

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, August 30, 1953.

A steel and reinforced concrete bridge is being built on Woodward Ave. by the Ontario Bridge Co.

Alterations are underway at Restivo's St. Lawrence Fruit Market and at Milton Department Store this week.

Crowds continue to attend the stock car races at the Fair Grounds and were especially interested when a car from Milton entered by Charlie Allen was painted green. Drivers have superstitions and object to green cars so Charlie had to do a hurried paint job and arrived back at the track with plenty of yellow splashed around.

The Rotary Clubs of Ottawa and Milton will co-operate next May to send a Capital high school student to visit the capital, it was decided at a regular Rotary meeting here. The local club will pay transportation expenses and the Ottawa club will finance the Milton student while he or she is there.

Five more cases of poliomyelitis were reported to the Halton County Health Unit during the week ending August 25. Dr. James Mather reported. Ten cases have been reported to the Health Unit since August 1.

The guiding white line was painted down the centre of Highway 25 this week.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, August 30, 1923.

The announcement on Tuesday, that with approval at Ottawa, the Bank of Commerce had taken over the assets and liabilities of the Bank of Hamilton, which would pass out of existence after a career of 51 years, was a surprise, but it caused no uneasiness. That the merger is a wise one is proved by the fact that since its announcement the Bank of Hamilton stock has risen ten points.

Bronte has organized a board of trade, with the following officers: J. S. Flumerfelt, president; T. J. Joyce, secretary; and R. E. Smith, treasurer.

The library will be closed for two more weeks in order to complete the new system being installed; and all those who have not already returned books are now asked to do so at once. Volunteer assistance, for the work being done by the Librarian, by those who can spare the time will be greatly appreciated. The directors hope by these means to have the library in excellent shape for the reading public very shortly.

Showing at the Horsemens this weekend will be The Four Princesses of the Apocalypse from the novel of Vincent Blasco Ibanez, enacted by the greatest cast in history, comprising more than 12,500 including the principal characters, in 12 reels.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, August 28, 1873.

A postal card interchange between the United States and Newfoundland has been negotiated upon the same terms as that with the Dominion of Canada.

During the severe thunderstorm which passed over Palermo last Friday night, the lightning struck the Temperance Hall, totally demolishing the chimney and otherwise damaging the building. The electric fluid passed down the long stove-pipe which extends to the opposite end of the Hall, and exploded in the stove. The inmates of Mr. A. Smith's dwelling, a few feet to the one side of the Hall, and Mr. R. C. Stewart's on the other, were considerably alarmed by the rattling of fragments of brick against their houses. During the same night a valuable horse belonging to Mr. Francis Wilkinson was killed by lightning.

A harvest home picnic was held in Mr. Macartney's grove, near Boyne, last Tuesday, at which there was a large gathering.

Tomorrow a picnic under the auspices of Harmony Temple, I.O.G.T., will be held in Lee's grove, Kilbride. In the evening a grand concert will be given in the Temperance Hall. The occasion promises to be a memorable one, and we trust the promoters will be greeted with a bumper crowd.

PHILOSOBITS . . . By Edith Sharpe

The real happiness in a home largely depends on saying thank you to each other. Children taught this as youngsters will grow up to be grateful adults. What people want most of all is respect—and gratitude is a sign of respect. That is why it touches the human heart so deeply! We should all learn to thank those in whose midst we live and begin with our dear and near ones.

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION. Published by DILL'S PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO. LTD. 191 Main St. East, Milton, Ontario. Phone 878 2341. Jim Dills, Publisher. Roy E. Downs, Editor. Paul Belanger, Advertising Manager. Published every Wednesday at 191 Main St., Milton, Ontario. Member of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association and the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association. Subscription rates payable in advance, \$6.00 in Canada; Carrier Delivery in Milton, 15 cents per week; \$9.00 in all countries other than Canada. Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. In the event of a typographical error advertising goods or services at a wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell and may be withdrawn at any time. Second class mail Registration Number 0913.



SUNLIGHT FILTERING THROUGH the branches, the creek running into the Mill Pond is a quiet spot for contemplation of summer's last golden days. (Photo by P. Ford)

VOL. 114 NO. 17

MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1973

Second Section

Nostalgic look

Nostalgia will reign again in Milton this weekend when the lumbering giants of yesterday's farming return to town for the 13th annual Steam-Era reunion.

The steam engines, gas tractors and antique tools that were the mainstay of farming in the late 1800s and early 1900s, plus the cars, trucks and other implements that were in vogue over the past 50 to 100 years, will highlight the annual three-day reunion sponsored by Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers Association, in the fair grounds.

Thanks to these annual reunions, Milton has become known as the "steam capital of Ontario" and even the town's letterheads now bear this slogan. The show has certainly helped to put Milton on the map and the town as the "home" of the Steam-Era is growing.

There are those, of course, who

aren't interested in taking a nostalgic look at farming's early days. They are the ones who will complain of the labor day weekend traffic, noise and dust. But the 30,000 visitors who enjoy every minute of Steam-Era, year after year, certainly outweigh the minority of complainers.

It's our pleasure to welcome the Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers members back to Milton. Over the years we've come to count many of them as our friends and we know they all have a warm spot in their heart for the town which has been so hospitable over the years.

If you haven't been to Steam-Era before, make this the year you discover a disappearing part of Canadian lifestyle. The show is well worth the price of admission. If you're a regular visitor, go see what's new (in the old) this labor day weekend.

Labor Day 1973

Reflections on Labor Day will vary across Canada. In the Maritimes people will be concerned about the railway strike and what it is doing to the economy of a place like Prince Edward Island, or the fact that new industries in the Strait of Chaso are being jeopardized by the threat of strikes.

In parts of Ontario, such as Hamilton, the strike of civic workers (garbage collectors) will be high on the agenda of some minds.

In the west the new minimum wage law in British Columbia, the high cost of farm labor on the prairies and many other factors will constitute Labor Day reflections.

Over against this is the increased profit reported by some

companies. This, too, is part of the increased cost of living. So is the difficulty the average worker has in securing a home and the near impossibility of paying for it after he gets it; the increasing bank rates and interest is all part of the total situation, as is the public pressure for governments to get more involved and their hesitation about doing so.

It is a common reflection we see in the mirror on Labor Day.

But one thing remains certain: whatever our position, our philosophy, we had better learn to think these things through with others or we'll all come to ruin. Not because of "the demands of labor" but because we have not fulfilled the demands of common sense and common concern, one for the other.

Commenting briefly

A brief time at the Canadian National Exhibition recently revealed that Milton and area is well represented. Apple trees are on display from Chudleigh Bros. Farms, mushrooms are growing in a display courtesy of Leaver Mushrooms and on the ball diamond Leon Stickle was on the NHL Referees team. Undoubtedly there are many more instances of local participation, not the least of which are the two awards to Mrs. Jim Dills for her petit point entries in the women's classes.

Yes, the rail strike interferes with the supply of newsprint to papers of our size too. With two weeks' supply in our plant and the newsprint mill shut down, we're not quite sure what the future holds in terms of delivery even after the action of parliament.

The sidewalk sales which started last weekend were certainly a hive of activity. Participating merchants report business was booming. This weekend the sidewalk sales return and many of the store clerks will be garbed in old fashioned clothes as a welcoming tribute to the Steam-Era reunion. Don't miss it!

Schools re-open a day later this year, Wednesday Sept. 5. That means more traffic, more pedestrians and the return of school buses to the highways of Halton. Please drive carefully.

Georgetown Mayor Bill Smith last week joined the race for the north's seat of the new borough of Milton Halton, making it a four-way race. He and Councillors Bill Hunter and Phil Siddall of Georgetown will go after the borough's top chair, along with Esquering Reeve Tom Hill. So far no-one from Acton has announced any intentions of running in the competition. And here in Central Halton, there's not a mayoralty candidate in sight—to date. Of course Milton Mayor Brian

Best and Nassagaweya Reeve Anne MacArthur may yet square off for this region's top post. Neither one is making any announcements.

Labor Day weekend is upon us and that means the end of summer, the coming of Steam-Era reunion, the back-to-school trek and the resumption of normal community activities in Milton. It was a great summer weather-wise, for a change, and everyone should have some happy memories of summer fun as we head into the fall and winter months.

Someone has offered to write a Dear Abby-style column for The Champion. Would our readers enjoy this type of column, on a localized basis? Let's have your comments.

Attended an informal official opening and open house Saturday evening at Sherwood Hume Transportation Ltd.'s new headquarters on Main St. E. Suppliers, contractors, staff, friends and fellow members of Ontario Rail Association, Milton Fire Department and Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers were on hand to inspect the modern new facilities and wish Sherwood and Gladys Hume the best of luck in their new location. The firm specializes in equipment transportation and float service and does a lot of work in Ontario and the United States for a couple of farm equipment manufacturers, and officials from these companies also attended the open house.

Antique buffs for this weekend's Steam-Era reunion, who have nothing to do on Sunday, might be interested in the Halton Antique Arms Collectors' Centre. Antique and modern guns, swords, daggers, uniforms, coins, medals, books and ammunition will be on display.



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

Well chaps, we haven't been to The Tower yet, nor have we seen the Changing of the Guards, and my wife was looking out the wrong side of the bus when we went past Buckingham Palace. But we did have breakfast in bed on Sunday morning and watched a dandy American western on TV, so you might say we're having a swinging time in London town.

This still has to be one of the most exciting cities in the world, despite its basic ugliness. I rather expected to be disappointed. I remembered war-time London: hub of the empire; streets alive with young men in the uniforms of 50 different forces; pubs jammed; nights electrifying with promise despite blackout and air raids; great theatre despite the bombing.

It's not the same, of course, but it's still tremendously alive, at least in the downtown core. I know there are thousands of acres of bleakness and ugliness and even

squalor outside that, but the old heart of the city is still thumping away, as strong as ever.

Despite all her premonitions of disaster, I think I'm going to have to use dynamite to get my wife out of here and off on our travels.

Her first impression was one of horror, as we drove in from the airport. "I've never seen such a dirty place!" And it is pretty drab in the suburbs; rows and rows of grimy, grey housing, interspersed by grubby little shops and pizza joints.

I couldn't blame her. No woman is ecstatic about anything after 4,000 miles of travel and about 26 hours without sleep. I wasn't exactly feeling like Tarzan myself.

But she's almost fallen in love with London. She wouldn't want to live here. Nobody in his right mind would. But I could

spend a month out of each year in this ancient pile of stones and never tire of it.

London has something for everyone, and perhaps that's why everyone and his wife, seem to be here. From everywhere. Walk along the street and you'll hear ten different tongues. Go into a restaurant and the only English you'll hear is from the waiter, and you won't understand him until the third try, because he's speaking West Indian English.

If your kick is history, it's right here, whispering old tales and old names. Hampton Court, where Henry VIII pressured Sir Thomas More to help him get a divorce so that Henry could shack up, legally, with Anne Boleyn. The Tower, where the same Sir Thomas had his head lopped off for refusing to help. And a hundred others.

Supposing you like visiting graveyards and such. There are nine great museums. There are the homes of people like Charles Dickens and Samuel Johnson. And there's the greatest of all, Westminster Abbey, where you can tread on the tombs of some of the greatest names in British history and literature. I couldn't be bothered, myself, but every man to his own thing.

Maybe you are a bird-watcher. Well, I am here to tell you that there is no greater bird-watching sanctuary in the world than London. There are birds here of every race, colour and creed. (Continued on Page B8)



PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST... Halton County Council members in 1913 had their portraits taken and mounted by local photographer Serman. E. F. Earl, Reeve of Milton, was warden that year. It is interesting to note that Nelson, Trafalgar and Esquering Townships controlled half the votes (two each) on the

12-man council, while Nassagaweya, Milton, Georgetown, Burlington, Oakville and Acton had one each. Today all seven present municipalities have two members at County Council and of course Trafalgar and Nelson have since amalgamated with Oakville and Burlington.