

Milton hemmed in

Putting it altogether, the announcement of the major hydro line location means another "wall" on the north of Milton's urban area. Add it to the CN elevated railway and 401 to get the impact. Mix in the major greenbelt designations on the three sides to get the complete picture.

The hydro route, as now approved by the province, will parallel Highway 401 from Highway 6 east to Milton's west boundary. It does some wandering around the racetrack, above Five Sideroad and then just east of Highway 25 dips along the railway line before angling down to between the Fourth and Fifth line to a major substation at Main St. and the Fifth Line. The line between the Fourth and Fifth Line is then projected north too to near Highway 7.

Continuing east along the railway line the horizontal route shoots south along the Ninth Line to a major substation at Milton's southern boundary.

Those who will be happiest with the decision are those that will not be affected by it. We all know the need for hydro and the necessity of transmission corridors but we all prefer that they be somewhere else.

Undoubtedly the route has been

the subject of study and public debate. At some point a decision had to be made and the provincial government ended up with the thorny problem. Hydro had earlier chosen a more northerly route and that drew protests in Nassagaweya and Wellington. Now the route has been shifted south.

Moving the line south must undoubtedly increase land purchase costs with land prices being higher in the further south areas. We suspect that prices in the Mississauga area will be much different than those further north.

The line attempts to follow green belt designations imposed earlier for service facilities. In the Milton area those service corridors or green belts are the largest on the map so it would seem the town's other boundaries may also soon see further "barriers."

Putting it all together it means that Milton's urban growth is hemmed in on all three sides with another block to the south east left wide open for the new town visualized in the Toronto Centred Region Report of several years ago, all of which is in the present Milton boundaries. The implications of that planning are yet to be revealed, although government land purchases in the area may give a hint.



MAPLEHURST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE IS nearing completion. The \$13,500,000 ultra modern facility is scheduled to be completed by March. The aerial picture gives an accurate view of the sprawling complex.

Pages of the Past

From Champion Files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, July 15, 1954

Construction on the new four lane controlled access highway that will cut Halton and Highway 25 between Milton and Acton, is expected to be started this year. The section on which construction is anticipated is west from Toronto to Galt and Kitchener.

Further investigation into the cost of installation of warning signals on the CNR Martin St. crossing was ordered by council, meeting in regular session Monday evening. The counsel for the CNR, in a letter to the Board of Transport Commissioners, suggested protection was not necessary but if the Board felt otherwise the railway would approve installation cost of \$5,900 of which 30 per cent would be paid by the CNR. Maintenance costs of the signals is estimated at \$600 annually.

Renovations are underway at the Milton Inn cutting down the size of the dining room and extending the lounge.

New flooring is being put in the county buildings in the front hall, lobby and offices.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, July 17, 1924.

It is announced today that Premier Ferguson has fixed on Thursday, Oct. 23 next, as the date of the Ontario plebiscite on the liquor question. The form of the question will be announced in good time for wet and dry campaign purposes. According to a Canadian Press despatch from Regina, Saskatchewan yesterday defeated prohibition by a decisive majority. It will be replaced by government control, without the sale of beer on licensed premises.

Favored by the finest of weather, last Saturday's celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, at Acton was the greatest ever seen in Halton and the crowd assembled the largest in Acton's history. The local arrangements were perfect and there was a great display of flags and orange decorations.

John Wilson, formerly of Nelson, arrived here on Saturday evening from Winnipeg, after being in business in that city for a number of years, with a break for two years, in Vancouver. He says conditions are bad in Manitoba with much unemployment. He says he has come back to Ontario to stay.

75 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, July 20, 1899

A can of cream was accidentally upset and spilled at the CPR station Saturday morning.

An exchange says that a certain newspaper printed an item to the effect that a certain resident, whose name it did not give, had better stop kissing his hired girl, or he might be found out. Twenty-seven people called on the editor, stopped their paper and accused him of interfering in their domestic affairs.

John Featherstone and Patterson Bros. made shipments of stock from the CPR yards on Monday, the former shipping 250 hogs and the latter 95 hogs, 23 fat cattle, 10 calves and 10 lambs.

Some of the Omagh young people attended the Sunday School picnic of McCurdy's Methodist Church on Saturday afternoon and had the pleasure of leading their bicycles home in the mud and rain.

The Lowville correspondent reports that Henry Wallace is beaming with smiles. It is a girl.

Historical yet modern city

Halifax loses wartime image

It has taken 30 years for Halifax, Nova Scotia's capital and the largest city in Canada's Atlantic Provinces, to shake off its dismal war-time image.

In the minds of many servicemen, stationed here prior to embarking for the European war zone in the 1940s, this east coast port still recalls memories of dingy buildings, poor restaurants, high prices, meagre nightlife and the infamous VE day riots.

They would hardly recognize the "new" Halifax.

Many of the old buildings still remain, but they have been carefully restored, revealing a charm that years of dirt and grime had obliterated. Many have historic value and are revitalized as boutiques, restaurants, small offices and art galleries.

Now they stand in the shadow of sleek new high rise buildings housing offices, apartments and hotels. Or they compete for space with sprawling shopping complexes, giving the city a sense of history flavored with modern efficiency.

Never attacked

It's impossible to escape history in this old port. On guard over the harbor and the countless ships that use its deep-water facilities, stands the imposing Citadel. Located on a hill in the downtown area, its stone ramparts were solidly built to ward off invaders, who have yet to attack the fortress. Today the ramparts provide an excellent viewing area of the panorama below — the bustling downtown, neighboring city of Dartmouth, busy harbor and the blue Atlantic beyond it. Inside the fortress walls, interesting museums depict the history of the city.

Because the area between the harbor and the Citadel was the first to be settled when the city was founded in 1749, most buildings of historical interest are located here.

Waterfront buildings that once bustled

Can't wait for 1985

Perhaps there was a plaintive note in Regional Chairman Alan Masson's suggestion that we should give regional government a chance, but he can hardly have been realistic when he recently suggested criticism should wait to 1985 rather than 1975.

The chairman was speaking in his informal press conference that he periodically holds to discuss the operation of the newly-established regional government for Halton.

He was observing that people expect too much too fast from regional government. All regions, he suggested, with the exception of Toronto, are too young to be properly judged.

It is true that the path to regional government has not been eased by those first introduced, for those that followed. Halton, one of the last introduced, seems to have provided as many horror stories as we heard from those living in areas which were regionalized earlier. Experience, we suspect, should have eliminated some of the problems.

Introduction of regional government here was not without its preceding studies. There were many and it was hoped most of the possible problems would have been anticipated and resolved before

implementation. From the weekly news reports it is clear to see that was not the case.

The form of government has been buffeted by criticism which has been legitimate and which we hope will pave the way for more responsive and responsible form of government. Those elected are frustrated with the complexity of getting things done which once were simple; those appointed are frustrated with the absence of key policies that have not had time to mature. Priorities are missing as each representative attempts to clear up the most immediate problems with which he is familiar and little time has been available for long-range planning. Holding the election in October should have provided good lead time but procrastination took its toll.

The full impact of the new form of government is about to reach the citizens when they finally get a complete tax bill. Early indications are so confused that they defy analysis but the result will soon have to be conveyed to those expected to pay the costs. We suspect the ratepayers won't be content to withhold their criticism until 1985 for some solemn and detached judgment on the success or failure of regional government.

Being careful

Many municipal politicians are hesitant to grant permits for the construction of homes unless town water is supplied. The reasoning is that some day well water may not be available at that location.

That stand often appears to be unduly cautious or planning for eventualities that will never happen. Politicians placed in such a position might do well to consider the plight of Robert Slessor of Old Waterdown Rd.

Slessor bought his home two and a half years ago assuming an adequate water supply was available. It wasn't, and now Slessor is faced with paying \$7,000 for a one inch line to hook onto the town water supply and a further \$5,000 or \$6,000 if a town water main was ever to be extended along that road to service the nine or 10 other homes in that area.

Slessor is apparently willing to deal in those terms but a jolt like that would mean giving up the

house for many homeowners. Something to think about.

Our Readers write

OPPOSES SURVEY To the Editor,

Dear Sir:

I have just read the latest diatribe by the Rev. Ken Campbell, against the type of books high school students will be reading in Halton's high schools. Mr. Campbell cites his survey as the unquestionable yardstick to measure public opinion in this matter. I challenge his survey to be accepted as statistical evidence. The questionnaire should have been made available to all residents of Halton, not just those sympathetic to Mr. Campbell's cause. I didn't receive the questionnaire, nor did many people I have spoken to.

Mr. Campbell refers to the "Playboy" Magazine, and he immediately loses his argument on that score. "Playboy" Magazine, July 1974 issue, contained the most comprehensive interview I have ever read on the environment. The interviewee, Barry Compton, world famous environmentalist, presented views that should be debated in all our high schools; in fact, the interview should be required reading.

William A. Johnson, R.R. 2, Rockwood, Ont. July 12, 1974.



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

There is a fair bit of panic in the financial world these days. One of Germany's big banks failed. The stock market is more like a swamp than a market. Inflation is scaring the wits out of people and even politicians.

It was inevitable that some of us bigger figures in the financial and business game would be affected personally. Sure enough, I've been caught in a personal bind and I don't know whether to go for broke or go for the hills.

I've been a pretty big shareholder of a stock called Peel Elder. I have 25 shares. It's a long story and I've told it before. But I got in on the ground floor, as we say on Bay St. and Wall St. These are a couple of well known streets in the financial world. One of them runs down to the bay, in case you want to drown yourself when the market is slumping. The other has a wall for pounding your head against in the same eventuality.

Well, as I was saying, I got in early. Was discharged from the air force with a couple of thousand bucks the paymaster had thoughtfully put away for me while I was in prison camp.

I had decided I wasn't going to slug and sweat all my life just to make a living. I was going to make it fast, and make it big.

I looked the field over pretty carefully, searching for a career with a built-in escalator. And the field looked right back at me with a cold and steely eye, saying, in effect, "What do you know how to do, besides crash-landing an aircraft in a plowed field?"

There wasn't really much I could answer to that. So, I thought, "The heck with the big corporations, when they can't recognize talent, drive and sheer ability, even though these are staring them right in their cold, corporate eye."

The final straw arrived when a personnel manager at Bell Telephone told me

warmly that yes, he thought there might be a real future for me with the company, and yes, he thought he might find a place for me in three or four months, but I'd have to start at the bottom, like everyone else.

It turned out that the bottom was sweeping floors at something like \$48 a week. Even in those days The Bell paid good wages. That's probably why they have to ask for a rate increase every couple of years, to compensate for their incredible generosity to their employees.

Anyway, the bottom didn't have much appeal. I'd had something in mind more like Vice-President in charge of Public Relations.

So I shook him warmly by the hand, with that sincerity that only a V-P in charge of PR can muster, thanked him, and said, "Mustn't take any more of your time. I have to dash to the Royal York for lunch with Jack McClelland of McClelland and Stewart, then catch the afternoon train for Montreal, where President Crump of the CPR has been trying to get hold of me for a week. By the way, if you get sick of The Bell, look me up in a year or so, and I might have something for you. Just contact Bill Smiley Associates, Incorporated, not to mention Limited."

At least I left him with his mouth open, but I was seething, inside. Some people seethe on the outside, but I always do it inside.

Anyway, I strode out of there, muttering, "All right. O.K. If that's the way they want it. I'll go it alone. I'll destroy them all within five years. I'll plunge into the stock market and buy them all up and have mergers and conglomerates and caviar and all sorts of stuff." Even then, young and inexperienced, I knew the jargon of big business.

So I plunged. It was like a butterfly plunging at a bull elephant.

Commenting briefly

We're glad to see the CN station will definitely be moved to a new site at Unity Park under the leadership of the Chamber of Commerce to act as an information centre. It is a major undertaking and we hope the Chamber will be able to marshal support for individuals and groups to make the project possible. There must be those who would like to participate physically and in some of the research and restoration to make it a community project. No doubt Chamber officials would be glad of any encouraging offers.

Halton Hills is trying to buy Georgetown's Chapel St. school and the Norval Public School from the Board of Education for \$1. Both schools are to be closed. If the Board sells for \$1 it must owe Milton a refund for the price paid for the old Bruce St. school site. The town paid the appraised value

in a deal with the Ontario Housing Corporation and the municipality. Milton Library is now located on part of the site.

Congratulations to the Milton Tennis Club on the recently completed resurfacing of the courts in Rotary Park. It's one of those projects that was undertaken quietly by the club with no request to the town for funds. They did it themselves and we're happy to see some things still done that way.

Times do change but ecumenical activities aren't confined to today's churches. Noticed in last week's 50 years ago column that 600 attended the union Sunday School Picnic, Methodist, Anglican and Presbyterian, in Galt. Sunday School picnics seem to have died out but we hope not the spirit of co-operation that was apparently evident years ago too.

Continued on page B4

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

published by DILLS 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.

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