around and..."

Bain is a newspaper man with a lively eye for the ridiculous, and he has been around Washington, Ottawa and London come under his guns, and he seldom misses when he lines up his rhymes and fires a parody of anything from a folk song to a Gilbert and Sullivan snatch.

He's also a wicked man with a pun. To wit: a chapter entitled "How To Get Down From A Duck, Eider You Know Or You Don't." In this chapter he's talking about an eider-down vest presented to a high dignitary. Bain continues, "No doubt, somewhere in the frozen North, there is now a proud eider duck strutting around with his little bald chest stuck out, envy of every duck for miles around. And he adds a verse.

Said a chap to a proud donor duck,
"To what do you credit your luck?"
Said the duck, "Goodness knows,
But one must, I suppose,
Assume that I showed lots of pluck."

Just a sample from a rattling good book, a combination of rueful humor and satire with an edge to it.

This business of writing ver-

ses is fascinating to some people. Me, for one. Every so often I get the urge and burst into rhyme that has the readers of this column wincing or running to the bathroom, gagging. Don't worry, not this week.

But just by sheer coincidence, I have come across some old verses (not mine) that consolidate my opinion that the English language is about the most illogical in the world. The following effort is dedicated to English teachers and the poor baffled devils of foreigners who are trying to learn the crazy stuff.

The wind was rough
And cold and blough;
She kept her hands within her mough.
It chilled her through,
Her nose grew blough
And still the squall the faster flough.
And yet, although
There was no snough,
The weather was a cruel tough.
It made her cough
(Pray do not scough);
She coughed until her head bloughed.

What's that? You want more?
I think you're out of your mind,
but there's that old folk saying,
particularly applicable these winter days:
It's not the cough
Wot carries you off,
It's the coffin
They carry you off in.

Several of the very clean limricks in the world also reveal

the oddity of the English tongue. For instance,
At fifty-five minutes past eight
The kids at a feverish height
Are seen rushing to school,
And you'll find, as a rhool,
It's because they're afraid they will be leight.

Aw, come on. You don't REALLY want another! Well, I just happen to have:

A streetcar conductor once said
To a car full of people, "My haird
Has such a bad ache
That I fear it will bracke,
Oh, I wish I were home and in baidd."

There you are. A brand new party game. Think of the fun you'll have on these long winter evenings with things like,
A man on a picnic said, "Please don't be cross if perchance I should snease;
'I've observed from my youth
That the horrible trouth
Is it's caused by the scent of the trease.

Got the idea. Let's try making one up. I'll be lousy, but...
A sailor, attempting to ski,
Ran his head right into a tri,
Although almost dead,
He angrily sead,
"It ain't near as soft as the si."

There. That ought to give you a few sleepless nights.



DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER

WITH ROY DOWNS

WHAT NEXT? Now they've got a "Gamblers Anonymous" organization!

Alcoholics Anonymous is going over so well, some smart guy decided to form an association to ease the burden of those who are stricken with the gambling disease. They even have a ladies' auxiliary for wives of G.A. members.

Not yet ready to join either A.A. or G.A., my biggest problem is spending money: I seem to get rid of every cent I ever owned. Wonder when they'll start a new club called S.A. — Spenders Anonymous?

SCHOOLBOY BONER Department: From a nature study paper came this gem "Now that dinosaurs are safely dead, we can call them clumsy and stupid."

And from a history paper — "President Lincoln was called Honest Ape because he was a good man, but homely." Or how about "The Pony Express was a system worked out to send ponies through the mail."

What is the antonym of woe?

Geddyup!

And a geography scholar wrote "Until the missionaries came to Africa the cannibals ate each other."

Dogs are much quicker than people. In less than two months they are a year old.

Poultry has a singular known as chicken.

Good punctuation means not to be late.

You never know how a rocket will behave because they go through stages.

THE CHAMPION'S policy on poetry is simple — it does not publish any. However this week two pieces of poetry crossed this desk that bear reprinting.

The first was written by Sharon Hayes of R.R. 2 Campbellville, a grade six student at Campbellville Public School, as a tribute to the late Sir Winston Churchill:

Oh! Why did he have to go,
He was wonderful,
We all know.

It's like a kitten
That's lost her mother.
We lost him,
He was like a brother.
He is one
We all loved,
I know that he
Will be above.

THE SECOND poem came from a local police officer, and it's called "The Road Hog".

Going nowhere for nothing,
All brainless like a pin,
Menace to careful drivers,
Passing and cutting in.

Racing along the highway
Heedless of other's rights
Keeping your bright beam shining.
You will not dim your lights.

Faster than legal limit,
Ignoring safety line,
Without due care or caution
In weather foul or fine.

Filling the beds sore needed
By other folks really ill,
You road hogs of the pavement
Who wreck and maim and kill.

Sometimes you're full of liquor
More senseless than a mule,
A braggart or a show-off
But always you're a fool.

Kind Saint who guards the highway,
Whoever you may be,
Will you please wreck the road
Before he reaches me?

WEDNESDAY'S WIT

If all the people who sleep during sermons were laid end to end, they would be a lot more comfortable.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

W. D. Sutton, London (England), Director of Education, is quoted as describing a "committee" this way:

"A group of the unfit, appointed by the unwilling, to do the unnecessary."