

Established 1861

# The Canadian Champion

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## Significant law

It won't make the headlines and it won't be the topic of discussion around the post-Christmas dinner table, but Halton Regional Council led by Milton's Bill Johnson have struck a major blow against all those who knowingly and unknowingly pollute our environment.  
Last Wednesday, Mr. Johnson brought in suggested changes to the Environmental Protection Act and the Ontario Water Resources Act which finally put some teeth in anti-pollution legislation; and get the culprit right where it will hurt—in the pocketbook.  
Mr. Johnson suggested changes would not only bring prosecution from Halton Region and the Ontario Government, but the

changes would allow the police or other authorities to seize, on the spot, the equipment the polluter was using when caught.  
This could be a boat, a car, a truck, an airplane, pumps, barrels, in fact anything; and The Canadian Champion feels this is good, tough legislation badly needed.  
Council fully endorsed the motion by Mr. Johnson and it is now on the way to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment for review by Harry Parrott.  
We only hope the Minister and his staff will attach as much importance to the Halton Region environmental revisions as does the region and every resident of Ontario who stands to benefit.

## Fire fund success

Everyone in Milton received a very special Christmas present last week.  
Milton Fire Department's Rescue Tool Fund hit the \$9,554.50 level, meaning the department now has the equipment to use when a person is trapped in a twisted wreck.  
The hydraulic rescue tool has two pincer jaws which can bend or cut through almost any kind of steel or metal. The tool is credited with meaning the difference between life and death for a person caught in a blazing car.  
The Canadian Champion would like to salute all those people who somehow managed to dig down in their pockets and contribute to the fund at a time when money is

getting tighter and tighter.  
Particularly, we would like to make mention of the Lions Club of Milton which contributed the last \$2,164 needed to put the fund over the top. In addition to the \$1,000 the club had previously given, this was a magnificent job on behalf of all the members of the Milton Lions.  
This edition, The Canadian Champion has tried to highlight and give credit to the people of this town who have combined to make it one of the nicest places to live in Canada.  
So to all those people who showed the famous Milton spirit and made possible the purchase of the rescue tool—a hearty thanks to one and all.

## Watch for tags

When it comes to finding a simple solution to an expensive problem, Halton Region is getting into the habit of looking to Milton.  
There have been several cases in the past, but last week Milton, for a fraction of a penny per household, helped solve a \$234,000 headache.  
The headache is the perceived need to place all Halton's emergency services under a "911" three-digit telephone number which would be applicable across the region. Not only was the more than \$234,000 operating cost prohibitive, there were other problems—like what people living outside the 416 area code would do, not to mention several technical hitches.

In the past, Milton had included a small, adhesive tag listing the telephone numbers for the police, fire, and ambulance services along with the public utilities bill. The backing could be taken off the tag and the tag attached to the telephone, corkboard, or what have you.  
So when regional councillors last week received the information on the 911 Emergency system and shelved it almost in the same breath, the Milton solution was brought up and it passed without hesitation.  
These tags will be coming out in the next public utilities bills and we would advise all Miltonians to make sure they attach them where the tags will be easily seen.

## Well done!

Maybe it's Milton's smaller size, or maybe it's because our elected officials are a trend-setting bunch, but something or someone must be praised for the decision to go ahead with equalized assessment.  
While some people are going to feel mistreated by equalized assessment, Milton is leading the way in setting the scale of taxation which is the most equal of all.

## Thinkers

We view with interest the suggestion of refurbishing Halton Regional Police cruisers with new engines and transmissions so these cars can continue to be operated.  
When one considers a new cruiser costs \$7,000 and 24 months later it is so worn out it is lucky when \$995 is the purchase price, it

makes sense to look at rebuilding.  
It has been estimated \$2,000 will bring a police cruiser back to nearly new, which is a clear saving of \$5,000.  
It's nice to see some people are really thinking in government and coming up with ideas that truly save the ratepayers money.

### NEWS ITEM: HALTON REGION PLANS AUCTION IF THEY HAVE ENOUGH EQUIPMENT.



## Viewpoint

with JIM ROBINSON

In 17 weeks this newspaper will be 120 years old and for a comparative new boy like myself (four months on this job) a time frame like that is pretty imposing.  
Personal points of view are boring and in the case of this writer, the lack of depth in the area would mean a lack of credibility. In the past at other newspapers, I made year-end predictions.  
If the reader will excuse a bit of self-congratulatory plaudits, I averaged about 96 per cent over nine years.  
Therefore into the predictions. Next year in this same spot there will be the results of how I did.  
Site F will receive full certification as a regional landfill site. It will pass through an Environmental Board hearing which will last two to three weeks and probably cost in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million to conduct. However the approval will not mean the dump will go into immediate operation. The dump area will be cordoned off and used sparingly by Milton and Halton Hills.  
Site A will also be approved. This 200-acre landfill area between two dumps in Burlington will be given a clean bill of health by a specially commissioned hydrogeologist and go into operation by early months of 1981.  
In the Feb. 18 election Otto Jelinek will be returned. That's safe enough to predict, but what about the overall picture? It is safe to say Pierre Trudeau will cause the Liberals to slip further, although I am not prepared to say the Progressive Conservative Party will have a landslide, just a majority. In the case of Mr. Trudeau and the Liberal Party, it is the first time I've ever seen an albatross with a man around its neck. In other adjacent ridings John

## Predictions



McDermid and Bill Kempling will be returned. The members will keep their seats and I doubt there will be any shifts from current position on the cabinet list status.  
As a result of a Progressive Conservative win and the promised sale of Petro-Canada into public hands (one-third of the shares), we will face limited fuel shortages in the coming year. These shortages will come in the summer for gasoline and in the late fall for home heating oil. The shortfalls will result in a lack of confidence in Canadians by OPEC nations forcing Petro-Can, or what's left of it, to buy on the spot market.  
Don Gordon will be returned as mayor in the November municipal election. In fact I am prepared to say all incumbents will be returned because the winter Federal election and a summer-fall Provincial election (more on this next) will have people so tired of going to the polls, the turnout will be abysmal.  
There will be an early fall Provincial election. When this writer was still a special assistant to one of the MPP's in July, there was talk even then of going to the people in the spring of 1980; although Premier Bill Davis publicly said he would not seek a mandate until 1981. Premier Davis has never stood higher in the public view than right now, particularly due to his stand on oil and gas supplies. His ministers, however, are in disarray. Most have been in one cabinet post or another too long. Due to a lack of bench strength, Mr. Davis can't pull another shuffle with the limited forces on the east side of the House. Therefore, the election becomes the best alternative.  
When that Provincial election comes,

Julian Reed, the current Member of Provincial Parliament for Halton-Burlington will come under pressure from a strong opposition Progressive Conservative candidate. Although he has sworn publicly never to run against his friend, Peter Pomeroy is my guess. The Mayor of Halton Hills could be induced with a short stint as a Parliamentary Assistant and then into the Cabinet at the next shuffle.  
The unemployment rate will stabilize at about 7.8 to 7.9 by the end of 1980. In Milton, we should have about the lowest unemployment in Canada. This is based on firms coming to town in 1980 including two major corporations yet to be announced which will be closing doors in other parts of the country and moving here.  
The USSR will unveil a host of new weaponry in hopes of either scaring the United States into the SALT II agreement or, failing a United States retrenchment, will make massive shipments of conventional arms to any country in the world which will have them. The United States and NATO are currently at a quantitative and qualitative disadvantage which should be rectified by 1983. To secure limited world hegemony, the Russians must move now.  
Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale will be the presidential and vice-presidential winners in 1980. Despite the glamor of Edward Kennedy, he is too much of a sham leftist in a country which is currently swinging to the right and has a history of returning presidents for a second term.  
So there are my 10 predictions. See you in this space Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1980 for a recap.

## Sugar and Spice

with BILL SMILEY

And the same to you! I probably should have sent off a Merry Christmas column to all my readers about the first of November, to make sure it was received by December 25th.  
I know this won't be. But it's not your faithful chronicler's fault, nor the fault of your favourite weekly newspaper. The entire blame must rest on the broad shoulders—they have to be broad—of that modern phenomenon of efficiency, Canada Post.  
People in that august institution must be afraid of getting their hands soiled by handling the average weekly newspaper, full of violence, rape, murder and muggings. They probably use a shovel. Shovel it into a corner until some day, between coffee breaks, they are so bored that they resort to sorting and sending the weekly paper.  
When I was in the business, we used to mail the paper on Thursday, and people in Ohio or Texas would receive it on Monday. Nowadays, I count on my weekly paper being a week late in arriving. Time after time, I've been tempted to take up my typewriter and dash off an encouraging note to a weekly editor who has written a particularly pungent editorial, only to pause in the certainty that by the time I'd received his paper, and the time he'd received my letter, the hot issue he'd at-

## Tardy greetings

tacked or defensed would be three weeks old, and as cold as a corpse.  
Well, we mustn't be mean at Christmas, must we? Although I don't see why not. The same miserable sods are going to be around on Boxing Day, and the same inefficient, insolent institutions will be back in business on Jan. 1.  
Since it's too late to wish everyone a Merry, I'll put everything in the past tense.  
I hope you got exactly what you wanted for Christmas, whether it was a baby or a kazoo or a sober husband.  
I hope you got Joy. And if you didn't, I hope you were happy with Myrtle or Hazel or Pearl or Genevieve.  
If you wanted a pair of those foam-rubber kneepads for scrubbing, I hope you got them. And if you wanted a mink wrap, I hope you didn't.  
I hope you were not pregnant if you didn't want to be, and were if you wanted to be.  
I hope you didn't bust your bum on those new down-hill skis, or bust your heart on those new cross-country skis, both of which you are too young or too old to be do-

ing anything with except feeding the livingroom fire.  
If you are an old and lonely, I hope you received a warm telephone call - about 15 minutes worth, and not collect - from someone who is young and loves you. And if you are young and lonely, I hope you got a long telephone call, collect, from someone who is old and loves you.  
If you are a farmer, I hope you slept on Christmas Eve with visions of sugarplums and reindeer fast in your head. Jeez, a guy can't make any money on potatoes these days. Might as well get into reindeer.  
If you are a schoolteacher, I hope you remembered at Christmas that you too were once a fat and ugly duckling, riddled with pimples, shy to the point of fainting if asked a question, lazy as a cut cat, sort of dirty, really, and yet a striving, yearning, beseeching human bean.  
If you were a mother at Christmas—well, all I can say is that I hope you believe in a life after death.  
And if you were a father, well, all I can say is that I hope you, too, believe in a world in the hereafter. Preferably segregated.  
If you are a business tycoon, a union leader, or anyone in the upper echelons of

## Turning the Pages of the Past

### One year ago

**From the Dec. 23, 1978 issue**  
A Christmas Day fire left the family of William Maxwell homeless and forced them to stay with relatives in town. A fund was set up to help out the family.  
A \$40,000 commuter parking lot was announced by the Ministry of Transportation. Located at the intersection of Highway 401 and Trafalgar Rd., it was designed to allow commuters a place to park and use either car pool or public transit.  
Halton Region's Health and Social Services Committee announced it would be touring Halton Centennial Manor to familiarize itself with the facility. Chairman Walter Mulkevich said five of the seven committee members are newcomers, and it would be a good idea for them to get to know the place.  
Halton Region Treasurer Don Farmer predicted a 3.4 per cent rise in regional taxes, but it could possibly go higher. Administration and Finance Committee chairman MacLean Anderson of Oakville said he was committed to restricting the tax increase to three per cent.

### 20 years ago

**From the Dec. 23, 1959 issue**  
Halton County Council has given its members a raise. The Warden will receive \$800 plus mileage and expenses and councillors will be paid \$12 per meeting up to a maximum of \$20 in one day.  
Everyone is mailing Christmas mail early this year, reports Postmaster Bill Randall.  
Halton County Fire Prevention Bureau is considering the launching of a Junior Firemen program to get young children interested in fire safety.  
The hospital auxiliary launched a tuck wagon service for patients at the new hospital last week.  
Georgetown Mayor Jack Armstrong has retired from municipal life, after eight terms as mayor. Ern Hyde is the new mayor.  
The first baby born at Milton District Hospital was Wanda Ramsbottom, daughter of Ed and Ella Ramsbottom, Kingsleigh Ct. She was born Friday morning, five days after the new hospital opened to accept its first patients.

### 50 years ago

**From the Dec. 26, 1929 issue**  
Arthur Mayes, turnkey at the jail here, has been appointed caretaker of the county building at a salary of \$300 per year, succeeding Archie McGibbon, who resigned.  
Every member of Trafalgar Township Council, except Councillor Walbrook, announced that they will be candidates for re-election to the 1930 council.  
Miss Myrtle Smith, of Buffalo, is visiting with friends in the Milton area.  
Santa Claus visited the Gordon home here on Christmas Day, where he distributed presents to the 17 children, the large Christmas tree being decorated for the joyous occasion.

### 75 years ago

**From the Dec. 22, 1904 issue**  
A big crowd is expected at the firemen's ball in the town hall tomorrow night. Giionna's orchestra from Toronto has been engaged for the occasion.  
Dr. John Walters has purchased a residence and surgery at Berlin and will remove to that town within a few days. Dr. Walters came to Milton last March with a high reputation as a skilful physician and surgeon.  
Leave your order early for Christmas plum pudding, 25c lb., also Christmas cake at 25c lb. A full line of cake and confectionary in every morning at Mrs. Kelly's.

