

Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

• If the weather during the Thanksgiving weekend was as good generally as
it was here, it could leave little to be
desired. From the coool crisp breeze of
Friday night to the moderating and mellowing temperatures of Saturday and
Sunday, to the blustery bright day of
Monday we had the perfect range.

the local color in the leaves on the weekend too. And it wasn't necessary to leave town either. From my section I could see a nearly-perfect stand of maples ranging from the tinged green to the brilliant yellow and red. Located in the cemetery, they hadn't been butchered to permit wires to enchroach on their beautiful shape.

• Followed a driver of a car bearing Utah license plates along Highway 25 the other day. As he rounded the mountain corners near Speyside and down the hill his head seemed to revolve from side to side. I was tempted to slow down as he did, lest by familiarity I overlooked that beauty that often surrounds us without recognition.

• The Plunkett Report on Local Government in Peel and Halton is still and will continue to be, the subject of considerable discussion. The Champion this week carries a sampling of editorial opinion from newspapers in municipalities affected by the report. It is hoped the opinion will reflect the various influences that will come into play before the gov-

ernment is moved to act on the recommendations, whether by amendment or adoption.

• This week's issue also carries our announcement of a conversion to the offset method of printing within the next few weeks. A number of weekly newspapers have been produced by this method for some time, but in most cases they are produced on a central press that may print as many as 35 weeklies. Since our plant has been largely self-sufficient and the idea of preparing our paper and taking it elsewhere didn't appeal, we have purchased a press for the production of our own papers as well as others. It will be located in our present plant. If the early issues don't go just as well as we hope, perhaps you'll understand every new piece of equipment has its birth pains. We're looking forward to the transition, however, in improving our product and service to the community.

• History highlights somehow become more interesting when they are presented with fresh enthusiasm. Listened the last two weeks at Rotary to an account of the Battle of Hastings as presented by Norm Pearce and Bob Reed. The presentation reflected a great deal of research and considerable study on their part from the charts of the dynasties to the battle diagrams. The Battle of Hastings, a significant event in history, becomes much more meaningful with such an enthusiastic and knowledgeable presentation.

Merrily on the way

There seems little that will prevent an approval of Sunday movies in Milton. It is simply another step in the growing liberalization of Sunday. Milton residents took the first step several years ago when they approved Sunday sports.

It is true too that young people are probably better off at the movies on Sunday afternoon than driving around the streets or gathering in groups of aimlessness.

The change in the observance of Sunday has been going on for some time, from the strict observance of grandfather's time where even to clean shoes or cook meals was looked at with suspicion to today's commercialization through shift work, entertainment and lack of concern generally to protect the single day of rest.

Gone is the full day of activity that revolved around the church with its morning and evening services and afternoon Sunday School. The pressures of modern living have been granted concessions here and evening services in most churches have been abandoned while Sunday School has been tucked into morning hours so it wouldn't interfere with other family-planned activities during the afternoon hours of the day of rost

essary to have entertainment provided every day. It would seem a common day of rest would be such an advantageous thing we would want to protect it jealously. Such is not the case, however. We are such good spectators and such poor participators that entertainment has become uppermost in our requirements. Reading, relaxing, enjoying good conversation and other simple pursuits are no longer sufficient for the growing generations of sophisticates and adults.

Hours spent in front of the television are largely because of the entertainment it provides. We may scoff at the quality and laugh at the commercials but it none-theless is consuming our increasing amount of leisure time. It is little different from attending a movie on Sunday. No one would argue that one is more or less commercialized than the other.

Perhaps future generations will fight to regain a common day of rest that we, in our extravagance, have dissipated. Perhaps they will eye with consternation our willingness to ignore such a treasure. Encompassed by meetings and entertainment on every side they may again "invent" a day of rest on which by common accord they will refrain from commercial entertainment and activity to provide an opportunity to restore the spirit and the mind.

But this generation seems merrily on its way to more entertainment with scarcely time to reflect on the deeper significance or time to express an opinion. What percentage will make the effort to cast a ballot? Indeed, who will express an opinion?

Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

This is a time of year when there should be 24 hours of daylight, when a man should be able to keep going 24 hours a day, and every man should be on a month's vacation.

Think of that fishing. Bass, muskies, pike and rainbow trout, just lying around there drooling, wishing somebody would toss them a lure. With the water so cold, their flesh makes chicken taste like dessicated rubber.

In the bogs the ducks chuckle and in the bush the partridge chortle. Whether it's a bitter morning crouched in a blind, or a stealthy stroll down a sunfiltered wooded road, everything beckons the hunter.

And there's the golf course. A crisp day, the turf like velvet, and all the tourists and women out of the way at last. Nothing to distract. Fat bottoms in Bermuda shorts are replaced by plump black squirrels intent on filling the larder with acorns.

And everywhere, there's sky as blue as a virgin's veins, blue-black water welcoming, butter-golden sun and blazing bush to delight the eye and uplift the soul

Every orange-blooded Canadian, from the most venerable of bird watchers to the Grade Four tyke who must make a leaf collection, yearns to be out in the most wonderful country in the world in the most wonderful time of the year, in the most wonderful life that any of us will ever have.

And what are we all doing? We're behaving like typical Canadians. We recognize the beauty, the allure of autumn but we do nothing about it.

If we're youngsters, we go to stupid school. If we're oldsters, we rake the ruddy leaves. Or we worry about the silly storm windows. Or we go to idiotic

meetings to exchange inanities. Or we trudge off to some ridiculous job in order to put food in our mouths and oil in the tank. Just because it's fall and all these asinine activities are back with

It's not only unintelligent. It's unfair, unpatriotic, unscrupulous, unreligious and unbelievable.

For years I have longed for a holiday in the fall. And for years I have been denied it because of the incredibly insane social structure in this country, which decrees that you have holidays in the summer, or, if you can afford it, an equivalent hot-holiday in winter, down south

Who wants holidays in the summer? With long evenings and weekends, we can fish, swim, boat to our hearts' content. And with the up-coming four-day work-week, there'll be even more time.

But we're stuck with an archaic system that seems to be tied to the school year. On Labor Day, we all go back to the plough, and spend the most glorious weeks of the year at mundane, monotonous chores.

Not for us the gold and blue of autumn days at our myriad lakes, the wild fire of sumach on the hills, the honk of wild geese flying, the wood fire's warmth on a cool evening.

Now, after Labor Day, we don sober garb and pious mien, crawl back into our huts and begin once again the pretence that life is real and earnest.

It's just as well they're not planning to make me Minister of Education. If they did, there'd be a month's holiday in June, school through July and August (until one p.m. every day) and six week's holiday beginning Labor Day.

Don't worry. It will never happen in this country. It's much too sensible.



Down[s] in this Corner

with roy downs

Though I never met the man, I have always held a lot of respect for the courage and foresight of the late Peter L. Robertson, founder of one of Milton's older and busier industrial firms.

This man, early in the 1900's, revolutionized the screw manufacturing industry when he invented the socket head Screw. One day while he was driving a slot head screw the driver slipped and injured his hand. He set out to invent one with a socket head to prevent any further mishaps, and soon perfected it.

His first manufacturing plant was built in Milton in 1907, and grew by leaps and bounds. Today Robertson's is one of the town's larger industries with branches in Montreal, Puerto Rico and southern United States. And it was all started by this man with a genius for inventing.

But Peter L. Robertson was not only an inventor and businessman, he was highly respected by leading industrialists of the day. In 1932 he wrote a literary analysis of world problems — at the height of the great depression — that won acknowledgement from many world leaders. As The Champion recalled at the time of his death in 1951:

"It was written at a time when the world was groping for a remedy to its ills and none seemed available. The volume received great acclaim from men in high authority, and it will never be known what influence his work exerted in rectifying world confusion. Mr. Robertson visualized the world confusion with an analytical mind that was above much of the common thinking, and offered a solution which undoubtedly had a bearing for betterment as far as it was applic-

My respect for the inventor-businessman-author took on a greater degree last week when a reader loaned The Champ-

ion a Toronto Globe, dated December 13, 1932, in which a Globe writer who interviewed Mr. Robertson about his book gave a further insight into the man's life and beliefs.

"A host of eulogies have already come to the author of the book called World Reorganization or Downfall — and the Remedy," said the reporter. "Voluminous files of correspondence acknowledge this constructive contribution in diagnosing the current economic ills of the nation, and prescribing for their recovery. The correspondence includes scores of names — Lloyd George, Albert of Belgium, Mussolini, Franklin D. Roosevelt — and reads like a veritable "Who's Who' of the leaders in state, industry and the church."

The world industrial structure had "completely outgrown the gold metal foundations upon which it has been built," claimed Mr. Robertson. His answer was to bring the existing world debt structure down to a balance with the existing gold supply, or bring the gold supply up to balance the debt either by discoveries of new gold or by revaluating the existing gold supply from its then value of \$20 per troy ounce to \$100 an ounce.

"The man talked in terms of the physician; thinks often in the language of the Oxford Group — yet deals as an ironmaster in the great socket-head screw plant which bears his name," wrote the interviewer.

"This brief picture would be incomplete without this final word — not only descriptive of the Robertson methods, but the key to the man himself; and no newspaper man could miss the sudden flushing of the face and the tear-dimmed eyes of this unusual ironmaster, as he said simply:

"If you want to be of service, think of yourself at your best — and pray."

Emmint in

Editorial Page

Welcome mat is out

Announcement of the establishment of the Provincial Agricultural Museum in Halton, adjacent to the Kelso Conservation Area, is good news.

The action was predicted several weeks ago in this newspaper and the necessary negotiations have been known to be under way for some time. The successful completion of those negotiations is a credit to a number of people involved.

The land adjacent to the Kelso Conservation Area, known as the A. R. Service farm, is ideally situated for such a project with its frontage on highway 401 and close to a 401 overpass. The proximity of the facilities of the attractive Kelso Conservation Area adds to the desirability of the site.

The heritage of agriculture in Ontario is significant and Halton has played an important part in the progressiveness of that major provincial industry. The location of the museum in the county highlights that role.

A provincial museum of science and technology, which the province has undertaken as its centennial project, will now be augmented by the provincial museum of agriculture to round out the recognition by the province of science, industry and agriculture.

Hopefully now the province will turn its resources and experience toward developing a major representation of agricultural history that will suitably portray the dramatic changes that have taken place in this important industry.

It is good news too that the museum will be developed in co-operation with the Steam and Antique Preservers' Association who have been sponsoring the annual Steam-Era in Milton. The growing attraction of this annual show indicates the interest this type of project has for people not only in Ontario but also in neighboring states.

We are pleased to welcome the Provincial Agricultural Museum to the Milton area.



Pages of the Past

from champion files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion October 10, 1946.

The backfire from a tractor being started Monday morning in the driving shed on the farm owned by Fred Armstrong started a blaze which destroyed the building and threatened other nearby buildings. The farm is two miles south of Milton on No. 25 Highway.

The Farm Forums of the County met for the first time in the Court House, Milton, on September 26. D. E. Stauffer of Bright, Zone Three representative on the Provincial executive addressed the meeting on Farm Forum organization and accomplishments. The question of group hospitalization was discussed and a committee of five were named to obtain information on the hospitalization plans and have it circulated to all Halton Farm Forums for their discussion this coming season.

Nearly 100 friends and relatives called at the home of Mrs. A. J. Mylrea, 81 Glengowan Rd. Thursday afternoon, September 19, when Mrs. Mylrea, Mrs. William King and Miss Dorothy Denyes entertained on the occasion of the 50th wedding anniversary of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Denves. The home was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and Mr. and Mrs. Denyes and their daughters accepted the honor with their usual grace. Refreshments were served in the dining room from a tea table which was most attractive with a silver tea and coffee service at either end, a beautiful arrangement of brown and gold flowers in the centre and tall branched silver candlesticks. Presiding at the tea table were Miss Dunbar, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Brad Clements, Mrs. Gillelard and Mrs. Russell Clements, assisted by Freda Harrison, Mrs. L. Scratch, Mrs. Martin Lindsay and Mrs. Kenneth Stratten. Guests were present from Toronto, Milton, Burlington, Oakville, St. Catharines, Port Dalhousie, Whitby, Exeter, Kingston.

50 years ago

Champion October 12, 1916

sed on Tuesday, the roof of Bronte rail-

way station was observed to be on fire.

There was a high wind and the wooden

building was destroyed within half an

hour. C. E. Dilty, station agent, lived in

the building and lost all of his furniture

and effects. Total damage was about

on duty vesterday with a neat uniform,

which added to his authority. Credit is

due to the town council for providing it.

Champion office, is still confined to his

house by illness, but it is hoped that he

will be out by next week. Owing to his

illness, the Champion comes out late this

week, and work generally has been re-

tarded. We are indebted to Mr. White, of

immense losses to farmers, drovers, and

Don't beat your hogs. Bruises mean

the Reformer, for kind assistance.

packers.

Chief Constable Charles Jones was

John W. Blight, foreman of The

Taken from the issue of The Canadian

Shortly after a troop train had pas-

Citizen interest evident

The number of people who attended the open house at the newly renovated Milton Town Hall surprised many councillors. And undoubtedly the extent of the change in the town hall surprised many citizens. We have heard many comments on their happiness the building was transformed rather than considered ripe for abandonment.

Perhaps too often those in public life are tempted to feel the silence of citizens indicates a lack of interest on their part. The open house at the town hall did much to dispel this assumption.

The presentation of the fountain court to the town and another presentation of a painting also indicated the interest of citizens in the municipal headquarters. The Fountain Court was developed by Mrs. E. J. Costigan in co-operation with others and enhances the exterior of the dramatic old building. The presentation of a painting by Mrs. Frank McNiven for the interior of the administration centre also emphasizes the interest of citizens. The painting is in memory of Frank McNiven who served the town administration well for many years.

plans a similar open house at the recently expanded sewage treatment plant. Perhaps this very necessary facility doesn't appeal to the aesthetics of some but its excellent landscaping reflects a modern and effective municipal service. The complexities of the operation may not be easily grasped but it is an opera-

tion few people would see if some special occasion was not set aside for such an open house.

We hope a good many will take the time to visit this municipal facility during the Open House and see where the major expenditures made are providing an important service. The Open House date is Saturday, October 22 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Briefs

Grim note: The teen-age daredevil who drives too fast never stops to think that his obituary may be only one parapraph long, with no eulogy.

Perhaps nothing would be lost by ending all bomb tests, even underground. By this time everything must be pretty well known.

Were the war on poverty to be waged with the energy put into, say, World War II, it would be over and won in about five years.

The bicycle might come back if they could equip it with racks big enough to carry home four bags of groceries from the supermarket.

A \$3 per ton increase in the price of prime steel sheets doesn't frighten the housewife, who seldom has these items on her shopping list.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, October 11, 1866

The Nassagaweya and Esquesing union ploughing match will be held on the farm of Mr. Brown near Acton October 19.

The numerous friends of Dr. Crooker, who has during his residence in this County worked up a large and increasing practice, will regret to learn that he has decided to withdraw from practice for the present, and is about to leave for Europe, October 22. The doctor intends to visit the hospitals and schools of the old world and we doubt not he will return laden with the titles they confer on merit. A safe voyage and a speedy return is the wish of his many friends in

J. A. Donaldson Esq. the celebrated lecturer on Flax intends to be present at our County show, and deliver an address on his favorite topic. He delivered one at Oakville in the Floral Hall last Saturday. Specimens will be shown of native Flax in its various styles of preparation.

We were surprised when passing through Stewarttown to see so much activity at the grain market. There were as many as 50 teams with wheat on Tuesday at the mills of Hood and McKinnon. Success to Stewarttown.

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PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



formed in the early 1900's and they were never beaten. The seven members, all 60-minute girls, are shown in this photo taken about 1907. Bob Fleming, who played with the local intermediate team, was coach and Roy Field helped him with the ladies. Their games at the arena drew out the town band and large crowds, and when they played out-of-town they would go by train and be billeted in opposing players' homes.

Seated in front, left to right, were cover point Mary Kelly (now Mrs. Jack Kirby of Toronto), left forward Nonie Panton, and Mrs. Violet Bowman (Mrs. W. M. Scott of Milton). Standing from left are rover Marion Panton, right forward Lisle Campbell (now of Toronto), goalkeeper Anna Scott (Mrs. A. L. MacNabb of Milton), and forward Helen Panton. The three Pantons are presently living in Vancouver.