

# The Canadian Champion

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## Referendum quandary

The high feelings against regional government in Milton apparently are only surface deep, if a public meeting turnout on regionalism last Wednesday in Town Hall is any yardstick.

The public meeting was called to invite public discussion on the regional referendum which electors will be asked to vote on. It is contained on the Nov. 10 election ballot.

At 7.30 p.m., the advertised start of the meeting, all Milton councillors, except the three regional representatives who were still at regional headquarters discussing the sewer surcharge, were on hand as well as one member of the press. The rest of the room was empty as not a single "concerned" resident bothered to attend.

Because of that, one is tempted to assume no one cares whether this town stays in regional government or not.

Now that the referendum question is on the ballot, it can

also be assumed a majority will vote for Milton accepting some regional planning responsibilities.

But if no one seems to care about regionalism, should the results of the referendum be taken seriously?

The referendum result cannot be ignored; but by the same token, those who are elected to council on that same ballot must be quite sure that any regional responsibilities assumed don't boomerang.

Ratepayers are only concerned when things go wrong. Right now things are very wrong in the sewer and water services department, the very ones Milton would like to recover from Halton Region.

Perhaps it might be wiser to let the Region keep its responsibilities and let them continue to take the heat, instead of bringing it back to the Town of Milton only to find Councillors here are getting blamed for problems they did not create.

## A great occasion

Last Thursday was a great occasion for the Town of Milton as the ribbon was cut to officially open Halton Women's Place.

Located in the former police division headquarters, the building was a nightmare when it was assumed by the steering committee which has worked unselfishly to create a home where abused and battered women can go for refuge in times of trouble.

The transformation of the old house is truly remarkable. The way the building was made into a "home" is a tribute to the conviction of the Halton Women's Place board of directors and all the volunteers.

We would commend the group for a major accomplishment and for being able to provide a service which, up to now, was desperately needed in Halton.

## A typical example

An incident which happened last Wednesday at Regional Public Works Committee points out the ridiculous lengths to which we have all become entrapped in the bureaucracy we have created.

The residents of Acton want to have a garbage bin placed on the property of the Acton Sewage Plant. The bin would be a garbage transfer station similar to that in Georgetown. Residents in Acton don't have a dump now, so it was thought the bin could be used to save people a drive all the way to Burlington to dispose of trash and bagged garbage.

But when it came time to discuss this very modest request, it turned out that \$21,000 would be needed to put the bin in place and \$40,000 a year would be needed to maintain it. Simply staggering!

And while this is going on, Milton resident Marilyn Gonneau wrote a letter about people throwing their garbage in the ditch near her home.

As long as bureaucracy like that surrounding the bin exists, it is small wonder people find it easier to just drive out into the country and throw trash anywhere where no-one is looking.

## Thank you, Doc

Saturday marked a fitting tribute to a member of the Milton community who has devoted his all to making Milton a better

place to live. William "Doc" Wright was honored for his community work such as heading the fight to erase asthma; for his work in preventative dentistry in six Ontario municipalities; and for his work in the spiritual vein for founding and helping to lead the Knights of Columbus in Milton.

Always a man with a sense of humor, Doc Wright is closing down his career in the many fields in which he got involved, and it is with some sadness that a true pillar of the community is stepping down.

But all of us in Milton can look back on the work of Doc Wright and be proud to say, this is a man who cared for his neighbors and his friends and tried, and succeeded, in making Milton a better place in which to live.

To Doc Wright and his lovely wife Jean, The Champion says thank you for all you have done, and will continue to do, for all of us.



A pillar of the community  
William "Doc" Wright

## NEWS ITEM: POLICE PISTOL RANGE CLOSING DOWN.



## Viewpoint

with Jim Robinson

## Aggregates aggravating



It is with increasing dread one approaches the mysterious machinations which go on inside the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources as it pertains to that very strong lobby, the aggregate industry.

Readers of The Champion are already aware that after one, solid year of hearings by a special committee at Queen's Park on amendments to the Pits and Quarries Act, current Natural Resources Minister James Auld was prepared to take a "formal policy statement" into Cabinet on what the final amendments would be.

It didn't matter the committee was opposed to the amendments, nor that hundreds of briefs and submissions, mostly opposed to change, have been received. Prompted by who knows what, Mr. Auld had this formal policy statement which looks like it was written up by the president of a quarry operation.

It states no one could build on, or even near a quarry site which might be used in the future. In fact, areas now "protected" as environmentally fragile would go out the window if the Minister so ruled in order to get sand and gravel to the building site.

Even the basic thought behind the formal statement was economically based not people based. It stated that Ontario needs sand and gravel, therefore nothing should stand in the way of it being extracted.

And that means if you like walking through the Bruce Trail, Mountsberg, Kelso, even just some of the natural bushland, you could do nothing to stop the big trucks and bulldozers going in if, in the eyes of the Minister and his aggregate advisors, sand or gravel was needed for some road somewhere.

So while readers may not take this too seriously, it might have a very big effect on you and your children. Even now, the big aggregate producers in Halton are taking the Halton Official Plan to court. The reason is they don't want potential gravel sites protected by something stupid, (in their eyes), as endangered species, creeks, trees, and people.

And had Mr. Auld got away with his formal policy statement and had it been approved, it would have been the official guideline by which the law and the Ontario Municipal Board would make decisions.

If a producer wants to open a big gravel pit opposite, say, Bronte Meadows, he could. All the zoning, protection, families and other objections would be useless as the statement the OMB would use as the guideline clearly puts pits before people.

Last Tuesday in Council a curious thing happened. Two government representatives came to try and sell the need for an unlicensed pit to be activated on the outskirts of Campbellville. They need

gravel for a highway project in Mississauga.

Even though there are four legitimate and licensed pits like Dufferin, Indusmin, and Sherman in the same area, these men would not back down from the idea of activating this pit.

Why? Especially when Serman Sand and Gravel's Norm Flemming got up and said the pit could not produce gravel any cheaper than he can. Why go to all the trouble?

The two representatives would not say how long the pit would be open, how much would be taken out, when it would be covered over and brought back to its natural state, not even how much per ton the owner would be paid. But the big question, they dodged, was what was to stop the owner from just getting a licence without having to go through all the normal channels the other operators have in the area?

If Mr. Auld's document had been approved, clearly nothing would stand in the way of a licence just being issued by Ministerial order with no form of appeal process open to the families in the area who would be affected.

Once again it is the story of a large, big-buck lobby doing more to shape Ontario government policy than the people the government is supposed to represent.

## A memo from your child

- In conjunction with its recent "Hug Your Child Week" campaign, Milton Jaycees issued a timely article, called "A Memorandum From Your Child." It is reprinted here:
1. Don't spoil me. I know quite well that I ought not to have all I ask for. I'm only testing you.
  2. Don't be afraid to be firm with me. I prefer it. It lets me know where I stand.
  3. Don't use force with me. It teaches me

- that power is all that counts. I will respond more readily to being led.
4. Don't be inconsistent. That confuses me and makes me try harder to get away with everything that I can.
  5. Don't make promises; you may not be able to keep them. That will discourage my trust in you.
  6. Don't fall for my provocations when I say and do things just to upset you. Then I'll try for more such "victories".

7. Don't be too upset when I say "I hate you." I don't mean it, but I want you to feel sorry for what you have done to me.
8. Don't make me feel smaller than I am. I will make up for it by behaving like a big shot.
9. Don't do things for me that I can do myself. It makes me feel like a baby, and I may continue to put you in my service.
10. Don't let my bad habits get me a lot of your attention. It only encourages me to continue them.
11. Don't correct me in front of people. I'll take more notice if you talk quietly with me in private.
12. Don't try to discuss my behaviour in the heat of a conflict. For some reason my hearing is not very good at this time and my co-operation is even worse. It is all right to take the action required, but let's not talk about it until later.
13. Don't try to preach to me. You'd be surprised how well I know what's right and wrong.
14. Don't make me feel that my mistakes are sins. I have to learn to make mistakes without feeling that I am no good.
15. Don't demand explanations for my wrong behaviour. I really don't know why I did it.
16. Don't tax my honesty too much. I am easily frightened into telling lies.
17. Don't forget that I love and use experimenting. I learn from it, so please put up with it.
18. Don't protect me from consequences. I need to learn from experience.
19. Don't take too much notice of my small ailments. I may learn to enjoy poor health if it gets much attention.
20. Don't put me off when I ask HONEST questions. If you do you will find that I stop asking and seek my information elsewhere.
21. Don't think that it is beneath your dignity to apologize to me. An honest apology makes me feel warm towards you.
22. Don't worry about the little amount of time we spend together. It is how we spend it that counts.

## What do you think?

The following is a question regarding the view Milton residents have of Halton Regional government.

We ask that you sign your name and give your phone number to ensure the results of the survey are accurate. The week before the Nov. 10 municipal elections, we will publish the results of the poll, along with selected comments from our readers. Only initials will be used when viewpoints are printed.

After filling out the form you may drop it off at our office or mail it to: The Editor, The Canadian Champion, 191 Main St., Milton, L9T 1N7.

Are you in favor of having Milton take the responsibilities for roads, water and sewer services back from the region?

Yes... Comments:  
 No...

Do you support Halton Regional government?

Yes... Comments:  
 No...

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

## Turning the Pages of the Past

### One year ago

From the Oct. 24, 1979 issue  
 Milton Council has passed the Minimum Standards By-law in order that the Milltown Centre BIA group can receive a \$100,000 loan from the Ministry of Housing. The by-law will eventually apply to the entire town, but for now, the downtown core is affected, for the purposes of receiving the loan.

Milton and Halton Hills will have a population in excess of 87,000 by the year 2001 and more than one-third of those are expected to make up the local work force. The population is projected in an Ontario Ministry of Housing letter to Halton Region on the regional official plan.

Halton Regional Police expect to make an arrest soon in connection with a robbery involving a 21-year-old Milton woman October 12. Joanne MacLeod of 122 Bronte St. is a clerk at Mac's Milk Store at 16 Bronte St. She was on her way home after midnight when the incident took place.

According to police, Miss MacLeod was grabbed by a man who came up behind her who threatened to break her arms unless she gave him the money from the store. He made off with the woman's wallet containing \$60 in cash.

### 20 years ago

From the Oct. 20, 1960 issue  
 Brookville's new public school opened, six weeks after school began for the fall term. Children went to class in the old rural one-room schools while workmen hurried completion of the new consolidated school for 300 students.

Oakville and District Labor Council members, acting on a suggestion from Milton member Marty Caputo, are campaigning to get ambulance service across Halton. And a coroner's inquest into the deaths of two Acton men this week has also called for better ambulance service. They join Halton Crown Attorney P. K. McWilliams who has been campaigning for more government funds to allow hospitals to run their own service. At present Milton is served by the private Alexander Ambulance firm, Oakville.

Halton's Queen of the Furrow Hazel Reid of Hornby came second in the Ontario Furrow Queen competition at the International Plowing Match in Springfield. The National Union of Public Employees has applied to be certified as bargaining agent for 42 Halton Manor employees. The union has been named agent for the Milton District Hospital staff.

Veteran Nick Ferri has been named to coach Milton Merchants in the OHA Central Ontario Int. A league. Hwy. 401 is to open 9.7 miles west of Milton in mid-November.

### 50 years ago

From the Oct. 23, 1930 issue  
 Time to lay in your stock of apples, potatoes and vegetables for winter. Perch have been caught off the east and west Bronte piers in large quantities during the last few days of beautiful weather.

According to Reeve O. R. Church the village of Streetsville has suffered but little from the general business depression.

Dogs are again running wild in Trafalgar township. Last week John E. Dunn had eight sheep killed and several worried.

More peach crops in this district are reported. James Cree secured two and a half large baskets off a tree on his farm. They were large peaches too.

Quite a number of Halton county farmers motored to Stratford last week to attend the provincial plowing match which was held there. Plowing matches are growing in popularity.

John Holmes, who has been employed in Andy Fleming's butcher shop for several years, purchased the business from Mr. Fleming on Monday and took immediate possession.

Local weather prophets are predicting that there will be warm spells on and off up until near Christmas. They also predict that with the exception of a few rough days in January and February, the winter will be mild.

### 75 years ago

From the Oct. 19, 1905 issue.  
 While out shooting last Thursday, Mr. William Sayers shot a pilated woodpecker, a bird very rarely found outside the southern and Atlantic states. This variety has never before been seen in this section. The pilated woodpecker is very shy and difficult to approach and it is surprising that Mr. Sayers succeeded in bagging this specimen.

On Friday night, Mrs. Curtis of Zimmerman, was leaving town for home. When she was passing Dr. Tefler's house on Main St. a rig driven by a young man at a furious speed which included two girls as passengers, ran into her buggy from behind. Mrs. Curtis was thrown out and had her collar bone broken.

The youth did not stop to assist her but drove out of town as fast as possible. Only for the timely interference of Dr. Tefler, he would have driven over Mrs. Curtis as she lay on the ground.

Thomas Turner, of Toronto, late of Milton was in town Friday, and called to renew his subscription. He says he has taken The Champion ever since 1864, when he ordered it from the late Isaac Hunter, of the firm of Matheson and Hunter, shortly after they bought out J. A. Campbell, its first publisher who established it in 1869.