



# Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● **THE NAMES OF** Milton's Public Schools are a mixture of people and streets. Now that the senior public school is under development one wonders whether it should be referred to as the Martin St. School, The Senior Public School, or whether, like two other public schools, a suitable name honoring an individual should be chosen. Only the Board can choose a name but it would seem a wise course now before something gets stuck to it that will be hard to change.

● **WHILE I'M ON** names for schools I think with the consolidation of all high school students in one building, the school should now simply be referred to as Milton District High School. No longer will it be necessary to spell it

out by location as the Williams Avenue School since the building on Martin St. becomes a senior public school.

● **QUITE OFTEN** service clubs and local organizations are looking for suitable projects that would contribute to community development and improvement. I started to note a few, like development of a small picnic area on the town-owned land north of the base line, establishment of a junior band, support of old fashioned days, and some others but I concluded there must be a lot of others that people had thought of. If you've an idea drop me a note and I'll be glad to air it publicly for the benefit of local organizations and citizens generally who might take a particular interest.

● **THEN, OF COURSE**, if service clubs wanted projects that might be self-sustained they might think in terms of a miniature golf layout, paddle boats for rent on the new Mill Pond, and on the really wild side someone might consider the feasibility of a small paddle wheel boat to float on the Mill Pond and offer rides to groups. It would be attractive anyway.

● **SEEMS TO ME** some of those who carry transistor radios along the street must be particularly lonesome types. Some of the squawks and squeaks that come from the hand-held models can hardly be classed as entertaining and I can't imagine the noises coming in the form of music unless static has developed some new status.



## DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER

WITH ROY DOWNS

IT'S SURPRISING how much there is to do and see around the Milton area in the summertime.

During a recent two-week holiday, our family had a lot of fun with daily trips away from home — proving once again that you don't have to go far or spend much to have some fun. Our first week was spent at a rented cottage at Wasaga Beach, where we did nothing unusual and spent four times as much money as we did the second week. Yet the second week was more fun.

At the cottage, we enjoyed the sun and the sand, swam whenever the weather allowed it, spent an evening at the amusement park and at afternoon at the zoo, and lazed around sunning or reading for the rest of the week.

But at home for the second week, we did it up brown . . . visited relatives in Hamilton, spent an afternoon at an amusement park, another day at a Zoo in Toronto, a day on Centre Island, picnic at Kelso twice, and lots of time in the back yard in the lawn chair with a cool drink at your side. We weren't trying to do it cheaply, but it turned out that way — total cost for the eight days at home came to less than \$40.

THERE'S SO MUCH to see and do around the Milton area, and it doesn't have to cost a lot. At Kelso, admission is only 75 cents per car (or a season's pass is easier) and there's a wading pool, swimming pool, swimming in the lake, boating, the museum to visit, plenty of shade and picnic areas, and beautiful scenery. There's a refreshment booth if you want to buy a snack, or you can pack up a picnic and make a full day of it.

Another nice place close to Milton is Coral Park on McNiven Road north of Kilbride. It's only eight miles away and \$1.25 per car admission gives you swimming suitable for all ages, picnic ground, swings and slides for the children. The park also has boat rides and miniature golf at an extra charge.

Our second trip to Toronto was to twice, and both days were enjoyable and inexpensive. The first day, we packed a lunch, spent three hours at Riverdale Zoo, then drove across the city to High Park, to give the children some fun at a supervised playground and eat our picnic supper. There is no admission price at the zoo and it's a good one for the youngsters to see; and the park is free too.

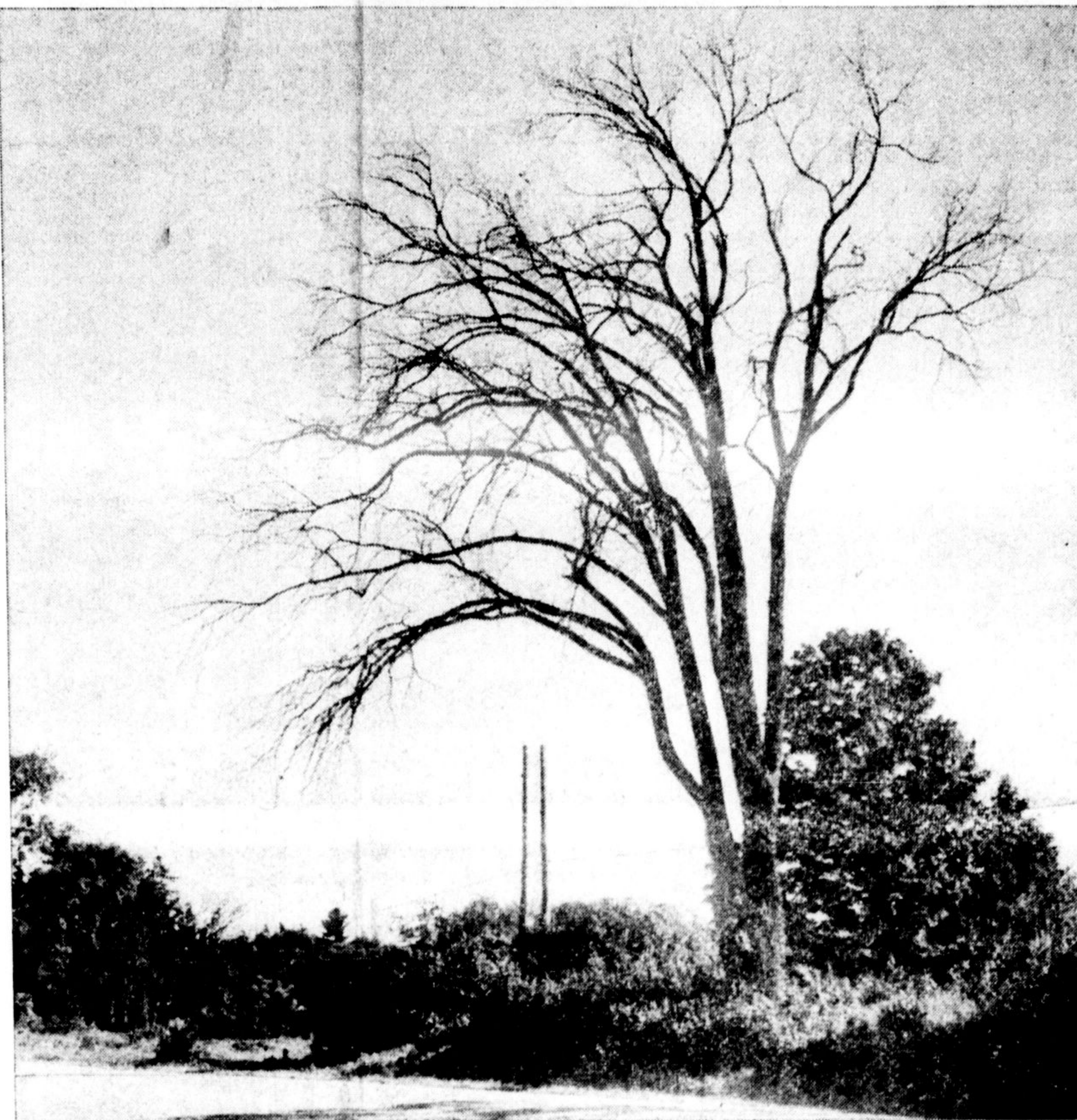
Our second trip to Toronto was to spend some time at the beautiful Centre Island park. It was our first visit and we didn't allow enough time to see the whole island. The return trip ferry ride over from the harbor is only 25 cents for adults, 10c for children, and for similar prices you can ride all around the island on a small train. The island has a tea garden where you get a delicious serving of tea, crumpets and strawberry jam for only 50 cents, a barn where the animals are sure to delight the children and boat and pony rides, swimming, picnicking, a puppet theatre, souvenir booths and many other attractions. If you go, plan to leave early and spend a whole day there.

Burlington Beach isn't highly recommended for swimming, but there's a good amusement park there. You can buy a handful of tickets (16 for \$1) and give the children an hour's fun on all the rides.

There are good parks in Milton, Oakville and Burlington, and plenty of other attractions in nearby Guelph, Toronto and Hamilton. So if you don't get a chance to get away for a week at a cottage, why not plan to stay home evenings and plan some daily trips here and there around the district?

Don't tell me there's nothing to do at home on a holiday!

## Save Our Elms



### Those Yellowing Leaves . . .

It is astonishing in this age of medical miracles, cure-all drugs, and high priced research, that some generally accepted research has not been found to combat the Dutch Elm disease that is blighting highways and the countryside.

The stately elms that shaded pasture corners, lined roads in sentinel-like fashion, and stood so erect and mighty in countless locations, are being felled at a fantastic rate by the unchecked disease.

Particularly at this time of the year, the first yellow leaves on the elm trees tell the sad story of another elm that has contracted the disease that is fatal and will destroy it in another year.

A drive along Highway 25 between Milton and Acton gives ample evidence that the elms that have graced this roadside and added to its picturesque beauty will soon be gone. The disease is marching up the road, through its carrier beetles, in an unchecked way that is sickening. The gaunt limbs of elms already destroyed but not yet removed, give stark testimony to our inability to control the problem on any significant scale.

### Highway Horror . . .

John Pinckney, Editor of the Rosetown (Sask.) Eagle, one of Canada's weeklies, arrived on the scene of a highway accident shortly after the crash.

Mr. Pinckney did what he could to help the helpless and went back home to Rosetown with vivid impressions.

In an editorial no mention was made as to who was to blame. There was no mention made that somebody was responsible. No sermon was preached about safe driving and our highway slaughter. The Saskatchewan editor just wrote about what he saw. He was neither pleased nor impressed.

"We were not there when one car smashed into the other," he wrote. "We did not hear the noise of the impact, as steel and glass and flesh and blood streamed in protest. We did not see the cars throw out their dead as they whirled off the highway into the field. We did not see or hear them crawl out of the cars (those who could) to look at their happy world so instantly destroyed. We got there just after that.

"We did see a man kneel, bleeding over his wife, unable to understand that she could not speak to him — unable to grasp that she would never speak again.

"We left him to his numbed misery to look at a little bundle flung further into the wheat — a pretty baby boy. He too was

dead. We left the child and looked into the car. Here the child's mother and baby sister were also beyond human help. His father was alive in the front of the car, a bloody mess, and fortunately at the time unable to realize that in that awful second he had lost his pretty blonde wife and babies. During this horror the man, kneeling over his dead wife, kept telling us to do something for his wife who still would not answer him."

After the bodies had been pried loose with crowbars and pronounced dead by the doctors, the husband and father realized his loss. "As long as we live," Editor Pinckney wrote, "we will see the agony in his face as he kissed her goodbye there in that dusty roadside."

It was not pleasant reading as the writer wrote. It was not supposed to be. "No one can ever be the same after seeing it. If only more of us could see them. If only . . ."

Editor Pinckney had nothing to say about the cause of the fatal crash. He was silent as to who might have been to blame. What concerned him only was the tragedy, the horror, the pain and the grief he had seen close-up for the first time. Getting from here to there may be important. But is it so important that a few more minutes to make the journey in safety could not be spared?

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, August 16, 1945.

News on Tuesday, August 14, that Japan had accepted the Allies' surrender terms resulted in Milton in the screeching of the fire siren and the ringing of the church bells. A crowd assembled on the streets and formed a joyous but orderly celebration. They sang and danced and an orchestra was arranged for a Victory Dance in the Town Hall. Wednesday was a holiday and was marked by a fine parade and services in Victoria Park. The parade formed at the Town Hall and was led by the Lorne Scots Band.

Banking part in the parade were the Lorne Scots Reserve Army, Milton Branch of the Canadian Legion, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, the Milton Fire Brigade, the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, and the Red Cross Society. Two floats were entered by the Legion and the Fire Brigade, the latter having figures of Hirohito, Mussolini and Hitler. The Fire Brigade

truck was also suitably decorated.

The service at the park was opened by Mayor Dawson. Speeches and hymns were heard. At the end of the service, a wreath was placed at the cenotaph. Last Post was sounded by J. Waters. At night, a big street fair and bonfire was held and the three war criminals were given a hot ending. Sunday was proclaimed a day of thanksgiving with special church services in all the local churches and those in the district.

On August 9, the farmers of the Township of Nassagaweya attended a program arranged by the township unit of the Ontario Agricultural Federation. The rally featured horseshoe pitching contests and a baseball game which drew the largest crowd, and races. At night, a dinner prepared by the ladies of the township was held in the Brookville Township Hall. A musical program was presented and speeches were made. The rally ended with a dance.

### GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, August 19, 1915.

A new industry started in Milton and was incorporated as the Milton Manufacturing Co. Ltd. The main building, which was to be 60 feet by 140 feet, was built of cement and lighted not only by side windows but also by skylights. Twenty-four looms had been installed with warp machines, shuttle winders, and a number of other machines for the finishing of textiles to be manufactured. The company was to produce mohair plush, cotton cloth, velvets, mohairs, casket cloths, upholstering goods, and curtains.

Two webs of plush were woven on separate machines and connected, then were cut apart on other machines during the finishing process. There were four large dyeing vats and several new machines were expected. The factory was to be the only one in Canada producing certain lots of goods previously available only through export from Belgium and Germany. Manufacturing was to begin within the next few weeks.

The contract for the building of the new Jailer's residence was awarded to David Menzies. The house was to be of solid brick and would cost \$3,900. The county council met and decided that it should be built in the orchard at the rear of the county building, a little back from Hugh St. and facing the south-west end of Queen St.

Miltonians visited the Bronte Civic celebration held to raise funds for the Patriotic Fund. Huge crowds, yachts from Toronto and Hamilton, and four machines from Niagara brought by steamer from Niagara, made the outing a success. Sports, a baby show and musical arrangements were presented. There were meals served, refreshment booths and various money-making booths. All were so liberally patronized that instead of the one machine gun which was to be purchased from the proceeds, two were sent to the front from the \$2,000 of receipts.

### GLANCING BACK TO 100 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, August 17, 1865.

The editors are requested to intimate that a meeting of the delegates from different Temperance organizations in the County of Halton will take place in the Temperance Hall, Omagh, on Friday the 25th inst. to make arrangements with regard to the time and place of holding their annual celebration. All temperance men are cordially invited to attend whether connected with any temperance organization or not.

The Town Council met on Monday. There were several lively discussions, no doubt very interesting to the number of ratepayers present. The first business was to a grant of \$30 to the Grammar School for rent and other expenses as their common school trustees require their own building for their school.

Rev. Tremayne was heard in explanation. He showed the position of the school and the necessity of something being done to carry it on and that they had only received notice of the

action of the common school board on the day before the grammar school was to be opened. After some discussion in which the desire for a motion which would unite the two schools was expressed, it was resolved that for the present the Town Hall be used for the grammar school and that there be an attempt to unite the two schools.

At the Council meeting, an enquiry was made by Councillor Watson as to the disposition of the Clergy Reserves money. He said that the town still advertised \$800 in Clergy Reserve money and that if this amount of money was not on hand that the advertisement should be withdrawn and that the town should know what had been done with the money. Mr. Eager, on being called on to explain, said that \$500 had been loaned and that the remainder had been used by the town, since it was found that it could not be loaned on the security requirements of the Clergy Reserves money.

## Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL SMILEY

Living in a tourist town must be quite different from living in a town of corresponding size that has no link with the tourist industry.

I grew up in a small town that was just beginning to find its potential as a tourist town. Quite a few cars in town were evident in July and August. Everybody thought the tourist houses and small incomes, in something should be done about it. A few people with large hoses and small incomes, including my mother, put up "Tourist Accommodation" signs and were not only flabbergasted but delighted to rent huge, immaculate bedrooms for as much as \$2 a night.

But on the whole, the tourist business was just a little extra gravy, and the town drowsed through the summer, the merchants leaning in their cool doorways, waiting for six o'clock to come, so they could close up and

hustle off to the ball park after gulping their supper.

What a difference from the slam - bam - thank - you - ma'am atmosphere of the modern tourist town!

Today the tourist business is not only a little extra gravy, it is the cream in the coffee, the icing on the cake, and the cheese with the apple pie, and any other garnishing you care to nauseate yourself by imagining. It is the difference between survival of the fittest and getting along nicely, thank you, in the business world.

For the grocers, the hardware, the drug stores, the tourist season is a mixture of exhilaration and exhaustion. The harmonious tune of the cash register is offset by the discordant scream of aching feet.

Aside from its economic injection, the tourist business has a

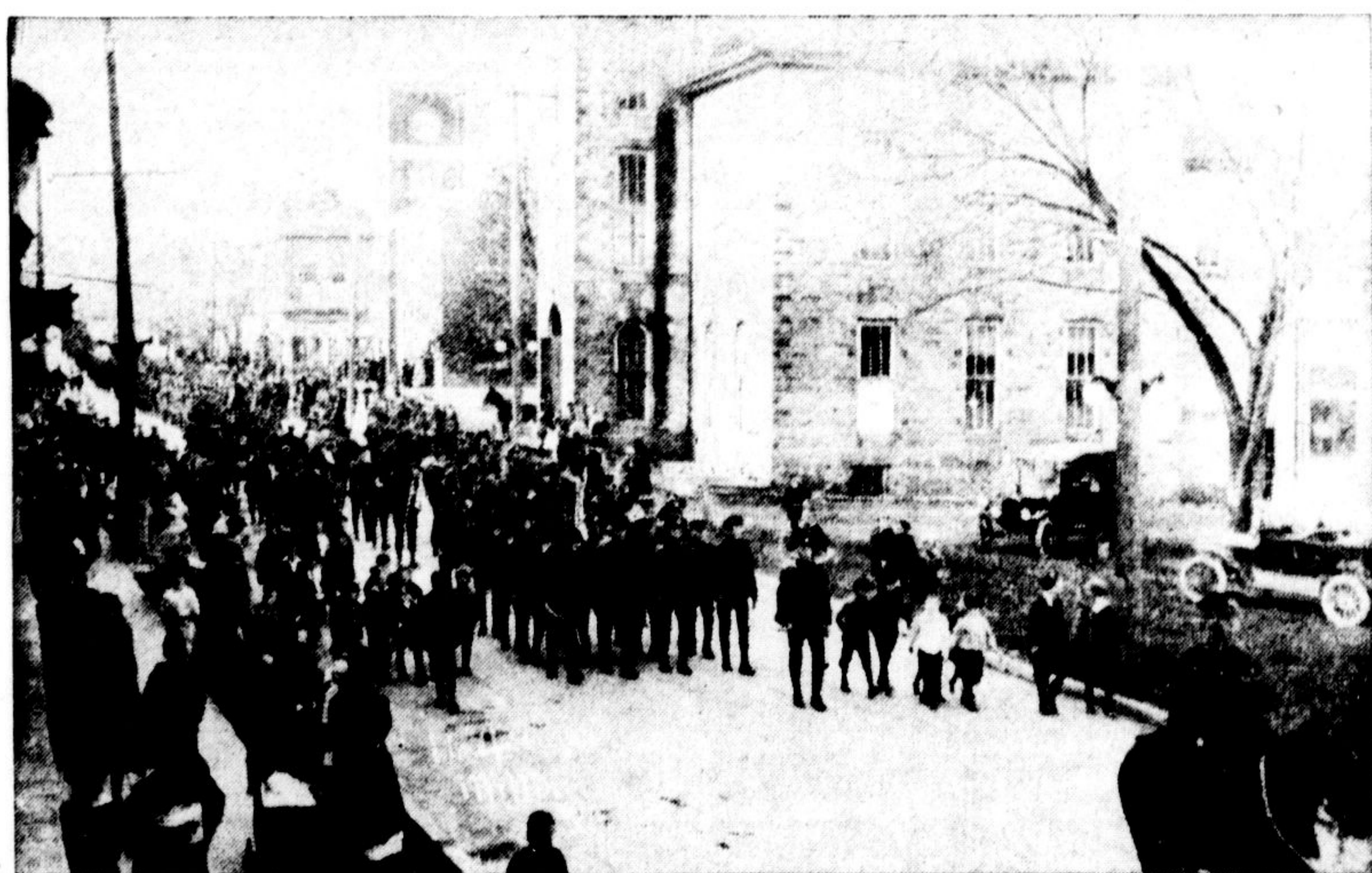
very strong impact on the life of a small town. When the first visitors begin to arrive, in May and June, they are as welcome as the first flowers. They add color, excitement, a touch of the outside world, with their different accents and different clothes.

They are warmly welcomed, and not just for their financial contribution. Most of them are very nice, friendly people, and it's a pleasure to greet the repeaters each year, on their first trip to the cottage. We have a little yarn about the winter we've spent, and like as not, they'll urge: "Now you be sure and come up to the cottage and see us this summer. We'll have a cold one together."

(Continued on Page B2)



## PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



**DO YOU REMEMBER THIS PARADE?** It's the 164th Battalion marching down Milton's Main St. during the town's earlier days. The photo is from a collection of historical local pictures owned by George Jackson, Queen St., that have been rephotographed and will be appearing on The Champion's Editorial Page in ensuing weeks. The editors would like to have more information about this photo, and are interested in borrowing other old photos of Milton for use in a Dominion Centennial issue in 1967.

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

**GEORGETOWN** — In one of the earliest public announcements on record, Reeve John Elliott announced recently that he will be a candidate for mayor of Georgetown this December. In a prepared speech delivered at the end of the council meeting, the Reeve made a strong attack on Mayor Gibbons, implying that council lacks leadership and blaming him for bickering among councillors which gives the town bad publicity. He backed the mayor's turndown of the \$2,500 annual salary, "admitting his own inability by buying his way into council."

**BURLINGTON** — A steadily increasing number of bicycle thefts in the town are causing concern with the Burlington Police Department. Over 135 bicycles have been stolen since the beginning of 1965 and police officials are serving notice that offenders will be severely dealt with if they are convicted of this offence. "We are getting to the point now where we don't intend to be lenient" said one inspector.

**BRAMPTON** — Among the many teenagers who have unusual summer jobs is Anne-Marie Guild, 16, a former resident of Milton. Anne-Marie is working at her father Norm's service station, pumping gas and checking oil. In an interview with a reporter from the Brampton paper, she said she enjoyed her work and meeting so many people. "Women are very surprised when they see me servicing cars," she reports.

**ACTON** — The outside of the fine new music centre in Warren Grove will soon be completed. Acton Citizens' Band is using accumulated savings, donations and much volunteer labor to completely enclose their band hall by fall. The beautiful wooded site naturally lends to plans for outdoor improvement. Intention is to have a lovely picnic area.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Never pass temptation lightly by, it may never come again.

—Don Marquis