

**Milton Then and Now**

# A fourth brick yard, Boyd's

**By Mel Robinson**  
In another article I mentioned a visit Bob Randall and I made to the site of the old Toronto Pressed Brick and Terra Cotta Ltd. (the Lewis yard) at Milton Heights. On that afternoon we also visited the site of another old brick yard, just to the west of it, along the CPR tracks. There is a roadway which runs from the centre of Milton Heights across to the tracks, about a quarter of a mile away. This was the access roadway originally to the Boyd Brick Co.

Bob knew about that plant and we had no trouble locating it. Whereas the first site showed scarcely any signs of the early industry, there were many signs in the site of the old Boyd Brick plant. There was a roadway into the pit. There were traces of old buildings.

We found old bricks that had the imprint of the Boyd Brick Co., the Atlas

Brick Co., and the Interprovincial Brick Company. I had heard references years ago to these yards, but did not know where they were located.

Mrs. Walter Hayward was able to provide me with more information about the Boyd Brick Co. Her father, Robert Boyd, had been transferred from the States to Toronto to act as the Canadian manager of the Aluminum Crown Stopper Co. Partly through acquaintance with Ed Brandon, Mr. Boyd became quite interested in the Milton area and the brick making business.

Late in 1913 and early in 1914 he organized the Boyd Brick Co. and started operations. His foreman at the yard was Thomas Cochrane, uncle of Bill Light. As a result of the outbreak of World War I there was some confusion about the choice of a home for the Boyd family. They lived for a short time at 223 Queen St. They returned to Toronto,

then came back to town to live at 167 Thomas St. Robert Robb of Milton Heights remembers that there was a large crane working in the area for the CPR at the time the plant was built. This crane was available for prompt use in building a siding into the plant.

As the transportation to town was not good, Mr. Boyd set up one room in the office building for sleeping quarters. He worked hard and long hours at the plant during the week and returned to his family in town for the weekends. The workers lived in the Milton Heights area or walked back and forth from Milton to their jobs.

In 1919 his daughter Mary began to work in the office at the plant. This was about the same time that my sister began to work in the office of the Milton Brick Co. Both of the girls walked out the CPR tracks to their jobs and back daily. In addition Mary used to walk to town to pick up the money for the payroll of the brick yard each week.

In late 1923 or early 1924 Mr. Boyd sold the business to the Atlas Brick Co., and went into the home building business in Toronto. The Atlas Company was organized by a Toronto business man, F. B. McFarran (a stock broker?). It was at this time that Joe Waters left his job at the wire cut machine at the main yard of the Milton Pressed Brick Co. and began to work at the fourth

yard. The company had one press for the making of the hard, pressed brick, and it had a wire cut machine. It used oil in the manufacturing process, which created problems. Joe Waters was instrumental in the replacement of this machine by one using a steam process, made by the Fresse Machine Co. in Ohio.

There were 15 or 16 employees which made it about half the size of its neighbor, the Toronto Pressed Brick and Terra Cotta, which by then had become Plant No. 2 of the Milton Pressed Brick. Five or six of the men were occupied in moving the clay shale from the pit to the plant. Hopper cars were pulled on a cable by a steam hoist, along very narrow gauge tracks. Four or five men were brick makers in the plant, the others operated the dryer, the screen, and the loading of brick first in the kilns and then into the railway cars.

In 1928 or 1929 Mr. McFarran set up another yard in Streetsville, right next to the Streetsville yard of the Milton Pressed Brick on Thomas St., Streetsville. Joe Waters moved to a home on Thomas St. too and continued in the employ of Mr. McFarran in the F. B. McFarran Brick Co. The Atlas yard was sold to the Interprovincial Brick Company, a subsidiary of the Cooksville Brick Company, which in turn was taken over later by Domtar Limited.

**Between the Willows**

## Here we go again

**By Don Byers**  
Sometimes I think I suffer from a terminal case of stupidity. For instance, I find it most difficult to understand what the hell our federal government is all about. And I am sure I'm not alone.

On the one hand, we are constantly told that we are privileged to live in one of the richest countries in the world, because of our natural resources.

On the other hand, in a wide-spread country, strung thousands of miles close to the 49th parallel, we can't seem to put anything together.

Labor is going after more money. They seem to be frustrated. Not much wonder. Some politicians have upped their incomes substantially, without any indication that their work effort (at most pitiful) will improve at all.

Au contraire. Their latest moves dump all over the aged, and the "working poor." And I have to wonder what nut came up with that term.

These are the real people, proud

**Scotch Block W.I.**

## Kings, queens contest

The Scotch Block Women's Institute met on Thursday, Feb. 8 in Ligny Hall.

President Mrs. H. Robertson was in the chair. She read a poem "Valentine Wishes". The minutes were read and financial report was given by Mrs. E. Joyce, secretary-treasurer. The roll call, "What Makes a Good Citizen?" was answered by nine members.

It was decided Mrs. W. Lawson would be the Scotch Block representative to F. W. I. O. Conference May 1, 2 and 3. The quilt workshop is Feb. 13-14 for the Scotch Block Leaders, Mrs. H. Robertson and Mrs. E. Joyce. There will be three workshops for leaders.

Plans were discussed and completed for the euchre party to be held on Feb. 28.

The Citizenship and World Affairs Convener, Mrs. J. Hopkin mentioned the Ontario Citizenship Medal for good citizenship and gave the address to which to apply for a nominations form.

A nominating committee was appointed and members are Miss Eva

Give your lungs and heart a break. Join the majority, be a non-smoker.

people, who make it all happen—and also the first group of our populace to be ignored.

Daily, we hear about Iran, South Africa, the Middle East, Caribbean, Northern Ireland and the so-called "Third Nations".

We constantly send relief, which seldom reaches those in need, for a variety of reasons. And none seems to have the integrity or guts to tell us that we are being taken.

So, here we go again: wondering who we are, and where we are headed.

What a bunch of crap! During WW2, we were a leading manufacturing nation in the world. Third in production, as I remember. And second to none in the Canadian kids who fought for the Allied Cause.

There's no way I can believe that motivation has disappeared.

But someone, somewhere has to build a fire under our backsides.

If they don't, forget it. A shame. We've got it all.

Chisholm, Mrs. E. Joyce and Mrs. H. Robertson. Members were reminded February is National Citizenship Month, National Citizenship Day is Feb. 19 and Heritage Week is Feb. 18-24. The Institute Poster Competition for the Year of the Child was also mentioned. Mrs. H. Robertson gave a brief report of the board meet-

ing. Mrs. J. Hopkin conducted two contests, "British Kings & Queens Scramble" won by Mrs. D. Lawson and a Valentine contest won by Mrs. H. Robertson and Mrs. F. House.

Following the Institute Grace lunch was served by Mrs. M. Currie, Miss E. Chisholm and Mrs. J. Hopkin.

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TO STOP UP AND CLOSE A DEVIATED PORTION OF REGIONAL ROAD NO. 9 (Campbellville Road) BETWEEN THE 4TH LINE AND REGIONAL ROAD NO. 8 (Appleby Line), TOWN OF MILTON

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Sections 443 and 446 of The Municipal Act, being Chapter 284 of The Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1970, that the Council of The Regional Municipality of Halton, at its meeting to be held in the Regional Administration Building 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21st, 1979 will pass a by-law to stop up and close a deviated portion of Regional Road No. 9 (Appleby Line), Town of Milton.

A copy of the plan showing the proposal and the by-law may be seen in The Regional Legal Department, Regional Administration Building, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario.

On Wednesday, March 14, 1979, at 1:30 p.m., Regional Council, by its Public Works Committee, will hear any person or by his counsel, any person who claims that his lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard. Any such person who wishes to be heard should, as soon as possible, make application to:

**Mr. Garfield Brown**  
Regional Clerk  
Regional Administration Building  
1151 Bronte Street  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6J 6E1

Dated at Oakville, Ontario this 25th day of January 1979.

City of Burlington — 639-1873  
Town of Milton — 878-7211  
Town of Halton Hills — 877-5185  
Town of Oakville — 845-6601

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**MARRIED:** Gayle and Brad Fendley of Milton were married on Friday, Jan. 11, 1979.

## Love is studied by WMS

The W.M.S. Evening Department of Knox Church met at the church hall Tuesday, Feb. 13 for a pot luck supper. Seventeen ladies were present.

Following the dinner, the president Reta Naylor thanked the conveners, Billie Marshall and Betty Kennedy.

Marjorie Magee was in charge of the program and began by leading a hymn-sing of many of the old favorite hymns. With Valentine's Day near, her talk centred on the theme of "Love—The Mark of a Christian."

Instances in the Bible were recalled where love

was shown, the greatest of which was Jesus' love. All took part by reading quotes from the Bible in which love was mentioned.

### Immersion classes . . .

(Continued from C3)

disrupted as much. The other theory is to have different teachers for French and English because he can identify a person with a language, and learns to speak that language to that person. He doesn't revert back and forth.

"The principal of the school has the final decision on which theory is followed in that par-

During the business portion of the meeting, members were reminded of the World Day of Prayer to be held on Friday, March 2.

ticular school."

Mrs. Mitchell also said parents need not worry if they cannot speak French.

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