

Established 1861  
**The Canadian Champion**

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## Doing our job

We waited for the last edition of 1982 before expressing our sincerest gratitude to Milton and the people who live here.

The entire staff of The Canadian Champion learned a very important lesson in the past three weeks and that lesson is our newspaper is not only well read, but continues the 122-year old tradition of having an impact on the people.

On Dec. 15 we issued our first appeal for help with The Canadian Champion Christmas Bureau Fund. We needed to raise \$5,000 so we could guarantee no family would go without on Christmas.

We hoped for, but frankly we did not expect, the overwhelming response that was to come from the hearts of the people of Milton.

Times are tough. Hundreds of people in our town are either out of work or just scraping by as they go slightly more into debt each month.

This newspaper made its plea and then something magical happened.

As we reported last week, people gave more than \$4,000 in three days to make sure the \$5,000 we needed was raised in time to be distributed to the needy families of Milton.

As deeply touched as we were, we would like to quote Capt. John Norton of the Salvation Army who said, "there are times when words can not express the gratitude one feels in their heart."

"We here at the Salvation Army, find that this is one of those times."

"To have you (this newspaper) personally deliver to us a cheque in the amount of \$5,429.66 along with many, many toys, gifts and food leaves us speechless."

"We will be spending the next two days preparing and distributing hampers, vouchers, and gifts to the many needy families in the Milton area."

"The need is there and the people of Milton, along with your support, have met this need."

"Thank you and God bless you."

There are some people who will tell you Milton is not much of a place in which to live. There are others who will tell you the character of the old town has changed for the worse.

Those people are wrong! The outflow of caring and money probably could not have happened the way it did in any other town or city in this country.

If Milton has changed, it has not lost its sense of caring and community, even if people don't go around bragging about it.

That was our lesson. To have been involved with this great community effort at Christmas has proved to our entire staff that we have an even greater responsibility than we realized to serve the people of Milton in the greatest tradition of the community newspaper.

This is our lesson and this is our job.

The lesson has been learned, and now it is clearly up to us to do that job.

## Happy New Year

Only a matter of hours remain in 1982 and whatever else it was, it was a year which will not soon be forgotten.

Whether or not it is remembered as a good or bad year will depend to a very large degree on questions of economics and employment.

Simply put, if you had a job at the end of year, or for most of the last 12 months, it was a good year. For everyone else it was not.

By itself, Milton was not especially hard hit by the economic storm which swept the country, a storm caused by the federal government in an effort to control the largely academic problem of inflation.

Rather than losing industries completely, although there were certainly layoffs and cutbacks, Milton and Halton have been able to expand their industrial base to a small degree and in times like these even small gains are to be cherished and crowed about.

The quality of local government, at least according to the voters has been as good as could be expected, judging by the results of the November municipal election which returned for three years virtually the same councillors who have held office for the last two years.

Crime was no more or less a problem than it had been for years before. Homeowners must still pay attention to their need for security and a late night walk on the main street of the town still engenders thought of the value of compulsory military service for

unemployed youth.

Governments at all levels continued to spend as though they could draw indefinitely from the bottomless well of tax dollars and only during the latter part of the year did they suddenly heed calls for restraint as a way of getting the economy moving again.

In 1983 it seems unlikely that a major change in these trials and tribulations can be expected for the bulk of the year.

There are some who contend a change in national leadership is a prerequisite for starting the long and painful process of change.

Even that seems unlikely during the early part of the coming year, or for the entire period for that matter.

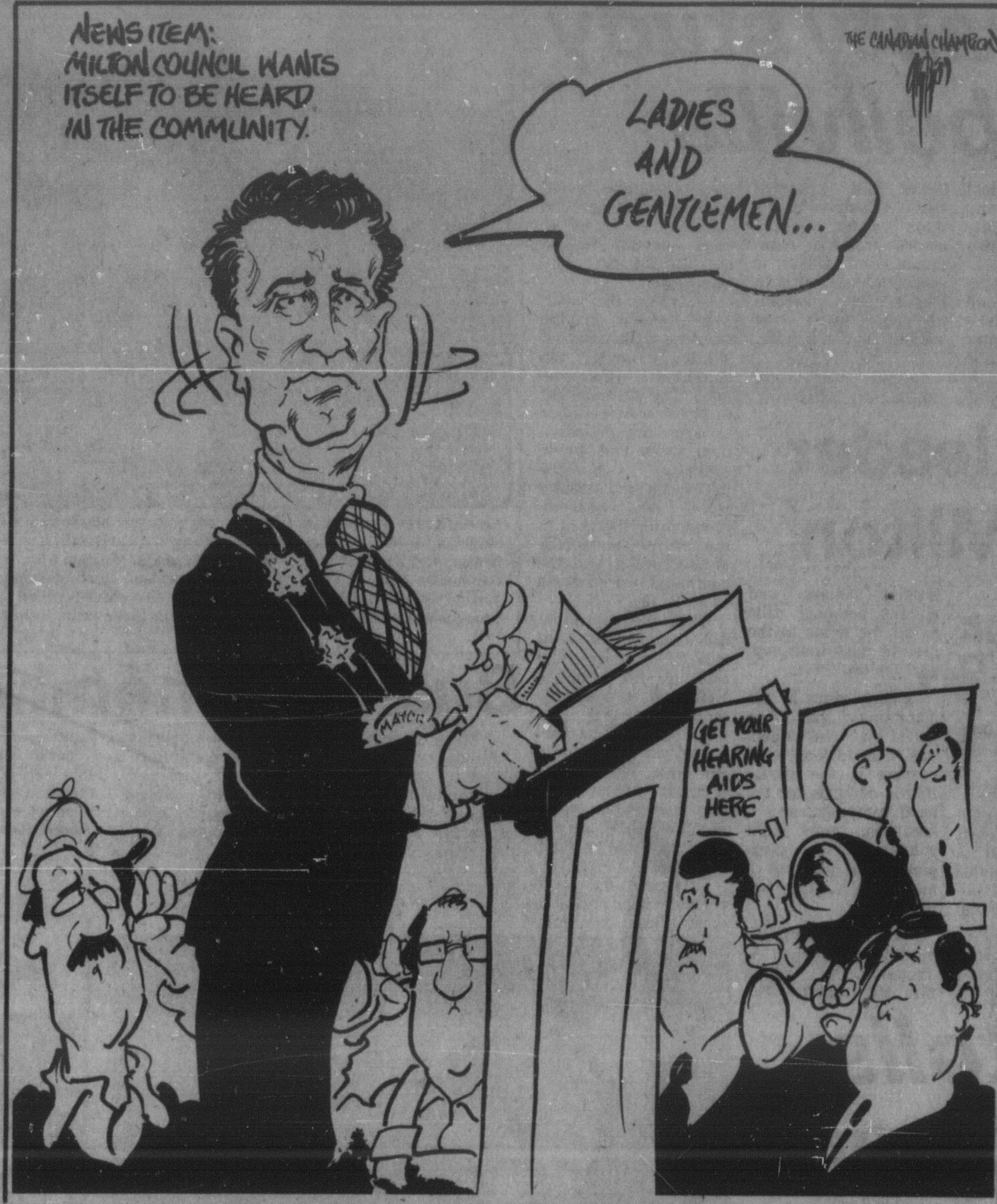
What can be done, on an individual basis, to make 1983 a better year than the one we are now finishing?

For the individual citizen, there is really very little. The troubles and pain which face Canada are more of our own making than they are of the world and the solutions must be found here.

The beginning of a new year is always a time for reflection and planning. It presents a new slate and an opportunity to make the changes we feel are needed for a happier and more productive life.

The best chance for meaningful change, perhaps, lies in the small personal steps available to each person at this time of year, move to change ourselves and through those steps to effect a change on the world as a whole.

Happy new year.



## Viewpoint

The year in rhyme

WITH MICHAEL BOYLE

"Tell me scribe Boyle of the year eight-two, For I have been absent and heard nothing new. I've heard rumors of fires, Goutouski and Krantz But nothing concrete like the overpass dance."

"I'll tell you sire Gordon this year was complete, With what you suggest but let's get to the meat."

Up ole twenty-five the hot story of all, Saw Country Pete's burn with hundreds enthralled. Rebuilding has started right next to the eats, But I doubt that the name will be Country Fried Pete's.

Owner Mangan was sad but he got out the tux, When the lottery exclaimed he'd won two point two megabucks

The elections provided no councillor a rest, Returning Rose Harrison Hinton, Knight and Best.

A realtor named Gus threw his hat in the ring, Another mayorship race surely lightened up things. Ole Gus gave his best but there was never a chance, When the voters had spoken they said aloud Gord Krantz.

We thought M.P. Julian flew from Queen's Park coop But he slapped our hand saying he was busy with his troop.

The roads were a-changin' the bridge, the four oh one, For many weeks we endured before construction was done.

The zig-zag at Main caused much confusion, But when trains were above Speed was no longer a delusion. The highwaymen were a-busy the M-C Freeway to enlarge, Traffic now is normal there's no need for a barge.

Plans north of four-o-one were meant for our small town, To be businesses centre and we'd wear the crown. But the globe's economics touched our little world, And forced its postponement till confidence is unfurled.

We're still making garbage but they've run out of room, So they're trying to turn farmland into a vast regional tomb. So far the citizens have battled and won, But where will it all end this debris is no fun.

Eight years of the Tribune gave Milton papers one and two, But the times they were tough and one would have to do. Harry looked at the sheet and saw advertising shrunk, so he turned to starter Lee and pronounced it defunct.

A crazed man from Missy with terror revolving, Shot a harmless young lady needing police for the solving. They found him eating where the arches are golden, And calmly took him under where his fate's now unfolding.

There was news good to report with the events again plenty, This town continues to grow It's a complete entity. The festive day of culture those engines needing steam, And a weekend starring winter required a fine team. The Fair, Santa, Canada Day received many a good note, It shows how Miltonians know not how to dote. The hospital's new wing received a financial boost, When golfers went to Wells raising money for the roost. With Herb and Les in charge the golfers came in force, A hundred-fold attempted but no one beat the course.

Virginia once asked The Times if Santa did really roam, There's little doubt now that Milton's his new home. Townsfolk replied quickly to pleas of money and toys, Enabling a Merry Christmas for all our girls and boys.

Giving his time freely a Hood of Murray kind, Received some due recognition for being a genuine find.

The trillium province received quite a jolt, when Milton's Judge Sharp threw McMurtry a bolt. Just like his name means the judge was no fool, When Trudeau unveiled a new system of rule.

With '83 beckoning there is little to fear, So go out and enjoy and have a Happy New Year."

## Between the Willows

WITH DON BYERS

For many, 1982 fell somewhat shy of being a banner year. To make it short and sour, it was damned tough going. Emotional and financial demands of Christmas made the feeling of frustration more intense, I imagine, for folks with small children.

The past 12 months haven't exactly been barn-burners pour moi either. I can't wait for 1982 to mercifully vanish for all time, down the tubes.

Looking back upon it, my accomplishments were minimal. Sure, I did paint the house, and I did install the woodstove, the benefits of which we are now enjoying.

On the other side of the ledger, my labor-intense vegetable garden was all but a complete bust. Little "Snooper" violently departed this world under the wheels of a car, and some weirdo ripped off my Air Force flag, swiping it from the pole on the front terrace, cutting through a tough, twisted, multi-strand, nylon rope—no mean feat. Correction. It was mean, and petty.

Oh yes, quite a year. In Canada, both prices and unemployment soared, a sorry combination. The provinces blamed Ottawa, and our nation's capital blamed the world. Should things turn around in the States, we were told, all will be well.

I'm sure that makes you feel better. Violence is still the national pastime in Northern Ireland, the Middle East, and in various other troubled parts of the world.

President Reagan, whose new hobby is funding of more fearful, nuclear weapons, is promoting the latest horror series of MX missiles—just in case those now in place, by the Yanks and Soviets, are not sufficient to destroy the world several times over.

By the 20th day of the new year I will have reached the age of 58. You would think, by this time, I would have gained the wisdom to understand what the hell is going on. Sadly, I am farther from that realization than I have ever been. Life gets tedious, don't it.

I am reminded of the old German adage: "We get too soon old, and too late smart." Oh yes.

I have said, what is to follow, before—but it's worth one final gasp as the year runs down.

Canada became a nation, not as a result of the consummate confusion of our recent constitution. Not at all. This country became a nation in World War II. At that time, we were a major manufacturing nation; our maritime fleet was the fourth largest in the Allied world. Of greater importance, Canadians were working together in the common cause. I wonder what happened when we all came home?

I wish I knew. But I take heart when I read about your generous response to The Canadian Champion's appeal to make Christmas more bearable for needy families in town. For that I admire you.

Just make sure you don't forget them after the decorations come down. It's going to be a long winter.

Pages of the past

## One Year Ago

From the December 30, 1981 issue  
Farmers have little to look forward to in the new year, according to agriculture representative Henry Stanley. He contends farmers can do little to change next year's gloomy forecast under the current marketing scheme. Our close ties to the economy in the United States are also contributing to this ongoing slump, he said.

A less than exciting year is being forecast for Halton Region's economy in 1982. Matt Fischer, director of business development for the region said in a recent interview that most indicators point to a slow period in the coming 12 months.

He said economic fortunes in Halton for the coming year will be heavily influenced by activities in the auto and steel industries and the rise or fall of interest rates.

Several Milton horses suspected of having contracted a type of equine venereal disease will undergo testing this week. The horses are among more than 100 animals at W.K. Hermanns' Barcrest Farms which were placed under quarantine in November following an investigation by the federal department of agriculture.

A total of 162 Maplehurst inmates enjoyed Christmas outside the walls of the Milton medium-security correctional centre this year, thanks to the temporary absence program.

## 20 Years Ago

From the Jan. 10, 1963 issue  
A spectacular \$25,000 blaze levelled the barn on the Twin Lakes Resort at Speyside early this morning, claiming 10 horses and a show dog. The barn had been in use for dances until September.

The fire was first discovered by John Oliver, son of the owner, Fred Oliver, as he was watering the riding horses. He noticed fire in the central part of the large barn. By the time he aroused help, it was impossible to re-enter the barn to save the horses.

A pensioner who dropped a roll of \$370 in bills the week before Christmas, recovered his money intact, thanks to the honesty of a 13-year-old Milton boy, Brian Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Watson of Court St., found the roll of big bills on Main St. two days before Christmas and immediately reported the incident to police.

The list of contenders for the Progressive Conservative Provincial nomination lengthened this week. The choice will be made in a convention January 25 at the Williams Ave. High School, Milton when the Hon. F.M. Cass, recently appointed Attorney General, will be the guest speaker.

High officials in Ontario's parliament and courts were honored as special guests Tuesday evening, when the Halton County Law Association held its annual banquet and meeting in Milton.

A proposal to build an 18-suite apartment building on the R.C. Cunningham property on Martin St. was turned down Friday, when the Ontario Municipal Board upheld a Town of Milton appeal against its committee of adjustment.

## 50 Years Ago

From the December 29, 1932 issue  
Curling fans are pleased to learn that Milton Curling Club has re-organized for the season and, although definitely decided not to operate the rink this winter, will retain its affiliation with the Ontario Curling Association. The newly elected officers are as follows: President, J. Davidson; Vice-Pres. J.W. Higgins; Sec-Treas. John Lecocqu; Tankard Skips, J.F. Robinson and W. Chisholm; District Cup Skips, Con. Toletzka and F.D. Dewar.

All the members of the Milton public school teaching staff are contributing five per cent of their monthly salary cheques to the relief board as long as it is needed.

Juzef B. Abramowich, of Esquesing township, appeared before Police Magistrate McIlveen last week on a charge of having converted to his own use the property of his partner, J. Saxe, 36 sheep, 10 ducks, 4 sows, 30 young pigs, 30 chickens, several heifers, a plow, a horse and numerous tools. After hearing the evidence, his honor dismissed the charge.

## 75 Years Ago

From the December 26, 1907 issue.  
The entertainment at the town hall on Monday evening given by the Musical Eckardts under the auspices of the Public Library drew a large attendance. The company drew sweet music from the bells and from other more or less novel instruments and there was good singing. The musical comedy "School Days" was well put on. Everyone appeared to be delighted with the entertainment and the company will be sure of a big house next time it visits Milton.

Special Christmas music was sung at both services at the Methodist Church on Sunday. There were solos by Mrs. J.W. Bews, Miss Gertrude Hollinrake, Miss Florence Deacon and Mr. Cecil Earl. There were trios and quartets and the full choir sang anthems. The choir has been greatly strengthened lately. There are about 30 voices and improvement has been rapid under the efficient leadership of Miss Deacon.

Archie McDougall and Son won seven prizes at Guelph Winter Fair on their turkeys and what geese.

Major and Mrs. F.H. Deacon, of Toronto, were in town on Thursday and Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hackney of Guelph spent Christmas in town at the home of Mrs. Hackney's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Wilson.

