



# Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

\* Changing the color of the walk signal at the main intersection couldn't have been too complicated, but it certainly is an improvement. The white light is much more legible than the green, as well as getting around the confusion of colors that existed. One reader comments the change should also have been from "walk" to "run" since the time allowed to get across is pretty slim for pedestrians.

\* Don't miss the community celebration this week. "Everyone" seems to be planning to take in the Community Ball on the Friday evening and nothing would be more encouraging to those who worked for annexation, than to see 1,200 to 1,500 citizens on hand. Buying the tickets in advance saves 75¢ and the tickets are available at many stores as well as the town hall.

\* I want to get a plug in for the Dominion Day event at Centennial Park too, which was organized by the Parks Board prior to the annexation announcement. Hand Chemical Industries are co-operating, as are the Milton Girls' Pipe Band and the Rovers. It should be getting underway by 9:15 with the aerial fireworks display set for 9:45.

\* My impressions of Chicago improved over the weekend. I'd always considered it one of the cities with polluted air and an uninspiring downtown. It proved far more interesting that I had anticipated when I made plans to attend a major exhibition of printing equipment.

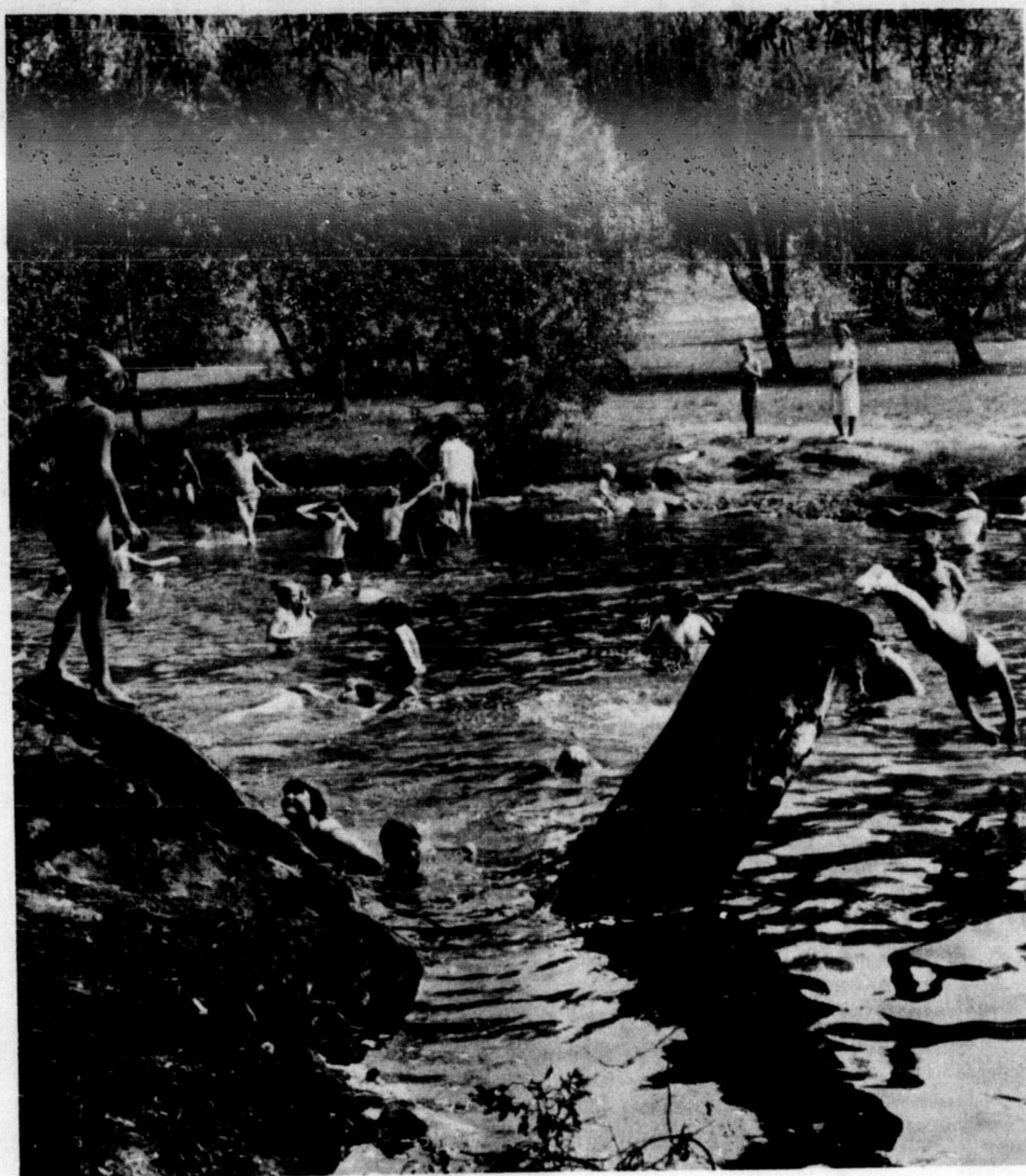
\* An announcement in a Chicago newspaper that the "elevated" was to be replaced made a trip on it essential. It tied in with my desire to see some of the slum areas to better understand the problems large cities face.

\* Undoubtedly there are slum areas. The houses row on row, two storeys tall, small and dilapidated. Set in the steamy Chicago weather, they would be far from comfortable. But there was tangible evidence that attempts at improvement were being made. New large units had been constructed for housing which appeared to be well cared for. There was evidence of pride as I noticed some out picking paper from the lawns and sweeping balconies. There was the odd distinctive touch of color or piece of furniture that indicated the existence of initiative.

\* There were the same touches of color - a sort of opposition to anonymity - in a towering apartment block, completely circular with 17 levels of parking topped by 43 floors of apartments. The rents ranged in the \$400 a month category. But on the terrace, covered by a cement canopy, some had painted the underside a blue, green or pink. It was a mark of distinction visible from the ground.

\* There was certainly no segregation that we encountered and I was encouraged to think the situation is improving. One of the colored cab drivers blamed the restlessness on the young people and he concluded in wondering just what it is they want. Undoubtedly they want a better chance, but there is no magic wand which will produce it. Hopefully the transition that is necessary will not take generations.

\* When I hear a reference now to the long hot summer I'll have a better understanding. Temperatures in Chicago on the weekend went pretty high and steaminess and humidity were devastating in a bus that lacked air conditioning.



THE OLD SWIMMIN' HOLE still has a place in our society, despite the inroads made by modern pools. This one lures children to a section of the Twelve Mile Creek at Lowville Park, where the water's just as wet and the fun seems more unlimited than in a supervised, chlorinated cement-lined pool. When you're young, fun is where you make it. (Staff Photo)

## Champion Editorial Page

### A challenging role

Monday is Canada's birthday. You may remember from last year it was the subject of considerable discussion since it was centennial year. Haven't heard too much about it this year, but that's no reason to forget it.

We've always admired the amount of attention United States residents bestow on their glorious July Fourth. Over here we've never gotten all that steamed up about July 1 (except last year). It seems to us there would be very few buildings in the U.S. that wouldn't have a flag on them for their national birthday.

Wonder how many buildings there will be around Milton that will have a Canadian flag flying on Monday?

It's great to be a Canadian and yet we frequently fail to outwardly express it. Our history is not fraught with the bloodshed of battles for independence but it is dotted with the determination of the pioneers who carved communities from the wilderness and confederation from their confidence.

The task of building a united and independent nation is far from complete. In a world that sees the speed of travel bringing us closer to those any-

where on the globe, independence becomes difficult to define. While others starve anywhere we cannot be independent of the problem. Indeed as Canada moves on into its second century we feel it has a very real and very difficult responsibility to reach out to the have-not nations rather than inward to higher and higher standards of living.

It is vital that Canada embrace the nations of the world, not in a smothering and all-encompassing way, but in a helpful and determined way that will encourage in other lands the kind of initiative that built Canada from its wilderness. It is a road without immediate and dramatic results but it is an important road if the peace we long for is ever to become a reality.

Canada's birthday on Monday is only a symbol but it is an opportunity for Canadians to take new heart in their future, to take new pride in the past but more important, to take new resolve that Canada's role in the world will be that of encouragement for developing nations and for those who never find enough food.



## Down[s] in this Corner

with roy downs

This Friday evening, Miltonians will gather at Milton Arena to celebrate the successful conclusion of the annexation hearing. I hope the Carlton Showband will play an appropriate tune like "This Land is My Land" to mark the occasion.

Just in case they do, and on the off chance Mayor Brian Best is in a good singing mood, I'm passing along this parody on the song, with my compliments. Sorry if the rhyme and rhythm are a little clumsy, but who cares as long as you get the point across?

### THIS LAND IS MY LAND

This land is my land  
This land is your land  
From the C.N.R. to the Third Line  
And north to 401  
South to 10 Sideroad . . . .  
This land belongs to you and me.

We fought for five years  
To make Milton grow  
But the O.M.B.  
Kept saying "no"  
Oakville opposed us  
To keep their status quo . . . .  
This land belongs to you and me.

Repeat chorus: This land is my land . . .

Well we kept pressing  
It was a long hard fight  
The Board finally said  
"This seems alright  
Now you be good boys  
Don't pollute that creek" . . . .  
This land belongs to you and me.

Repeat chorus: This land is my land . . .

Now our future's rosy  
We've lots of ground  
To build homes and stores  
With industry all around  
We'll plan it wisely  
Just wait and see . . . .  
This land belongs to you and me.

Chorus once more . . . .  
This time with more gusto.

# Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley



Sometimes the world seems a pretty rotten place to live, and one of them was during the period of shock and horror following the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy.

But there's always something to redeem us from bitterness and hopelessness. For me, it was the magnificent display of courage and dignity presented by the Kennedy family.

The Irish are often presented as over-dramatic and over-sentimental in the presence of death. This family, with its Irish roots, gave the lie to that picture. No tears, no hysteria, but an almost classical acceptance of tragedy, down to the littlest ones.

There seems little evidence that the appalling record of violence in the United States will be halted or even slowed down by the recent assassinations of Kennedy and King.

The foofawraw about the sale of guns is merely locking the door after the beast is loose. There are so many guns floating around in the States that it would take 10 years and the co-operation of the entire populace to round them up and get rid of them. And you'd still have an underground market for the nuts.

Americans claim they are a peace-loving people. And they mean it. But the tradition of violence as a means of solving things is woven deeply into the fabric of their history, and it's going to be hard to pluck out.

They fought the British in 1776 and again in 1812. They fought each other in a civil war of unparalleled ferocity. They fought the Spanish and Mexicans and took Texas.

They attacked Spain again on flimsy grounds and wound up with a number of colonies.

They killed passenger pigeons and buffalo and Indians to the point of extinction. Pile on top of that two massive world wars, the Korean war and the present undeclared war in Vietnam, and it's a pretty impressive record for a peace-loving people.

I'm not being sardonic. I believe the Americans are a great people, and basically a peace-loving people. They don't want to rule the world, as other great nations have done and still do. But the evidence of violence as a means to an end is unavoidable.

Politically, there is a history of assassination and attempts at it that would make a Balkan state green with envy.

American folk-heroes were men of violence: Billy the Kid, Jesse James, murderers both. Gangsters have ruled cities like kings. There was a deep fascination with the careers of murderers like Pretty Boy Floyd and John Dillinger.

And what's the latest craze, in everything from fashions to advertising? A sick movie about a couple of sick killers, Bonnie and Clyde.

And what's ahead? More of the same. The American negro, after a century of subservience, has caught the sickness, and he's going to get what he wants, by violence if necessary.

Vandalism, hoodlumism, beatings, knifings are part of daily life in big cities. Student Power and Black Power vie for headlines, and get them.

The vast body of Americans, the good people, the decent people, must be sick at heart and bewildered. The American Dream is turning into a nightmare.

But you cannot indict a nation on the performance of a lunatic fringe. Americans are a people of goodwill, of boldness, and of great ingenuity. Surely they will find a way to purge the sickness.

We have nothing to be smug about. There is a growing lawlessness and violence creeping into our Canadian society. The only reason it's comparatively mild is that we have a small population in a big country.

We can only wish our good neighbors our sympathy and the fervent hope that solutions will be found, and soon, to the problems that beset them.

## Something for everyone

Milton is letting its collective hair down this week and throwing a celebration to mark its annexation success. It's a good time to suggest a whole new period of community co-operation and involvement on the part of each citizen.

Under the leadership of the council, citizens from the area are invited to get together to show some enthusiasm for the town and its hopes for the future. Council wasted no time in setting up the celebration and the groundwork plans materialize this week, hopefully, in community-wide participation.

There's something for everyone. The Chamber of Commerce carnival has co-incidently with the dates as has the Parks Board's fireworks display and Dominion Day flag lowering ceremony. The Community Ball in the arena promises to be the municipal highlight of the program on the Friday evening and with a well-known musical group entertaining, the crowd should include many from the town and area. For the teenagers with a different musical taste there's the free dance on Saturday evening.

We hope those from the area around Milton won't hesitate to attend any of the events. It's a celebration and that's the kind of event to which one invites friends and neighbors from near and far. Council has indicated this principle by extending invitations to Oakville and Esqueving Councils, in sincerity. There is no suggestion the neighbors are being invited in any other context.

It's good to get together and have fun and that is the basic intent of the program. It is equally good to develop a new awareness that the town is as good as its citizens are prepared to work to make it. The town doesn't owe anybody anything but as citizens we

each owe it some active participation in creating the fabric that is strong enough to foster a worthy future.

Most citizens of the town are already involved in some community improvement work of one kind or another, be it at the municipal level, service club, church or fraternal group. The greater the involvement in community work at the personal level, the greater the personal return in satisfaction and local pride.

The decision on annexation has reduced the feeling of claustrophobia that seemed to be engulfing the attitudes of citizens. The enlargement has reduced this sense of restriction and it has made more vital the role played by each individual. There are more than 90 people already involved in some form of municipal activity. Add to that the membership of service clubs, the activities of the churches and the fraternal groups and you have quite a bit of involvement.

But there are other areas of involvement too. It can be as simple as encouraging beautification of your street, planting a tree, cutting the grass on the boulevard or beautifying an unused plot of land. It can be coaching a sports team or organizing a new sport. It can be leading a cub pack, brownie group or other worthy organization.

There are ample opportunities for involvement in community improvement. They aren't all at the municipal level. And none are without their frustrations.

We've got something to celebrate this week, but let us remember that to develop the kind of community we want will go beyond the current celebration to an interest in, an enthusiasm for, and a willingness to work on behalf of the town. Have you charted your role?

## PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



MILTON BICYCLE CLUB was pictured in 1896 in a photo loaned by R. M. Clements. Identified in the picture are, from the right, S. R. Bews, W. F. Dewar, Alex

Armstrong, Charlie Barber on fence, W. B. Clements, E. Marchand, T. Moore. Winn, Walter Bews, Red Lindsay, J. M. Bastedo, J. H. McCollum, two unidenti-

fied, R. B. Galbraith, Tom Bowman, Winn, unidentified, McKenzie and Bowman.

## Pages of the Past

from champion files

### 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, June 24, 1948.

A special meeting of Nassagaweya Township Council was held in the Chambers on Monday, with the members all present and W. M. VanSickle in the chair. Ernest Dredge was present to discuss with Council the transfer of a portion of his farm to the Township to be used as a recreation grounds. After careful consideration the following resolution was passed: "That this council purchase from Ernest Dredge approximately three acres of land at a cost of \$1 for the purpose of creating recreational grounds. The Township will provide 30 rods of wire fence and necessary posts to partially enclose same." The cutting of weeds on roads was discussed and a resolution was passed engaging Roy Woods to cut weeds on the Township Roads at a rate of \$2.00 per hour, first cutting to commence as soon as possible, under the supervision of the weed inspector. The question of selling the Township stone crusher was discussed, but Council felt it was not advisable at this time. After a general discussion of matters pertaining to the Township, Council adjourned to meet again as per previous adjournment on Monday, July 5 at 8 p.m.

### 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, June 27, 1918.

Notices have been sent out to all county judges asking them to have as few jury cases as possible this summer. This is being done to relieve the farmers, who are generally called to serve on the juries, so that the work of production will not be interrupted. The request applies, of course, only to cases of a nature that may be tried by either a judge or a jury, as criminal cases would naturally be tried in the ordinary way. It is therefore a matter for the legal profession to arrange the cases as much as possible along this line.

The eighth annual summer school of Hamilton Conference will be held in Milton, beginning Saturday next and continuing for one week. There will be a reception service in the Methodist Church on Saturday evening, when addresses of welcome will be given by Mayor E. F. Earl and the President of the Epworth League, and replies by President Farill and W. D. Flatt. Sessions will be held daily throughout the week, the mornings being given to study, the afternoons to recreation -- boating,

bathing, games, etc., and the evenings to addresses by prominent speakers. The public are welcome to attend any of the sessions.

### 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, June 25, 1868.

We understand that the government will organize a savings bank in Milton on the 1st of July next. We trust that it will be extensively patronized. Let young men instead of spending their quarters at the bar, deposit them with Mr. Loque, and they will be surprised how in a very short time they will have accumulated to a considerable amount.

"Allow me through your columns to expose the stupidity of our Township Council and also the contrariness of some of our neighbors. You are doubtless aware of the parties that have set Nassagaweya on fire about the lines between Lots 10 and 11 in the First Concession. The only difficulty seems to be where the bearing line should be taken from, and to satisfy some of the parties that Council had the liberality to hand seven dollars from the public funds to get legal advice on the matter. Now the council must have known they were doing wrong when they handed public money to private parties, and the road is in a worse state than ever, as stump fences are being built close to the waggon track, so that ladies cannot travel without tearing their dresses on the fence, and the road instead of 66 feet is only 20 feet wide in some places."

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