

Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

- With the sights and sounds of Steam-Era now history for another year it seems possible to realze that the Fall will be shortly with us. Children are back to school, meetings revert to a more regular basis, winter activities like hockey and curling receive serious planning and some leaves have already got a dash of color.
- Old Fashioned Days is history again too, and despite some Centennial Year hopes, it was one of the weaker celebrations. I keep thinking it's too bad because more and more costumes are appearing every year with practically no encouragement at all. Makes me wonder what might be possible if the event was ever really organized on a continuing basis. I've taken a vow though. I'm not pushing it any further.
- The Armed Forces Tattoo, staged last week at the CNE before huge audiences, is worth seeing. It's schedulled for a two night stand in Hamilton in case you missed it in Toronto. The cast of 1700 makes good use of the vast area in front of the CNE grandstand and bleechers. It's a show full of color and pagentry with a little humor mixed in very judiciously.
- Watched Halton's representative in the Dairy Princess finals at the CNE Coliseum last week and she ably

That pesky fly! He's been buzzing

I've chased him around the office a

Whoops, she's back again. Got a good

Drat it all. I've missed again. Sure

Now she's casing the general news-

Darn! Now she's in and I'm out.

around my head for 10 minutes now, and

he hasn't lit anywhere long enough to

couple of times, but he keeps disappear-

ing on me. Come to think of it, "he"

must be a "her", for only a female

could be that bothersome. Oh well, back

look at her that time. Big brute, about

three times the size of a normal fly, and

twice as noisy. Vroom, vroom. There!

wish she'd light somewhere for just a

room. She's 20 feet away and I can still

hear her buzzing. Now she's gone in the

washroom. Quick! I'll shut the wash-

How will I get her now? I know, I'll op-

en the door a little bit and sneak in real

fast. Then it will be just the two of us,

face to face in that tiny room, man to

beast. She's cunning, but I'm quick. My

. . . vroom . . . she's gone again. There,

she's resting on Bob's desk. I'll creep

up slowly and noiselessly, like a great

white hunter stealthily stalking a killer

lion . . . I raise my gun . . . vroom . . .

vou in mid-air. Swoosh. Missed. Swoosh,

Missed. Swoo . . . darn it, the head flew

pon's out of commission? She's buzzing

around my head again. Okay, the swat-

the typewriter and pretend I'm working.

She's sure to come back. Good thing

I'm all alone in the office right now;

those other guys would think I was crazy

to be so upset over a big fly, but the

ncisy brute's been teasing me and I've

time to write that editorial about town

council, while I'm in the right frame of

mind. Vroom - she's back. Now where's

Maybe right now would ge a good

ter's fixed, now where did she go?

Okay buster, now I'm mad. I'll get

Now, how does she know my wea-

I know what to do. I'll go back to

Now, I'll just open the door, and

room door and keep her in there.

reflexes are great. I'll get her.

she's off again.

of the fly swatter.

got my dander up.

Vroom. Vroom.

to work. Let's hope she's gone now.

Take that! And that!

represented the county, even though she didn't claim top honors. Carol Swackhamer delivered a very capable speech and to my unskilled eye did a good job of milking a cow. Her skill of course was one of the reasons she was one of five finalists out of a field of 40.

- More copies of The Milton Reformer came to us this week, including the first and second issues of that paper. I don't imagine we'll ever compile anything like a complete set of that early Milton paper, but every copy expands the early record of the town and area's historical reference
- Haven't heard any figures on water consumption this year, but I suspect the amount is down from previous dryer summers. Lawns have been well watered by nature this year and the anticipated few weeks when grass cutting was reduced just never seemed to mater-
- It was surprising to see the number of people who turned out for the Park's Board Concert Sunday. It just shows people do enjoy some activity in loca! parks and the town does have some excellent, if somewhat ignored, park settings. Back in 1909 up to 1500 attended band concerts in Victoria Park, a little research reveals.

out in the hallway. I'll follow her. Man

she's really travelling fast. Buzzing like

ing the back door - "look out, Bob . . .

What's that noise? Someone's open-

She's gone. Outside. Good riddance.

Can anyone tell me why Noah put

The centennial year edition of Steam-

Friday morning, a member driving

Era in Milton on the weekend was a

grand show, and it proved one thing -

there are still some honest people in and

an antique gas tractor to the show from

his home in the district lost his wallet.

It probably fell from his pocket on the

way into town. Before the morning was

over, however, it had been found and

turned in at the police station. And

there was \$185 in the wallet, all of which

lost his wallet containing around \$85.

The honest finder had it turned in to

the headquarters tent (with the \$85 in-

tact) before the owner even knew it

up that valuable cornet that Acton Cit-

izens' Band bandmaster George Elliott

lost at the Sunday band concert in Vic-

The old preacher stood up to preach.

The preacher said: "Now, the doctors

He read his text, Matthew 4: 24, ". . .

they brought unto him all sick people

can scrutinize you, analyze you and some-

times cure your ills, but when you have

divers diseases, then only the Lord can

cure. And brethren, there is a regular

epidemic of divers diseases among us."

School is over. Some dive for the TV set

during the evening services. Some dive

into a list of excuses about not work-

ing for the Lord. Others dive for the car

and take a trip over the weekend. Some

dive for their nickels and dimes to put

in the offering, instead of paying their

tithe. Some dive for the door as soon as

the minister gives the appeal to pray at

the altar at the close of the service. Yes,

it takes the Lord and the love for the

"Some dive for the door after Sunday

that were taken with divers diseases ...'

Then on Saturday, a man at the show

Now, if someoone could just turn

a bee and moving like a jet.

those two flies on the ark?

around Milton

was returned.

was gone.

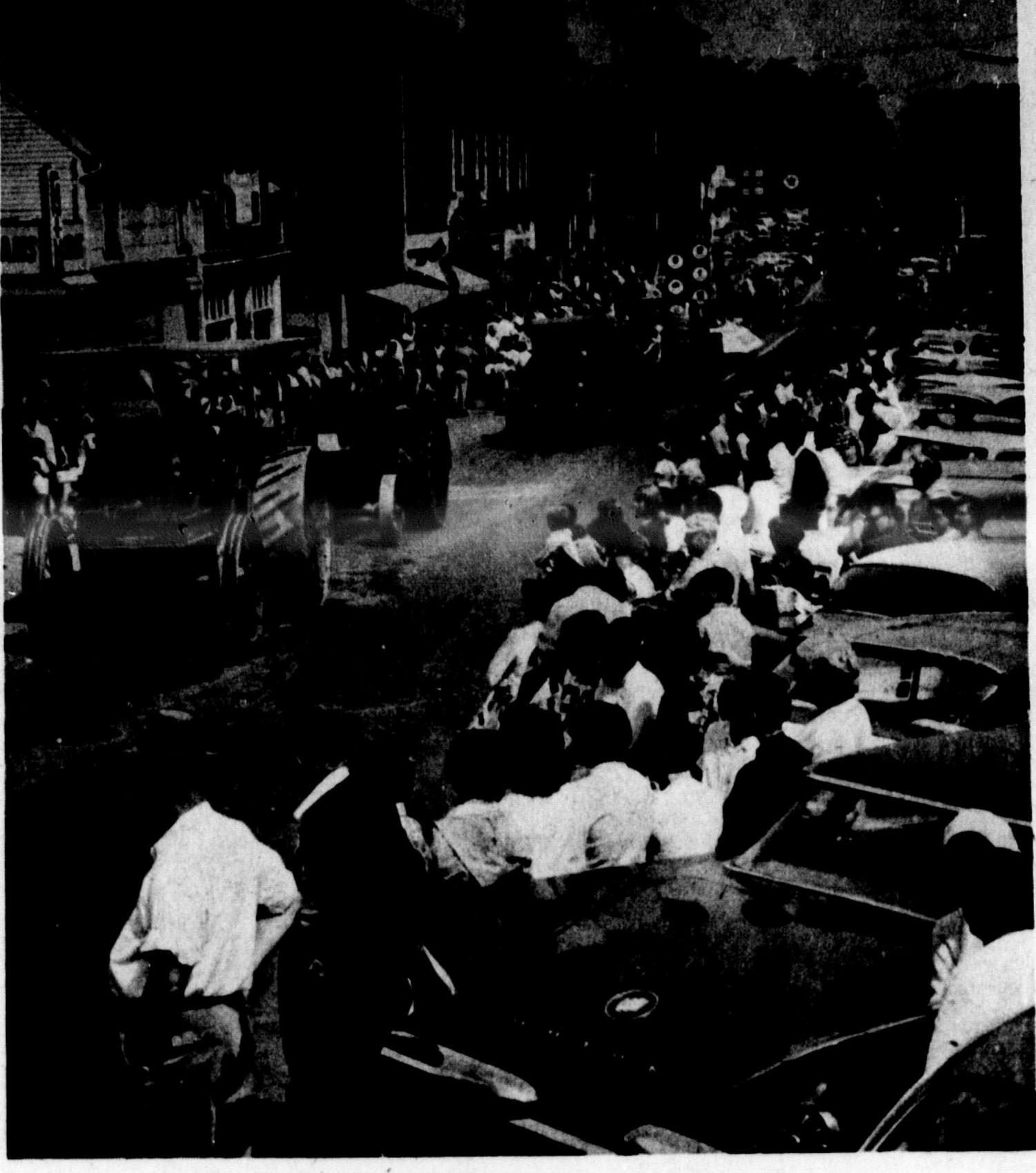
Swoosh. Missed again. Now she's church to cure DIVERS DISEASES."

PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST

toria Park . . .

.orner

Down[s] in this



A hootin' tootin' weekend

From pocket to pocket

How long can we fool ourselves about all those tax "breaks" the govthe evidence in now that contradicts the old saw about fooling some of the people some of the time but not all of the people all of the time?

The Ontario Committee on Taxation has finally brought down its long-awaited report. It doesn't hide the fact that the grant-giving patterns of the province are quite complicated nor does it attempt to obscure the understandable theory that if reductions in one area, of taxation are effected, increased costs in other directions are to be necessary.

of a provincial election this year.

their sales tax, their company tax and the host of others, governments seemernments are giving us? Do we have ingly continue to bamboozle us with stories of what they are giving us or what "breaks" they are introducing.

The two moves on the recommendations of the Smith report will cost an additional 126 million dollars. The province has to locate the funds for this action and the hard realities of the Smith Report indicate quite clearly the funds will come from the taxpayers at the federal level or through new or increased provincial taxes.

That simply means that it hasn't yet been determined which pocket you'll have to put a little more tax money in. Some smaller amount is to be put in your town tax pocket, a little more perhaps in your sales (provincial) tax pocket or your income (federal and provinciath tax pocket. In the end it will likely mean a little less in the pocket from which you control expenditures direct-

It should not be forgotten, proposals in the Smith Report, less glamorous and less appealing, also called for raises in income taxes, gasoline, haircuts and other services.

If municipal tax bills drop it will be a temporary measure as the increasing demand for services continues and administrators see the gain as a chance to catch up on the pressing needs,

The more government we demand,

the higher the price.

The politically astute provincial government, however, has shifted the spotlight from the hard facts of the report to the area of plums. A property tax exemption on the first \$2,000 of assessment is to be instituted to reduce the plaint of the residential property owners. The province is to assume all costs of the administration of justice which is theoretically to also work to the advantage of the property owner.

have to come to the realization that governments do not generate money. Their only source of income is taxpay-

Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley



Well, I scarcely know where to start. Expe 67 is surely the greatest display of human ingenuity, imagination and organization that has ever been assembled on the face of the earth. It's absolutely magnificent in almost every respect.

All you need to enjoy the big fair thoroughly is about three weeks, \$3,000 and a pair of legs made of steel springs.

We did it in three days, on \$150, with legs that rapidly turned to putty, if it is possible for putty to ache like a bad

We took off right after church last Sunday. As usual "right - after - church" gradually turned into 3 p.m. Drove 150 miles. Stayed with sister-in-law. Long time no see. Big palaver until 3 a.m.

Bogged another 200 through the heat to Alexandria, near Montreal, where old buddy, The Man from Glengarrygenerous, joyous Gene Macdonald-had offered, free, two motel rooms for as long as we wanted. Swift tour of ancient, interesting town, drink at golf club, dinner at the Macdonalds'. Same story: long-time-no-see etc. Overflowing hospitality, even to tall, dark and handsome 16year-old son Neil to entertain our Kim. Estimated departure time: 10 p.m. Actual departing time: 2.30 a.m.

Up bright and early and off at the crack of noon. Fortunately, as Gene had promised, it was only an hour's drive from Expo. Became biggest joke of the trip. He obviously meant by jet, or straight across - country. My car goes better on highways.

"Just follow the Expo signs," it said. We did. We completely surrounded the city of Montreal and wound up in a parking lot which was a 30-minute ferry ride from Expo. The regular lots are five to ten minutes from the grounds. The ferry cost \$1.50 a person. The other lots provide a free bus. The ferry dumped us at the wrong end of Expo, just ten miles from where we wanted to be. At 3.30 p.m., we were at Expo.

Never mind, we finally picked up my press pass. The press building was a little bit of heaven — air conditioned, food and drink reasonable. Slightly revived, and about the time I had thought we

would be heading for home, we started out to "do" Expo.

As always with our family, there were no plans, no organization. We went into the first building we saw. It was the International Broadcasting Building. Fascinating, perhaps, for an engineer. For us, it was slightly less absorbing than a visit to the local library.

The fighting began here. Kim is at the age when she abhors being dragged around by her parents. Her first proposal was "Let's split and meet somewhere." Would you turn loose your 16year-old chick in a crowd of 300,000, in an area the size of a large city, when none of us had a clue about how to get back to the ferry?

So we sulked our way through the telephone building. It's a dandy show. And it was here that I first discovered that my press pass made Aladdin's Lamp look like an old candle but. (I just took it out and kissed it as I write).

See, there are these 7,000 people lined up, about four abreast, for a quarter mile. With a press pass, you walk to the head of the line, flash the pass, and your party is admitted at the "reserved" entrance, immediately, along with people in wheelchairs and comas and other condit-

The first time we did it, we felt like real skunks. I expected the enraged types in the line-up to scream and rave or threaten to tear us to pieces. Nothing happened. The second time, I felt like Charles de Gaulle. After that, I lost all compunction for the standees, and began looking for pavilions with the longest line-ups, for the sheer pleasure of gate-crashing. Such is man.

Russian pavilion next. Beautiful lineup. Pavilion was rather like a vast department store specializing in space - travel equipment. My wife collapsed into a chair on the third floor and a number of people thought she was having a

By sheer good luck, we found our way home, and hurtled that "one hour from Expo" in only two and a half hours after missing the turn-off to Alex and wandering about the wilds of Eastern Ontario for an hour. Bed at 2 a.m.



Pages of the Past

from champion files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian

Champion, September 4, 1947. John Krywiarchuck of Hamilton, awaiting trial in Halton County Jail for taking part in the \$105,000 robbery at the Bank of Nova Scotia at Campbellville in July, was recently taken to the Don Jail at Toronto by officers as a precautionery measure, it has been announced by John J. Sullivan, Hamilton, his counsel. Accused was also identified as taking part in the Carling Breweries Ltd. \$700 robbery at Waterloo last May 29.

A flash fire caused from gasoline totally destroyed a garage and seriously threatened the large brick house on the farm of William Cross, Highway 25, last Friday about 4.30 in the afternoon.

Fred Cross, a son who had been working with the father in the fields, was sent to the garage to obtain more gasoline for the jeep. As the boy was pouring the liquid into a can, the flash occurred, spreading fire around the garage. Flames quickly licked up the walls of the building, sending sparks to the roof of the house over 30 feet away. Fire had begun in three places on the house roof by the time firemen arrived, Chief Randall explained.

100 years ago Taken from the issue of The Canadian

Champion, Milton, September 5, 1867. At an early hour on Friday last, Mr. William Moore found the body of a man on the Grand Trunk Railway, about a mile west of Acton. On enquiry, it was found to be the body of William R..... in the employ of Mr. W. Hemstreet

Crewson's Corners. On the previous evening, the deceased got a small sum of money from his employer to purchase a pair of shoes. It appears from the evidence at his inquest that while in the village, he and two others were drinking for a considerable time at Ward's Tavern, and that the deceased did not leave till between 11 and 12 o'clock p.m. The deceased had been run over by one of the night trains. Itoth of his legs were severed from his body. The inquest was adjourned till Friday next.

On Wednesday night, the jubilation of Reformers was extreme, and they assembled in great numbers before the residence of Mr. White, and gave hearty cheers for the Queen, the New Dominion, White and Barber, and The Champion. Stirring speeches were delivered by Messrs. White, Barber, J. Dewar, John Stewart of Esquesing, and Samuel Clarke, Esq., of Welland, ex-warden of this county. The latter gentleman gave the lie to the slander in The Herald, that Mr. White had driven him out of the County. A grand bonfire concluded the proceedings. In Georgetown, similar rejoicings took place.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, September 6, 1917.

Police have given out the details of the anti - conscription dynamiters' program, which included the murder of Lord Atholstan, the destruction of his house and of the Montreal Star office, the assassination of Hon. Arthur Meighen and of Premier Sir Robert Borden, and the dynamiting of the Parliament buildings.

David Anderson of Toronto, who bought out the Milton Foundry Co. lately was in town last Monday, accompanied by Mrs. Anderson. He intends to open the foundry for work within a short time and customers will find him an expert machinist. He has been and still is at work in a munition plant, making shell fuses.

Last Friday was Press Day at the Canadian National Exhibition. The newspapermen were made the guests of the directors at luncheon and tea and at the grandstand in the evening. Halton representatives were E. A. Harris, Burlington Gazette; H. P. Moore, Acton Free Press: J. M. Moore, Georgetown Herald; W. J. Vleuty, Oakville Record; R. M. White, Milton Reformer and William Panton, Canadian Champion.

Managers of banks have been warned to be on the lookout for spurious \$10 bills which have been circulated in several places during the past two weeks. It is understood the bills are a good imitation of the Royal Bank \$10 bill. It is not known that any have been passed in Milton.

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The promise is also given that there is to be no new increases in taxes this year. And that of course is quite un-

It's a hard fact, but someday we ers. And while taxpayers grumble about the size of their property tax,

derstandable with the great possibility

Champion

Illusionary benefits?

The Ontario Committee on Taxation included in its report a suggestion for the introduction of regional government. The report envisioned the province divided into 29 units.

Editorially the Toronto Star has attempted to tell us about the magnificent benefits we would gain under regional government as opposed to our present county, town system.

"By grouping taxpayers into larger political boundaries, regional governments can build up sufficient revenue to afford high schools and teachers comparable to those in cities; area library facilities; better hospitals and public health units; regional parks and co-ordinated protection services.

"A regional government can undertake long-range area planning - and afford the experts to do it. Conservation of land and water resources over a wide area becomes practical. Standard assessment can be arranged and tax collection made more efficient.

"Regional governments, with planning responsibilities over larger areas, could reduce the present cut-throat competition between municipalities for business assessment. They should also be able to standardize building codes and thus reduce the cost of building houses.

"And most important as the committee sees it, larger political units with a more secure tax base will find it easier and cheaper to borrow money".

It sounds wonderful, until you read it the second time and start checking all those benefits-to-be against the benefits you presently have. Then too, you notice that the benefits of this big region are too often predicted on the attainment of "bigness". The best example we've got of "bigness" is Metro Toronto and last year government costs in Metro jumped 23 per cent between 1966 and 1967. With increases like that it would have to be easier to bor-

system that couldn't be ironed out by some constructive thinkers at a lot less cost, but, contrary to popularly-held theories, some of the proponents for regional-type services are not confined to the southern municipalities. Burlington, for instance, refuses to move to county assessment. If a regional government was established they just wouldn't have any alternative. So we wonder just who is pushing for regional government and whether the benefits held out are illusionary or real.

row money. There are no bugs in the county

churns, chopping boxes and so on. This one, manufactured by John W. Smith Co. at Montreal, was operated by two horses and ran a large saw when it was photographed in eastern Ontario many

MEMORIES OF THE STEAM ERA filled Milton on the weekend as the Ontario Steam and Antique Association returned with its seventh annual reunion of agricultural history. Here's another memory, but you'll have to be an oldtimer to recall it. The horse treadle was in use before the turn of the century to

power such items as saws, butter years ago. Photo courtesy Lorne Skuce.