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**The Canadian Champion**

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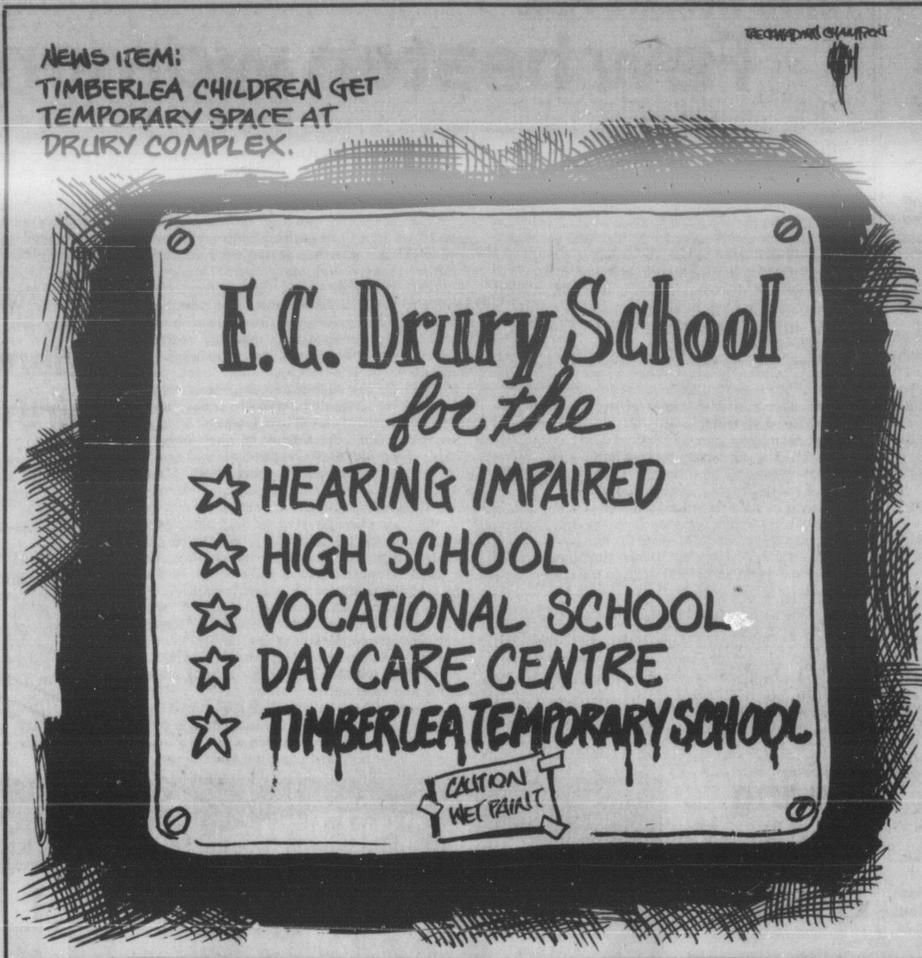
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**NEWS ITEM:  
TIMBERLEA CHILDREN GET  
TEMPORARY SPACE AT  
DRURY COMPLEX.**



Pages of  
the Past

One Year Ago

From the May 27, 1981 issue  
Milton Council is ready to meet Halton Council in the Ontario Supreme Court this Friday to fight a Region-laid contempt of court action brought against the Town, 11 current and three former council members which charges the town did not act on an Ontario Municipal Board ruling that 246 acres of land in Milton be rezoned as a garbage dump.

This afternoon and this evening Milton residents are invited to tour E.C. Drury Campus and have a truly enjoyable time. Ernest C. Drury School for the Hearing Impaired, Trillium School for Children with Learning Disabilities and E.C. Drury High School students have planned a number of demonstrations and displays for visitors.

They are hoping for clear skies Wednesday, June 3 at Sam Sherratt School as the official opening and dedication will take place on the tennis courts that evening. The outdoor ceremony, will provide more space to facilitate the large number of parents, teachers and Halton Board of Education officials expected to attend.

Jack Charlton will step down May 31 as administrator of Halton Centennial Manor, it was announced Monday by Halton Chief Administrator Dennis Perlin.

20 Years Ago

From the Thursday, May 21, 1962 issue  
Lawn watering restrictions will go into effect in Milton on Friday it was announced Wednesday afternoon. Clerk manager Jim Costigan reported there had been a tremendous demand for water during the current dry season. Maintenance of reasonable pressure is the reason for the introduction of the restrictions.

Ontario Steel Products plant manager Kenneth Campbell objected to Milton councillors Monday about a serious drop in water pressure at the local plant on Friday evening, May 18. He asked council for an assurance that the situation would not repeat itself.

The past week has been a busy one as Halton's four federal election candidates hurried through the third last full week prior to the June 18 vote.

Members of Milton's Coachmen Car Club were kept busy over the recent long weekend helping motorists stranded or in trouble on Highway 401. The club ran a courtesy patrol between Highway 6 and the Streetsville Road throughout most of Sunday and Monday.

Plans for the annual June bicycle safety rodeo were formulated Thursday evening at a meeting of the Milton Safety Council. The event is planned for June 23, and members of the local car clubs are expected to assist the Safety Council in handling this one.

50 Years Ago

From the May 26, 1932 issue  
Marshall G. Gowlan has been successful in his first year in medicine at Queen's University.

Any girl wishing to join the Milton girls' softball team is requested to attend practice at the High School grounds on Thursday and Monday evenings.

The members of the ladies' club and men's Milton lawn bowling club enjoyed their first game of the season on the holiday. The greens and grounds are in good condition and are included among the beauty spots of the town. The official opening will be held on Wednesday next, June 1st, at 7.30 daylight saving time, requested to get in touch with the Membership Committee.

There being 54 pupils in the primary room at Milton Public School, Miss Smith the teacher, has been compelled to divide the number of pupils into two classes, teaching one half in the morning and the other half in the afternoon.

Thirty-three applications for the position of town clerk, vacated by the resignation of Earl Tyan were considered by Oakville Council on Monday.

The members of Esqueping Township Council made an inspection of the roads throughout the township last week.

75 Years Ago

From the May 30, 1907 issue  
Victoria Day was quiet in Milton. Many citizens went to Toronto, some to the Woodbine races and others to the baseball matches.

The band played a fine programme in the park in front of the court house yesterday evening. A number of small boys made themselves obnoxious by throwing grass on the bandmen and others.

John Maxted, is recovering, though slowly, from the effects of his accident, reported last week. He was out on Tuesday.

His chief trouble is dizziness. Dominion Day will be celebrated in Milton under the auspices of the Fire Brigade. There will be horse races and a baseball match and general athletic sports.

The banks of the Sixteen Mile Creek, from about the windmill to the swing bridge, were lined last Sunday morning with parties fishing. Such conduct should not be allowed in a Christian community.

Wm. McCraney, of Vancouver, B.C., ex-MP for Halton paid Milton a flying visit this morning and was welcomed by many old friends. Though he has aged somewhat, he looks remarkably well.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Andrews left town yesterday for their trip to Europe. They and Mr. and Mrs. Hedley Shaw, of Toronto sail to-morrow on the C.P.R. steamer Empress of Britain.

**Drury move smart**

Children from Milton's Timberlea development will be spared the need to board school buses every morning, thanks to an agreement worked out recently with the E.C. Drury school for the deaf.

The agreement gives that Halton Board of Education use of rooms in a nearly empty residence at the school to house Timberlea children until their own school is constructed, hopefully before Christmas.

There is, however, an interesting element to the final solution to this thorny problem.

The Halton Board of Education has been under attack from several sources in recent months for the size of the 1982 budget increase it approved.

Local councillors and Chamber of Commerce members have expressed concern over a 22 per cent increase to Milton at a time when homeowners are facing a crushing interest rate burden and businesses are forced to close or cut back their operations.

The last thing struggling businessmen and homeowners need is the burden of a high tax increase from the Board of Education.

Compared to that continuing pressure for strict and tight control of spending by the board, is the demand of Timberlea parents for a nearby school to send their children to and for some

temporary arrangement until that school is built to relieve over crowding at the existing school in the area.

The options available to solve these twin problems are few and costly. Not acting is not an option in this case.

Under the pressure of deadlines and public demands, a special committee chose the answer to the problem that would be best for the local residents and best for the children involved.

Unfortunately, the final choice they made is slightly more expensive than the second alternative, to bus the children eight miles (one way) from their homes to a school on Trafalgar Rd.

Renting space from the Drury School is a more expensive alternative because current provincial policies give the Board of Education more money in grants to cover the cost of transportation than for renting local facilities.

The result is a small increase in spending, one of a hundred small, but sound, decisions that have to be made in the day to day operation of a school system.

The total budget of the board, and the tax burden of local residents, could be helped slightly if trustees opted for the less expensive, but less desirable solution, but how many of those compromises must be made in the name of dollars?

**Inquiry was needed**

A provincial inquiry into a Milton land purchase has been rejected by Ontario Municipal Affairs Minister Claude Bennett because a preliminary investigation indicated no foul play.

Mr. Bennett's decision not to inquire into this local situation is a regrettable move because it leaves unanswered so many questions about the conduct of public business in this town.

The call for the inquiry into Milton's purchase of land near Town Hall was started by former councillor Gus Goutouski, who argued that local taxpayers paid \$45,000 more for the property than was necessary because of foot dragging by local staff.

Throughout the debate over this issue, a question of illegal action, kick backs to local staff or under the table arrangements with any party, has never been raised.

Lawbreaking was not the issue raised by Mr. Goutouski—it was a question of the competence of some of the senior administrators in the Town staff.

The facts of the case are fairly simple. For several years the owners of one piece of downtown property had expressed their interest in selling the land to the Town, but despite this interest, a firm offer was never received from local officials.

Finally, in frustration, the land was sold to a Toronto developer for \$220,000, who within hours of closing the deal, sold the property to the town for \$265,000.

Along with 50 other petition signers, Mr. Goutouski challenged this action, alleging that taxpayer's money had been

wasted.

In a letter announcing his decision, Mr. Bennett admitted that Mr. Goutouski's allegation that faster action could have obtained a better deal for local ratepayers was "possibly a valid comment" but refused the requested inquiry because there "was no evidence that the delay was occasioned by improper motives."

Mr. Bennett is wrong in his statement that little of value would be gained for local taxpayers through the inquiry. There are several questions to be answered.

Why did local officials delay for so long before moving to purchase the land which was a vital component of a long range plan to redevelop the core of the town?

Why was an option to buy the land never purchased from the original owners, who had expressed their interest in selling to the Town on several occasions?

Was the delay and the resultant waste of money caused by over-worked local staff who lack the resources they need to properly carry out their responsibilities?

Perhaps some of these concerns could be indirectly answered through a complete management study of the local administration, such as was carried out at Halton Region following the 1980 deficit problems.

A provincial inquiry is an expensive proposition and is not to be taken lightly, but for the sake of keeping the public assured that their funds are being wisely collected and spent by local officials, it is money well spent.

**Viewpoint**

**The Falklands situation**

WITH STEVE ARNOLD



For weeks now, world leaders from the United States and the United Nations have been working feverishly to prevent the outbreak of a war between Britain and Argentina.

On the surface, at least, it is easy to dismiss this conflict as slightly ridiculous—two nations fighting over possession of a windswept collection of rocks in the south Atlantic.

There may even be some value to that argument because the Falkland Islands by themselves have little of value, being populated, at the last count, by 1,800 people, 600,000 sheep and 10 million penguins.

On another level however, the British servicemen who have died, and will die, in wrestling these rocks from the strutting fascist dictators of Argentina, will have lost their lives in an action which could save the world from an even more horrible conflict in the future.

The facts of this dispute have been covered more than adequately in the news reports with which we have been flooded for the last two months.

On April 2, without a formal declaration of war, Argentine troops occupied the island, which, for the last 150 years, have been a British colony.

After a show of resistance, the 85 Royal Marines stationed on the islands decided it would be better to live to fight again and the Union Jack was struck, to be replaced with the banner of the invader.

Almost immediately a task force of ships of the Royal Navy was dispatched to the scene to deal with this act of international terrorism.

Since then, the two sides have been sparring with each other—trading a single body blow each, in the destruction of two large warships.

It is generally believed that World War II would have been shorter and less terrible if western democracies had

taken a firm stand against the territorial demands of Hitler earlier in his campaign—before he had completed the development of the military machine that swept across Europe and took seven years and untold millions of lives to defeat.

Through their misplaced desire to preserve peace at any cost, the democracies were led into a conflict that resulted in the birth of the terrible weapons of destruction that make the thought of another world war so terribly frightening.

In the depths of his devious mind Hitler knew that he could exploit the weaknesses of his enemies—he knew that their fear of war and their lack of resolve could be used to his advantage.

History has taught, or should have taught us, the terrible results of that lack of resolve to enforce what is clearly right in the face of what is clearly wrong.

Despite the lessons of that war, it seems clear that the leaders of the west have not learned that appeasement is never an acceptable response to acts of terrorism.

For more than 400 days the most powerful nation on earth was humiliated by a group of "students" who invaded the American embassy in Tehran and held its diplomats hostage.

None of the diplomatic and political responses attempted by the Americans were successful against the unreasoning hatred of the Iranians.

Now, sensing weakness and indecision in the councils of the west, the dictators of Argentina have attempted their own version of Hitler's grab for land, seizing what they want and relying on the aversion to war that is the curse of the west to secure their action.

The British have failed to respond as they did in 1938, however—force has been answered with force and suddenly the

Argentine junta finds itself facing a war it cannot possibly win, but cannot back away from.

Peace is a very fragile state of affairs. It is also a relative concept. In order to be secure and lasting, peace must be more than simply the absence of war, it must be built on the knowledge that all steps will be taken to ensure that the security of each nation will be protected.

In 1939, the world stumbled into a war for which it was unprepared because it had forgotten that in order to remain at peace we must be constantly prepared to go to war.

Allowing our armed forces to disintegrate will not convince those who oppose our way of life that we are dedicated to peace—it shows them that we are unprepared to defend that way of life to the final degree.

Our enemies of the right and left will be merciless in their exploitation of our weakness, not touched by the purity of our intentions in laying aside the tools of defence.

The only guarantee of a lasting peace is our willingness to fight to preserve it. That is the lesson we must learn from the events in the south Atlantic. It must be a lesson that is clear to dictators and despots of all stripes, from all corners of the globe.

No act of aggression against the civilized nations of the west will go unpunished. No mealy-mouthed politicians will be permitted to divert us from the course which history has shown us time and time again is the only true path to peace.

The young men of Britain are prepared to die to again show the leaders of the western world the value of this lesson.

Hopefully, by the sacrifices that are made now, a longer and more terrible conflict between larger powers can be avoided in the future.

**People in our past**

A continuing series during Milton's 125th anniversary

**Former Mayor Don Gordon**

There's a little bit of former Milton Mayor Don Gordon at Ontario Place.

The H.M.C.S. Haida was home for Mr. Gordon for 18 months while he was enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy.

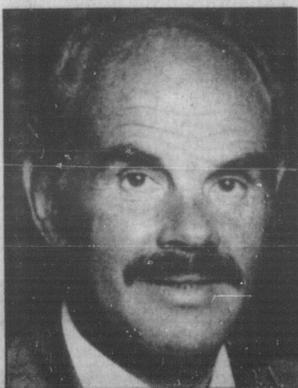
A native of Toronto who received his education there as well, Mr. Gordon didn't arrive in the Milton area until the late 50s.

An accountant by profession, he worked at Sir Adam Beck (Ontario Hydro) in Niagara Falls until 1953 when an opportunity in accounting with Ford Motor Company came about.

He is currently an accountant in the Ontario Truck Division of Ford in Oakville.

In an effort to avoid the traffic on the Queen Elizabeth Way, Mr. Gordon built his current home in Hornby in 1957. That home launched him into politics.

Concerned that urban residents living in a rural area weren't receiving good representation in comparison to their farming neighbors, some homeowners approached Mr. Gordon to represent them on Oakville Council in 1965.



FORMER MAYOR DON GORDON

He served an Oakville Council until 1973, when Regional government was created and suddenly Mr. Gordon was a

resident of Milton.

During the eight years he served on Oakville Council, Mr. Gordon fought to preserve the rural area of Oakville. He fought development in the area as well as an airport proposed for the Omagh area.

He served as a councillor on Milton Council for three years before making two successful bids for mayor. He faced Anne McArthur both times but, after four years, lost his seat in 1980 to current mayor Gordon Krantz.

Mr. Gordon is a member of Milton Rotary Club, treasurer of Milton Boy Scouts and a Provincial member of the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

He is a former police commissioner and was on the Regional planning committee that put together the Region's official plan.

He also served on Milton Hydro as well as the old Oakville and Burlington public utilities commissions.

Mr. Gordon is very proud of the town, but stresses there should be no more residential growth and considerably more industrial and commercial growth.