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# The Canadian Champion

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## NEWS ITEM: HALTON DOCTORS PLAN A SERIES OF ROTATING STRIKES.



## Viewpoint

WITH JANE MULLER

My mother . . .  
my sister . . .  
my friend . . .



There were more than a few eyebrows raised in reaction to my destination for a recent week-long vacation.

While most choose warmer climates like Florida or the Bahamas, I was packing my winter woollies and heading for Edmonton. It sounds like a suitable vacation spot for an Eskimo to start the spring thaw, but my aim was not to escape the weather but to visit my long lost sister who has been living in Alberta for nearly 10 years.

During that time she has managed to accumulate a Masters degree, teaching certificate, a husband and two children. One thing she will always remain is my older sister, a full nine-and-a-half years my senior.

Linda has always been a beacon to me, not that I've followed in her footsteps. It's more like her educational and professional accomplishments have given me added drive and confidence in doing what I want to do.

Even as I enter her familiar home at the south of the city our differing personalities begin to be exposed, at least to me.

Dust, for example, never lives a long life on her various cabinets and tables while leisurely accumulations are a frequent occurrence at my humble home.

When I opened the closet to hang my coat I noticed the other lifeless garments it contained evenly spaced apart, no hangers had sprung to the floor and the

shoes and boots, lined like soldiers, on the floor reflected the general order of her home.

The order doesn't interfere with the comfort of her tastefully decorated house and, even with the presence of my four-year-old nephew Jonathan and his two-year-old sister Alyssa, I was prepared for a relaxing vacation.

I know from past visits that my sister treats me royally and this was to be no exception. A three-day shopping spree spanning three large malls, a live theatre performance and an extravagant dinner out were the highlights of the five days in Edmonton. But, it was the nearly continuous jaw-wagging which made the trip worthwhile.

Two sisters who lived a fair portion of their lives together each fending off verbal attacks from their respective older brothers have a lot of things to discuss and, for us, it amounted to at least a year's worth of catching up.

There are certain things one can discuss with an older sister which normally would lay unexpressed at the back of one's mind. Despite our more obvious differences in lifestyles and standards, there is so much we have shared that when the surface is scraped away we bare numerous similarities.

The experience of speaking with someone who can ride beside you on your train of thought or simply stand at the station and observe, is refreshing. Even without

any direction from the fellow passenger or bystander, discussions and personal examination come naturally.

It all stems from an exceptional trust I have for Linda, which has its roots in my early years. She was like my second mom, and a friend in a way only a sister could be.

All her time and caring spent on me as I grew up never really hit me until my latest visit. Her chubby little daughter, with fire in her blue eyes, is called Janie about half the time, Linda admits, especially when she is misbehaving.

I can only hope my visit gave Linda as big a boost as it did me.

As she left me at the airport she merely said, "thanks Janie"—and we parted. I probably could have floated home as my head shot for the clouds with my thoughts of how special my sister is and how much she has influenced and humored me.

As the plane touched down on the runway I felt more than the usual anticipation, touched with some anxiety. After waiting half-an-hour for luggage (which didn't appear), the reason for my anxiety was obvious.

While I walked to the boarding gate in Edmonton beaming from ear to ear my luggage was somehow overlooked when the plane was loaded and had to make the trip back the next day.

By the time it was delivered to my door Sunday, two days after my return, the wintry weather we suffered through in Edmonton had arrived in Ontario.

## People in our past

A continuing series during Milton's 125th anniversary

### Politician and businessman Frank Thompson

The land is in Frank Thompson's blood. Mr. Thompson, mayor of Milton during the 40s as well as a Town councillor, farmed on property near Hornby for 10



FRANK THOMPSON

years after World War I—following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

Fact is Mr. Thompson was born in Hornby and his family have been there ever since his grandfather first turned soil in the area before Confederation.

He attended public school in Hornby and secondary school in Streetsville before serving three years in the RAF during World War I.

In 1929, with 10 years of working the land behind him, Mr. Thompson joined the Children's Aid Society in Halton as its actually a one-man show for quite some time, he admits, and was radically changed by the time he retired some 32 years later.

Now 85 and residing at Halton Centennial Manor, Mr. Thompson looks back on his political career and his life in Milton—a town he never left—with much satisfaction.

He admits his interest in Milton and his desire to contribute to the community by helping it in some way got him into politics.

Although very busy with the CAS, Mr. Thompson managed to get involved with the Masonic Lodge, becoming Master of the lodge and a life member along the way.

Being confined to a wheelchair now

restricts his making regular lodge meetings or walking along Main St., but Mr. Thompson is still very much a booster of the town and believes Milton is still a good place to live.

"At one time I knew practically everybody in town," Mr. Thompson says. "Now, I don't know anybody—it's so big."

Mr. Thompson and his wife, Kathleen, have two children, Griffin and Helen.

The Milton Historical Society recently honored the Town of Milton, celebrating its 125th anniversary this year, by presenting the community with four plaques containing the pictures of Milton's past mayors.

Mr. Thompson, Dr. Carl Martin, Mike Ledwith, Anne McArthur, Don Gordon and current mayor Gord Krantz, Milton's past mayors who are still living, were also honored by the society.

People In Our Past is a regular twice-monthly feature in The Canadian Champion during 1982—the 125th anniversary of the Town of Milton. If you know of individuals who are still living and were instrumental in shaping Milton as the community it now is, please contact us by telephoning Champion Editor John Challinor at 878-2341.

## Pages of the Past

### One Year Ago

From the April 15, 1981 issue

Halton Region has piled up more than \$1.1 million in deficit in the sewer and operating budgets over the past four years. Preliminary 1980 audit figures show a \$451,238 shortfall in property tax services (all operations funded by tax dollars or the operating budget) and \$723,533 deficit in the sewer account, which is financed by charges to sewer users.

Milton Fire Department officials hope this week to determine the cause behind a fire in a workshop at the Frankel Steel Co. plant on Highway 25 Saturday afternoon.

The Region must realize that it is not able to provide complete policing under the current budgetary restrictions according to Chief Jim Harding. Chief Harding made his remarks after the Regional administration and finance committee had cut back the 1981 operating budget to 15.72 per cent more than 1980 and also made cuts in the capital construction budget.

Councillors held a rare Saturday meeting to try to pare the 1981 Milton budget down by \$1.5 million. Starting at 9 a.m. the work went on until about 1 p.m. when councillors were able to slice about \$1.2 million.

### 20 Years Ago

From the April 19, 1962 issue

Halton's election machinery began churning Tuesday, immediately following Prime Minister John Diefenbaker's announcement in the house that a Federal election would be held June 18. All three local parties say they are preparing for battle and gearing an all out campaign to have their man elected to the seat reserved for the Halton candidate.

The Conservative party presently holds the power in Halton and since June 1957, C.A. "Sandy" Best has been the county representative in Ottawa. Halton Liberals have a new candidate in this election, and their slogan might well be "A doctor in the house." Dr. Harry C. Harley, a medical practitioner in an Oakville partnership, will carry the Liberal banner.

The New Democratic Party in Halton is backing Carl P. Rouleau of Oakville, who teaches high school in Streetsville. Mr. Rouleau is also a new candidate, representing a new party.

A deficit of \$7,545.96 was incurred in the operation of Milton during 1961, according to an auditor's report released at Milton Council this week. This deficit included a deficit from the previous year of \$8,040.36.

Construction of St. Paul's United Church Christian Education Centre was cleared this week with the signing of a \$140,360 contract with Welcon Limited by the Trustees of the church.

### 50 Years Ago

From the April 14, 1932 issue

About 11:30 a.m. Sunday, fire, believed to have been caused by an electric motor in the cellar which operated the electric refrigerator, destroyed the general store and residence of N. Koella, at Lowville. Only \$300 worth of stock from the store and a few pieces of furniture from the house were saved. The Milton fire brigade answered a telephone call, but when the firemen arrived the flames were beyond control. Mr. and Mrs. Koella were attending service in the church nearby when the fire broke out.

Service was dismissed and the members of the congregation helped to fight the flames. A large sum of money, all in bills, the proceeds of Saturday's business, which was in one of the drawers of a dresser in their bedroom, was lost in the blaze. Loss is estimated at \$25,000 with insurance at \$16,800. On May 29th last, Mr. Koella's barn was destroyed by fire and a few days ago his truck and a load of eggs were destroyed in an accident.

A large barn with its contents, which included 3,000 bushels of grain, a herd of cattle and several horses, was completely destroyed early Friday morning on the Ninth Line, Esqueving, when the building was struck by lightning. So rapid did the flames spread that the owner, Frank Asbeck, was unable to save anything, and the total loss is estimated at \$12,000.

### 75 Years ago

From the April 18, 1907 issue

Mr. Brandon, who was delivering coal yesterday afternoon, left his team for a few minutes. They became frightened and started up Victoria Street, striking a post near Judge Gorham's. They broke the front axle of the wagon, turning the corner of James Street and were making fairly for a plate glass window in the sitting room of the Hotel McGibbon, when Geo. Patterson rushed out, and catching the off horse by one rein, succeeded in bringing them to a halt.

The attendance at the assembly at the town hall on Friday evening was about 100. Georgetown, Acton, Oakville and other parts of the country were represented, and so were Toronto, Hamilton, Elora and other outside points. The general verdict was that the Lomas orchestra of Hamilton, was the best ever engaged for a Milton assembly.

A. McGibbon, of Appleby, ex-Warden of Halton, will leave on Tuesday to spend the summer on his ranch in Saskatchewan.

Chas. W. and Wm. J. Smith, Wm. Galloway and Wm. Elliott left for the west on Tuesday. Mr. Galloway goes to Saskatoon and his three companions to Edmonton.