

Established 1861

# The Canadian Champion

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## Light in the tunnel

Many editorials in The Canadian Champion over the past seven years started with the hope an end was in sight to creating an 1,100 acre industrial park here, only to have those hopes dashed within a week or two.

But this time it seems there is the very real possibility Milton could come to command one of the largest, new industrial parks in Ontario and have it located on almost ideal trade routes, close to centres of commerce.

Officials Plan Amendment No. 7, as the 1,100 acres north of Highway 401 from about Fourth Line in the east to First Line in the west is known, has been through a labyrinth of claims, counterclaims, and convoluted law suits and threats of law suits.

The crux of the creation of this industrial park has been a demand the developers in the area must buy out homeowners living in the area before the developers are allowed to take control of the acreage.

The progress of the buyouts has been checked and fraught with controversy. But now it appears

the developers viewed as holding out, with one exception, have come to terms with the homeowners.

In fact, April 13 has been set as the date Milton Council intends to hold a public meeting and bring Amendment 7 into law. Needless to say a tremendous amount of pressure is going to be applied to the last, reluctant developer, but we feel the other developers involved will come to their comrade's rescue so no more delays will be encountered.

In fact, if this does not happen, Council fully intends to rezone part of the park back to an agricultural usage and start the process all over again, thus killing any hopes the developers might have of bringing the park to fruition.

Everyone's hopes are up, albeit reluctantly, that the Milton-Highway 401 Industrial Park is going to be a reality. It means a huge influx of industrial assessment dollars and jobs in a town where jobs are needed.

This time, we can't have all our hopes dashed.

## Recreational funding

While we wouldn't want to see everyone hopping on the bandwagon, Milton seems to have found a method of helping small groups provide recreational upgrading that seems to work.

Last year the Kinsmen Park Tennis Club tendered for and was allowed to have the courts resurfaced with the town providing the funds. The money lent was paid back in four installments, much to the satisfaction of everyone involved.

This year the tennis club wants to repeat the loan-tendering arrangement to build a permanent shelter for the court monitor. The club would have the shelter built and pay back the town in installments.

The J.M. Denyes Communication Association needs \$5,000 to supply full playground equipment at the school. The association has already raised \$5,000 through raffles, fun fairs and hot dog days.

When the association approached town officials for the extra \$5,000 to make up the \$10,000 needed, they were told frankly such funds do not exist or are they expected to exist in the 1981 capital budget.

But Councillor Bill Johnson has suggested a similar program to that arranged with the tennis club. The association would be advanced a sum and it would be incumbent on the association to pay it back under the installment plan.

Naturally the town doesn't have wads of money to hand out to any group which needs assistance, but there may be a fund for such activities which may have been overlooked.

Apparently the town lent Halton Region \$1 million recently at 17.5 per cent interest. Finance Director Don Lougheed called this "a good deal" and we agree. But we wonder what will happen with the interest accrued. Could it be used for seed money in supplying recreation equipment for other groups such as the tennis club and the school association?

Perhaps this interest money will be going for other budget purposes, but if it is not, we would hope it could just be used to fund the idea suggested.

## Preposterous costs

The preposterous costs of trying to run local government never dawn on the ratepayer until he gets his notice of levy increase; but a recent incident shows why it is sometimes impossible for a small municipality like Milton to keep with the high cost of running government.

### Sound decision

Halton Region is to be applauded for taking swift action to install smoke detectors and upgrade the fire prevention system at Halton Centennial Manor.

With the grievous Extencicare fire in Mississauga still fresh in our minds, coupled with a series of deadly hotel fires, the fact the Manor by law doesn't have to have smoke detectors is not reason enough not to have them installed.

The cost to do the Manor will be about \$46,000 and it will be money well spent.

Councillors Jim Watson and Rick Day noted that when a motorist is on Ontario St., the traffic light at Derry Rd. turns green just as the traffic light at Laurier Ave turns red, and vice versa.

They both wondered what it would cost to have both turn red or green simultaneously so a north or southbound driver could go smoothly on his way. In fact, it was suggested, why not get all the traffic signals from Derry Rd. to Steeles to work sequentially?

Much to the surprise of everyone, Clerk Roy Main reported back that to synchronize the Derry-Laurier lights would cost \$6,400. To do all of Ontario St. would cost a whopping \$44,000 and any change would require full approval of the Ontario Ministry of Communication and Transportation.

Needless to say, the council members dropped the idea like a hot potato, but it does demonstrate what appears to be simple works, can cost.



NEWS ITEM:  
MILTON SETS CONDOMINIUM VISITOR PARKING AT .25 SPACES PER UNIT.



## Of sludge and Halton

## Viewpoint

with JIM ROBINSON

At the opposite end of the mile-high hopes of separating our newspapers and glass so Halton can transform this waste into dollars, is sludge.

Sewage sludge is the brown goop left over when water is taken off in the sewage treatment plants. With only the borderline use as a fertilizer, sludge is really one resource few want and even fewer are willing to seriously consider.

But facts are facts, and one of the facts contained in a Simcoe Engineering Ltd. report on what Halton has to do about sludge is that we will have more than we can possibly ever spread on farmland by the end of this century.

Sludge is mostly mammal waste but it also contains the effluent from industrial processes. Heavy metals like copper and zinc are almost impossible to extract. If it is in sludge placed on a field it is absorbed into the plant or animal and it is, quite literally, deadly. Zinc, for instance can make farmland unusable for up to 200 years.

Another sobering thought is the Burlington Skyway Sewage Plant, probably Halton's largest. It is so deficient that an 86 per cent reduction in the amount of the heavy metal cadmium, would somehow have to be accomplished before the sludge could be used as farm fertilizer.

It is doubtful anyone will disagree with the Simcoe sludge study when it states Burlington should be eliminated from producing fertilizer sludge immediately.

With a major influx of cash, like \$2 to \$2.5 million, the other five sewage plants in Halton could be upgraded to bring the quality of sludge down to acceptable standards as set out by the Ontario Government.

Even with that, there will be so much sludge being produced, due to our growing population that huge, concrete sewage sludge storage tanks will have to be built to the tune of \$115,000 each. The report states we will need a minimum 13 of these tanks by the end of the century.

Getting back to Burlington for a moment, the sludge there, the report states, should be "dewatered" in a series of centrifuges to form a semi-solid cake which can be hauled to a dump and buried.

Simcoe suggests Site F, the proposed garbage dump at Tremaine and Britannia Rds., would be suitable. Cake or not, anything with that much cadmium should never be placed in a dump because it is going to get into the groundwater eventually, no matter what Halton will tell you about how well designed Site F is going to be.

Frankly the only way to get rid of something as toxic as cadmium is to put it on a rocket and shoot it into the sun to be incinerated.

## Philosobits

By Edith Sharpe

Patience is the ability to stand something as long as it happens to the other person.

+ + +  
A friend is one who is already there doing it, when everyone else is saying, "Is there anything I can do?"  
+ + +

There are no guarantees in life, no guarantees that our lives will progress as they should or that people you care for will care for you, or even treat you right. We just have to trust life, whether it's good or bad for us, trusting that somewhere inside we'll find the strength to cope with whatever life hands us.

Even back here on earth, incineration of sludge was considered but not too seriously, as the cost would be about \$200 to \$300 per ton. The tipping fee at Halton dumps is \$13.50 per ton, obviously much cheaper than incineration and probably a major reason why sludge cakes for landfilling were finally settled upon for Burlington.

As repugnant a thought as it is, sending sludge cakes to dumps may be the answer. We only hope the cakes wind up in the Burlington Site A, because it will save hauling the stuff up to Milton.

The Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee is leery of sludge—and for good reason. Farmers have been told the sludge they are getting is safe and they have been

ltd this for the past year.

When they find out the "safe" sludge they have been getting includes some from Burlington laced with cadmium, they would be more than justified in closing the farm gate the next time the sludge truck rolls up.

Unfortunately, the Simcoe sludge study is right on all counts. There has to be adequate protection to the farmer. There has to be storage of sludge in huge tanks. There has to be disposal of toxic sludge in the dump. There has to be a strict, and very costly, monitoring and policing program.

There has to be a better way, but until a genius finds a new use and high demand for sewage sludge, Halton and you and I are going to have to pay the price.

### Our readers write

## Not a pressure sweep

Dear Sir:

On February 4, 1981 in your "Perspective" section, there was an article by Harold Penson concerning someone phoning people in Milton and pressuring them to have their chimneys cleaned. Mr. Penson was correct in stating that oil and gas chimneys need not be cleaned as often as fireplaces and woodstoves.

Mr. Penson's remarks are not what concerns me. The fact that your article failed to mention that this was not a Milton company making the phone calls, is what does concern me because by reading the article one could assume it to be my company.

One of my valued customers called me yesterday to let me know that this so called "sweep" is still harassing people, only now he is not only employing scare tactics with people to get their business, he is slandering my company by stating my work has been totally unacceptable to anyone he has talked to.

I would like to let the people of Milton, Georgetown and Acton know that:

A) Anyone who would use scare tactics and slander to promote a business can hardly be called a professional.

B) I only use professional means by which to advertise my service (eg. flyers, both at fall fair, newspapers, recommendations from my customers.)

C) I haven't ever, will never and do not intend to solicit business over the telephone.

D) I haven't ever, will never and do not intend to use scare tactics to build up my business.

E) I urge people to deal with an established professional (There are two in the town of Milton).

F) 350 fully satisfied customers speaks for itself.

Yours truly,  
Doug Simpkins  
Mister Chimney Sweep.



A popular robot. A walking, talking robot entertained youngsters and adults alike during open house at Premier Milton Saturday afternoon. The event drew hundreds, for an afternoon of free cartoons, popcorn and pop.

## Turning the Pages of the Past

### One year ago

From the March 5, 1980 issue

Vandalism in Milton is no greater a problem than any other community of its size, Milton Chamber of Commerce learned Tuesday afternoon. Complaints from local business individuals prompted the Chamber to invite guest speakers Sergeants Norm Ryall and Wayne Jessop of the Halton Regional Police to address a Chamber luncheon. Members were urged to band together and work with the community to establish a crime prevention program to combat vandalism.

A Georgetown woman is alive today, thanks to the efforts of two men who dragged her to safety when her car burst into flames after hitting a tree early Sunday morning. Bob Hamilton of Monmouth Dr., Burlington and Nick Bernath of Bonham Blvd., Streetsville have both been recommended by Halton Regional Police for Citizen awards for their part in saving Helen Findlay, 40, of Eighth Line.

Glen Eden Ski Area may break even this year, thanks to the winter weather of February. Halton Region Conservation Authority officials earlier predicted a \$100,000 loss following mild, rainy weather in December and January. But a recent cold snap and clear skies have resulted in many skiers taking to the hills.

### 20 years ago

From the March 2, 1961 issue

Scouting is still strong in Milton. There are 545 children involved in 24 Rover, Ranger, Scout, Guide, Cub and Brownie organizations under the tutelage of 77 adult volunteers.

Larry Coulson of Milton was named rookie of the year in the hobby division stock car races at CNE raceway.

County Council has a "hot potato" issue going right now. A committee has been set up to investigate the inequalities in the voting system, which sees the rural north outvoting the urban south by 16 votes to 12. The southern towns complain they have most of the population and assessment, but don't hold the power at the council level.

Two-way radio hookups on a county-wide basis are planned by the fire departments of Halton, at a cost of \$16,000. The Ontario Fire Marshal's Office has requested the brigades to use radios for mutual aid firefighting, natural or wartime disasters.

Police, firemen and residents formed a posse Saturday in the south end of town after Mrs. D. Ptolemy reported seeing what looked like a lynx. They scoured the fit, bushy land in a drizzling rain but failed to find the elusive feline.

Council was asked Monday to provide a \$1.50 per capita grant to finance the Milton Public Library's operations for 1961, for a total expenditure of \$8,200. The Library Board also warned council they might be asking for debentures for a new library building in a few years.

Glen Williams was badly flooded this week. Ice blocks jammed the Credit River.

Halton's population is 111,867, assessor Ford Rogers told county council.

### 50 years ago

From the March 5, 1931 issue

Erection of a gasoline station and refreshment stand at the east end of Main Street near Milton-Palermo highway is being contemplated by H.L. Ritchie, who has purchased the property from Wm. Sheppard.

After being closed for about a year, the plant of the Dominion Woollens and Worsted, Limited, here, is to reopen on Monday morning next.

A mild epidemic of colds have come upon the townpeople during the last week, and apparently of a type a little harder to throw off than the ordinary.

There will be a hockey tournament Friday March 6th, in Milton Arena at 7 o'clock, for the Ellis Hockey Trophy. The teams are Hornby, Lakeview, Toronto R.C.I., Trinity Club and Streetsville-Vale-United.

Cheese is on for 28 cents a pound at Carroll's.

### 75 years ago

From the March 8, 1906 issue

On Saturday afternoon a quartette of five-year-old lads were playing on Corporation Pond, when one of their number, Winston Grace, son of E.W. Grace, butcher, fell into one of the open spaces where the icemen had been harvesting. Two of the lads were frightened and ran away, but Melvin Williams, son of ex-reeve Williams pluckily stayed by his little companion and by lying flat on the ice succeeded in pulling him out of his place of peril.

It is likely that the rifles issued to the Milton Rifle Association will be recalled by the Militia Department. The proportion of the 48 members who turned out for practice last season was small. The trouble with those who failed to do so was that they objected to walking two miles out to the ranges and back again.

An entertainment will be given out at the town hall on Tuesday evening next under the auspices of the Men's Club. There will be a good programme of vocal music, drills, etc., and refreshments will be served.

The ladies of Knox Church will give an Irish entertainment in the schoolroom on Friday evening, Mar. 16. A good supper, an Irish program and a sale of useful articles in the afternoon and evening.