



Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

So the province is having difficulty with its centennial project. What else is new? In Milton the difficulty was public knowledge before the resignation, which is about the only difference between the local and provincial situations. The main question posed frequently to me now, is whether the whole mill pond project and dam is dead. I don't think so. A council committee was appointed after the volunteers resigned. There have been no reports from it to council, but I believe there have been some meetings. The committee is made up of six of the nine council members so reports to the whole group may not be numerous.

The rail strike will not concern a vast majority of Miltonians in terms of travel to and from the town. It may interrupt industrial supplies, but by far the majority of them travel by truck. There was a time when trains carried the mail, the milk, the goods for the stores and the travellers who went regularly to the city. More and more the train has withdrawn or been withdrawn from these roles, or displaced by the trucks or automobiles.

Local 1067 bought the old Milton Armories for conversion to a union centre earlier this year. Now after a lot of planning, hard work and several thousand dollars, they're ready to show it to you. Open House is this weekend on Saturday afternoon and Monday afternoon and evening. Drop in and see it if you want a look at a real transformation. The committee and members have done a very good job and created what is bound to be a popular spot for local groups arranging special functions.

Hard to imagine the summer has really slipped away into the climaxed Labor Day weekend with its Steam-Era and Old Fashioned Days. We can still look forward to the color and tang of autumn which I still think is the best season of all.

Enjoyed a brief look at the Exhibition this year but I came home convinced I either had to do more walking regularly, or else be prepared for the weak muscles that developed after half a day of tramping through buildings and around the grounds. The new alpine ride was worthwhile, even if a little unpredictable.



Down[s] in this Corner

with roy downs

Some letters that will never get written:

Dear Mayor Childs: The Ontario Municipal Board, realizing Milton's progress and planned development are hindered by this Board's lack of indecision on your recent and frequent annexation applications hereby grants the Town of Oakville the 2,600 acres of neighboring Oakville and Esqueping lands as requested in one of your recent applications. Good luck. Yours truly, . . . O.M.B. Chairman."

To the Chief Justice of Ontario: As the crime rate in Halton County has fallen off to nil in recent months, I see no further need of a Magistrate in the county and hereby submit my resignation. If you ever have any further use for my services, I will be pleased to end my retirement and serve again on the bench. However things are so quiet in Halton right now, I doubt my services will ever be needed again. Yours, K. M. Langdon."

To the members of Council: Due to its age and the tremendous decrease in student enrolments, the board has decided to close the Bruce St. school and wondered if the town would like to take it over for use as a Milton Museum. Sincerely, H. P. Johnson, chairman, Milton Public School Board."

Dear Santa Claus: You were so generous to us last year at Christmas time, we don't want any gifts this year. Yours truly, The Downs Children."

Eaton's: There's no sense in us competing with each other like this, why don't we merge? Simpson's."

Halton Region Conservation Authority: No one seems interested in swimming at Kelso any more, so I respectfully suggest we fill in the two swimming pools and turn the site into a reforestation area. Cedars would be nice. Yours, Ross Johnson, Kelso Superintendent."

Dear Editor: Having been out of school now for two weeks, we are bored. Could you write something in your paper to encourage the school board to re-open school for the summer months so we'll have something interesting to do?

We're getting tired of swimming, picnics, baseball, skipping and bike rides. We want more arithmetic, spelling, reading, writing and geography. Signed, 1,634 Milton elementary school students."

To our bosses: With an interest in increasing production at our plants, we the employees, by a 1,365 to 2 vote, have decided to forego our twice-daily coffee breaks and to shorten our noon hours by 15 minutes. We feel we are wasting too much time swilling coffee when those hours could be put to good use producing more and making more profit for our firms. Signed, employees of the seven major Milton industries."

To the Mayor and Council: Now that the Parking situation in Milton is completely under control, with several new paved and central parking lots provided for the motoring and shopping public, we feel our committee has served its purpose and we can resign, satisfied that our efforts have brought about this great change. Yours, Milton Parking Committee."

Dear Mr. Down(s): Your columns have been so excellent in recent months, I have decided to give you that \$2 raise you asked for seven years ago. Keep up the good work. The boss."

Typesetting problems can be awkward. For example consider these weekly newspaper ads.

August 5 — FOR SALE — slightly used wrench in good condition. Apply to Joe Blow.

August 12 — CORRECTION — Due to an unfortunate error in Mr. Blow's advt. last week, Mr. Blow has an excellent WINCH for sale. We hope this correction will discourage so-called humorists who have called on Mr. Blow and embarrassed his housekeeper who loves with him.

August 17 — NOTICE — My WINCH is not for sale. It is at the bottom of the river. And do not inquire about it from my housekeeper, she does not live here any more. —Joe Blow

Champion

Memorial Page

Welcome anyway

Steam-Era annually brings thousands of visitors to Milton on Labor Day weekend and to them, a warm welcome. Not all come from a distance, either. Many are from the areas surrounding the community and our welcome includes them all.

The Labor Day weekend also marks the return of those school teachers whose permanent homes are not located in the town. We include them all in our welcome.

Unfortunately everything here is not ideal and many of the visitors to Steam-Era would find it impossible to stay over for another day within the community. By next year we're hopeful a new motel will be located at nearby Campbellville, that will serve the town at least to some extent. Perhaps someday we'll even have one right in the town.

Those teachers who are moving their

families to the community or neighboring centres to teach here are already aware that we don't have a surplus of houses. We're sorry about that. Not much point in us going through the standard excuses because they're not much consolation when you're committed to a job but can't find a place to live.

Regrettably we can't include in our welcome that new industry that wants to locate on land in an industrial area, already serviced behind Milton Plaza. The town wants to "arbitrate" on the agreement signed in 1960 although the points of arbitration are far from clear. By the time the matter is resolved, if it is, the industry will consider any welcoming words from the direction of the town as so much double talk.

But welcome anyway, to those who are with us for a short weekend stop or for a year in our schools. And it's a sincere one.

Community's greatest resource

A community's greatest resource is its people. It is through them and because of them there is progress or stagnation, activity or inactivity, stability or instability.

Such a comment seems startling in its simplicity but it is, perhaps, by the very virtue of its simplicity, ignored or overlooked.

It is the citizens of a community who decide, individually, the kind of leadership they want, the provincial and federal representatives most desired. It is the citizens, individually and collectively, who decide whether there are to be minor sports programs, service clubs, church groups, lodges and other organizations.

It is the citizens, individually, who make the decision on how great a part they are prepared to play in the community, and its service projects. All are, fortunately, not interested in the same things. Not everyone can coach a minor hockey team, not all can lead a fund-

raising campaign. It is this diversity of talents that can in proper blend, provide the constant round of community activity that Milton seems to foster.

There are few people in the community who are not actively engaged in some community-strengthening service through their church, neighborhood or service club, but there are some whose talents should not be left hidden. They should be encouraged to participate in an activity that interests them particularly.

As a community, however, there is constant change in the population. Some leave, new ones arrive. It is important those who are arriving are made to feel welcome in whatever area of community activity they choose to follow.

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Not concerned with sin

Though adultery may wreck a marriage, J. B. McGeachy writes in the Financial Post, it is not the only or even the main cause of marital strife. Countless marriages have survived sexual infidelity, but wedded bliss is impossible if one partner habitually gets drunk and beats the family, runs away and never comes back or is confined indefinitely in jail or a mental hospital.

McGeachy notes that Canada long ago adopted the British divorce law of 1870 or earlier, making adultery the only ground for divorce, and is still stuck with that law. He expresses a hope that Canada will follow the British example of 1937, adding cruelty, desertion and incurable insanity, and possibly incur-

able drunkenness and long-term imprisonment to the list of the causes.

The Financial Post writer says that no religious group, minority or majority, has a right to impose its opinions on the whole community. The law on marriage, he says is not concerned with sin but only with the security of the state.

At the first of each parliamentary session innumerable members present private bills to parliament that die with adjournment. If so many of our parliamentarians are as concerned as they would like it to appear, they are, there would be little difficulty in arriving at legislations which would be acceptable to the majority of MP's and a large proportion of the Canadian people.



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

I've been married for nearly 20 years, all of them to the same dame, and I understand less at this moment about the so-called feminine process of thinking than I did on my wedding day.

This admission is a result of the latest turn in our economic waltz this summer.

Before holidays began, we had discussed making a trip to the west coast. Then my wife took inventory of the finances and stated flatly that we couldn't afford it, even if we camped all the way and ate at the Salvation Army.

I was rather relieved. I love to travel, but I hate travelling with women. They fuss about missing trains. They worry about hotel rooms. They take enough clothes on a week's trip to take them around the world on a cruise. And they constantly put their hair up and take it down.

Therefore, I looked forward to a quiet, restful summer. Lots of golf. Plenty of swims. A few fishing jaunts. An occasional excursion to see a play.

Then came the refrigerator fiasco, already related here. Net loss of \$350. That really put the clincher on our trip to the coast.

Then came the call, collect, from Vancouver. The son and heir informed us casually, but with a tremour, that he didn't think he'd go back to college. You see, the boat he's working on plies the Pacific to Acapulco, Mexico, in the winter. And you see, he could get a job on a waiter. And you see, he'd be making \$10,000 a year, at only 19, which is pretty good, eh? And you see, it would be a great chance to see the world. And you see, he'd be more mature in a year, and besides, would be able to pay for his whole year at school, when he went back. And so on.

Well! I've seen his old lady fly off the handle. Many times. But I've never seen her go straight up in the air and remain suspended there through most of a phone call that cost me eleven bucks.

So, logically, we are going to Vancouver. I mean, after all, you only live once. And why shouldn't you take a trip when you're young enough to enjoy it. And what the heck, it's only money, isn't it? And so on.

It's nothing to do with seeing Hugh, or dragging him home in chains. Not at all. What ever gave anyone that idea? Why, he's only ashore 10 hours in Vancouver and who'd spend a thousand dollars to fly out there to see him for that length of time? Especially when we sent him out there to save \$800 toward his college fees. That would be ridiculous, wouldn't it? In fact insane.

Well, with the aid of several federal banks, the fly-now-pay-later plan, and a credit card some unsuspecting idiot gave me a couple of years ago, we leave tomorrow for a holiday that will be about half paid for by this time next year.

Have you ever noticed that when you take a plunge you can't afford, like this, everything else starts going wrong, as if to compound your folly and rub it in? This week, I got a speeding ticket, first in my life, the vacuum went on the fritz and required expensive repairs, the lock on our back door broke and had to be replaced, I broke a tooth, and our tax notice arrived, substantially fatter than last year's.

Oh, well, such is life. By the way, if there's no column next week, it will mean we've crashed in the Rockies. And Hugh will be free to go to Mexico.

After he's paid all those debts at the bank. Which will take him about four years at hard labor.



Pages of the Past

from champion files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Canadian Champion, August, 29, 1946.

Over 40 servicemen and their wives and friends were entertained at a banquet in Limehouse Memorial Hall Friday evening. Rev. W. Argyle Campbell was present, saying Grace and proposing the toast to the King. Limehouse Women's Institute raised \$5 for each Limehouse boy, and Esqueping Township Council granted \$10 to each lad who had resided in the ward for two months previous to enlistment. Those receiving the combined gifts of fitted leather toilet cases were as follows: Edgar Beeny, John Ellerby, Ronald Davies, Samuel Gibby, Glen Kinnear, Clifford McDonald, Norman McDonald, Lorne Norton, Harry Smethurst, Gordon Sutherland, Robert Vance and Alex Wright.

At the August meeting of Nassagaweya Women's Institute, it was decided that the Institute erect a light to shine at the foot of the township cenotaph.

Bruce C. MacNab of Milton, who attended the Canadian School of Embalming at the Banting Institute in Toronto, has recently passed the examinations qualifying him for a license as an embalmer and funeral director in the Province of Ontario.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Canadian Champion, August 30, 1866.

Mr. Collins, residing near Milton, lost 13 valuable sheep on Saturday and Sunday last. It is fortunate that the law now compensates the farmer for such heavy losses, but every effort should be made to cause the proper properties, the owner of the dogs, to fork over.

The County show will be held in October 16 and 17. The date has been changed this year on account of having better moonlight than would be on the 11 and 12. The Ploughing Match will be held on the first day of the show. Mr. William Parkins has won the cup for the past two years, and should he win it again this year, he will be entitled to the silver cup. The prize list has been considerably increased as will be seen by reference to those large handbills; among other prizes is one of \$20 to the best brass band, the contesting of which will add to the pleasure of the day. We will publish the list of prizes gratis, as we do those of each show bill that we print.

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PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



A BIG GATHERING of Miltonians was pictured at the Grand Trunk station (now C.N.R.) to see the boys of the 164th

Battalion off to war about 1916. Photo from the George Jackson collection.

CENTENNIAL REPORT

1867/1967

by john w. fisher
centennial commissioner



RCAF planes flying over Canada's isolated communities in the far north are going to be air-dropping some unusual cargo in the months ahead.

During the coming school year the planes will be making airdrops of bright new medallions, souvenirs of Canada's Centennial, to the school children of the north. Why air-drops? Well, some of those communities are so isolated there simply is no other way for deliveries to coincide with distribution of the medallions to the rest of Canada's school population in class rooms by June 1, 1967.

Six million of the Centennial medallions for school children are now being produced for the Centennial Commission by the Royal Canadian Mint at Ottawa. Each medallion, one inch and a quarter in diameter, will be packaged in a special envelope bearing the Centennial emblem on the outside.

The first delivery of medallions from the mint will be a special one — 2,000 to the Centennial Commission at the end of September for the air-drop allotments. Then the mint will make direct shipments to all the provinces and territories by

April 1, 1967. Departments of education will redistribute to all their schools for presentation toward the end of the school year.

For Indian children, attending federal schools, the mint will make direct shipments to those schools operated by the federal government. The Department of National Defence will distribute medallions to all Canadian school children at military bases overseas.

The medallion design, shown here, was recommended this past spring by a special advisory committee to the Centennial Commission. The choice of the design was made following a contest conducted last year among five experienced Canadian designers. Winner of the Commission's award for the obverse side of the medallion was Thomas Shingles of Victoria, B.C., and for the reverse side, Mrs. Dora de Pedery Hunt of Toronto, Ontario.

The medallions will be of lasting significance to all in the new generation. Perhaps they will be passed from generation to generation of families and a number will appear again on the 200th anniversary of Confederation.