

# 'I make them and give them away' Milton dollmaker says of hobby

There is a little boy in California who has taken a big cuddly Mickey Mouse doll to bed with him for the past three years. It is no ordinary doll but one of more than 30 his grandmother has made since she first used the pattern 40 years ago. Like Elisabeth Mizrahi's nine children, her 17 grandchildren have benefited from her talents with knitting needles and crochet hooks.

The 61-year-old has made hundreds of dolls in her lifetime but what she hasn't made is money from her craft.

"I make them and give them away," she said.

After years and years of making miniature wool and acrylic figures, Elisabeth decided she would start a

collection. In 1979, the Year of the Child, the collection began to take shape and was displayed at various locations in Mississauga (her former home) for the pleasure of children.

Now there are 173 dolls kept on shelves in her sewing room. It is from these that children advise Elisabeth of their favourites which are often reproduced and given to the young admirers.

Almost every one of the small figures is taken from nursery rhymes. There is Little Miss Muffet, complete with a tiny dish of curds and whey and the troublesome spider. Jack and Jill, Little Boy Blue and his hay stack, the three bears and the trio of little piggies complete with the wicked wolf are some of

the popular characters recreated in fine stitchery.

Elisabeth uses fine needles and fine yarn to keep the size of each doll down, making her collection easier to display. Many are taken from patterns while some are a combination of patterns.

"I'm still looking for more patterns," explained Elisabeth.

At the age of six, Elisabeth got her first knitting lesson as a student in her native Holland. She said twice a week children had a chance to make crafts at school. She used to clip patterns from the newspaper and that is where she found the instructions for Mickey Mouse 40 years ago.

See NEEDLE, page C9



Elisabeth Mizrahi is shown with just a few of the hundreds of dolls she has made.

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## Loyalist find . . .

# Region Museum has special display

. . . boon to museum

By WILMA BLOKHUIS

When two overloaded pickup trucks returned to the Halton Regional Museum in Milton from Thunder Bay one day two years ago, an entire collection of artifacts documenting a pioneer family's history from 1776 to the 1930s, was not expected.

The donation came from Dr. E.N. Wright, 84, who married a direct descendant of the prominent Buck family of Palermo, Elizabeth Gertrude Campbell. She died in 1978 at the age of 70, and Dr. Wright, who only retired from active practise last year, felt the well-kept collection ought to be placed with the region's museum.

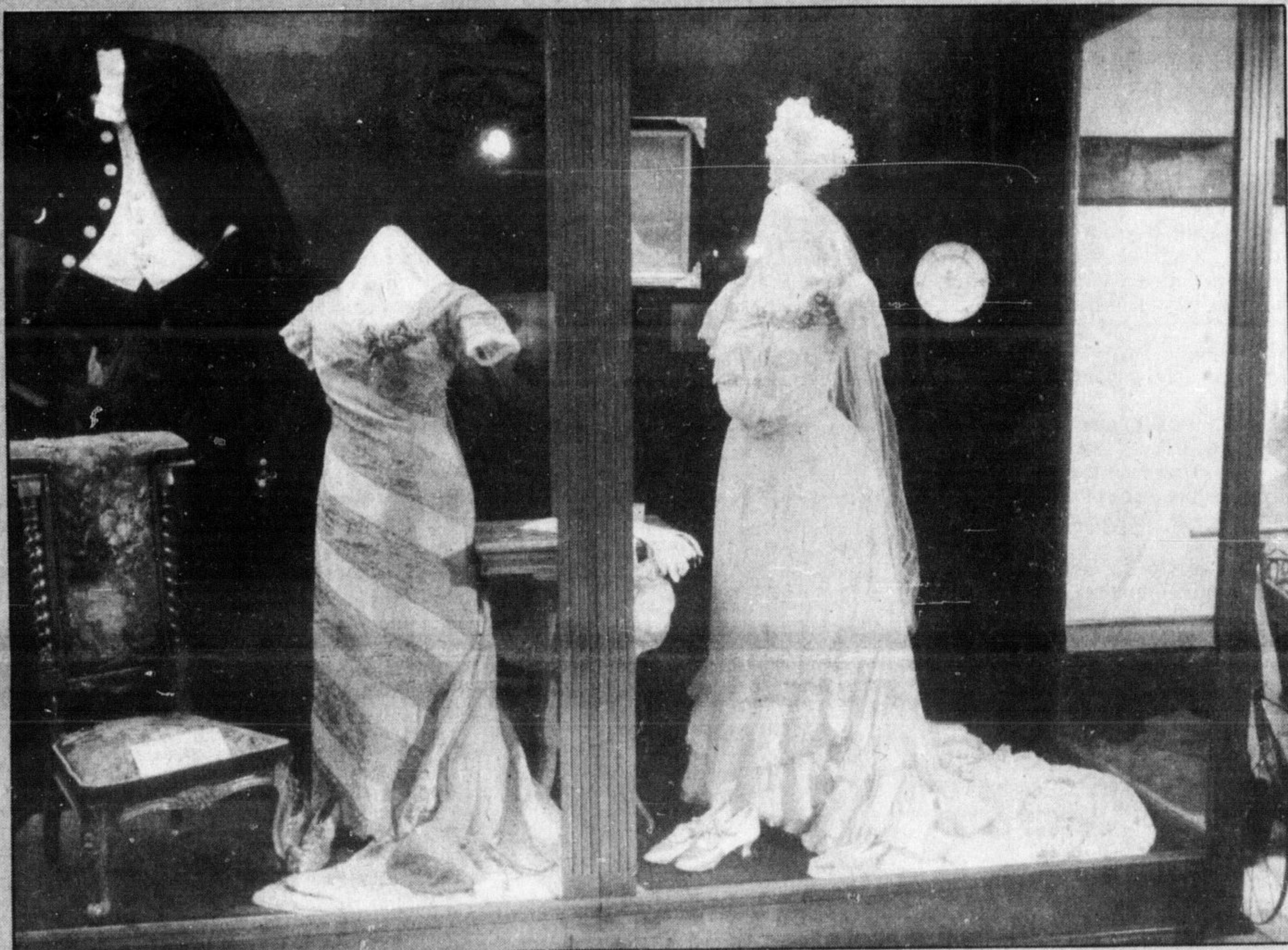
But, the museum had to pick it up. Lamenting the gift would not otherwise be received, the late Erla Britain, curator, made the arrangements, and then personally went up to Thunder Bay to make sure the offer was believable. Fortunately, nothing was lost or damaged enroute, despite the overloading, from the 500 to 700 piece collection, which includes everything from ball gowns to a spinning wheel, saddle, early farming implements, photographs, historical notes, legal documents, jewellery and furniture.

### Help Hired

Faced with researching and cataloguing this substantial collection, the museum hired a full time historical researcher, display co-ordinator and public relations officer, Jonathan Mitchell. Though hired to delve into the history of the museum's entire 30,000-piece collection, Mitchell has so far only concentrated on the Buck family donation. He has recently assembled and arranged for display, a number of Buck artifacts for an exhibition titled Halton's Loyalist Heritage. It opens this Saturday, Sept. 17 and is expected to remain in the museum's Craft House to the end of December—perhaps longer depending on public interest.

When Mitchell had completed the display about a month ago, the donor, Dr. Wright and his family, visited the museum, and expressing obvious pleasure, he announced more artifacts will be forthcoming. But again, the museum will have to pick them up.

The Buck family, United Empire Loyalists, came to Ontario (then known as Upper Canada) in about 1776, fleeing as refugees during the American Revolution—also known as the War of



Clothing display includes a suit worn by Colin H. Campbell and two gowns belonging to his wife Minnie Campbell, daughter of Anson Buck. The one with a diagonal design was worn at the 1911 coronation of George V and the lace gown at 1901 coronation of Edward VII.

Independence. Supporters of the British monarchy were frequently imprisoned, and among those captured was Philip Buck I. His wife, Margaret Buck ventured off with four other women, taking with them over 30 children, on horseback through bush.

Enroute, Philip Buck II was born, and later, Margaret's husband joined the trek after escaping from prison.

### Four Women

It is believed the four other women who travelled with Margaret were a Mrs. Nelles, after whose family Nelles' Corners may have been named; Mrs. Smith, original ancestor of E.D. Smith of Grimsby; Mrs. Secord, mother-in-law of Laura Secord; and Mrs. Bowman, of whom nothing is known. In total, 30,000 to 75,000 Loyalists escaped into Canada, settling areas stretching from Ontario to Nova Scotia.

"There are many legends surrounding their arrival, and they suffered a lot of hardship and deprivation," said Mitchell referring to historical notes written by a member of the Buck family. "Some of these Loyalists were well-to-do, but the majority were very poor. They built log cabins with dirt floors and a hole in the roof to let the smoke escape."

Philip Buck I and Margaret originally settled near Fort George, building their log cabin on a 200-acre crown grant. They raised 12 children, each of whom as United Empire Loyalist descendants, were also granted 200 acres. At times, this property was of little value, and those displeased with their allocation used it for bartering, or simply sold or traded. Thus, according to the Wilnot Survey of 1806, Philip Buck II moved onto crown land in Oakville. In 1810 he married Julianna Boehm at Black Creek (now a pioneer village museum), and later moved to Palermo—most likely in the early 1830s. (At approximately the same time, following Haratio Nelson's victories in the Battle of Trafalgar and French Revolution, whereupon he was subsequently knighted by the King of England and granted a duchy (large estate) by the king of Sicily—the United Empire Loyalists and British colonists renamed their settlements in keeping with Nelson's honors. Thus, Palermo, after the capital of Sicily, was selected to replace its original name, Hager's Town. The pioneer settlement was first named after David and Lawrence Heger, two brothers who are also

credited with the founding of Hagersville.

### 11 Children

The couple had 11 children, of whom the 10th born in 1833, was Anson Buck, builder of 'the house in Palermo', at the corner of Highway 5 and 25 which in recent years to the present serves as a restaurant, under different names. Anson studied in the United States and also earned a degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of London, Eng. He practised as a country doctor for 54 years, and often travelled a full day on horseback through bush to make a \$2 home visit. "He was known for his absolute dedication to his work," said Mitchell. He married Keturah Adelaide Howell in late December, 1854, and she is best remembered for the local history she wrote.

Anson sat on the former Trafalgar township council for 40 years, and missed only one meeting during his entire tenure because of a death in his family. In January 1908, his retirement as reeve was marked by the township presenting him with an 18-karat gold chiming pocket watch.

Also among his credentials is field hospital and surgical work in the United States, and it is believed he marched with the victorious army following the American Civil War, to Baltimore in 1865, and that he was reputedly in the audience when President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. Supporting Lincoln, Anson believed in freedom from slavery for the American negro.

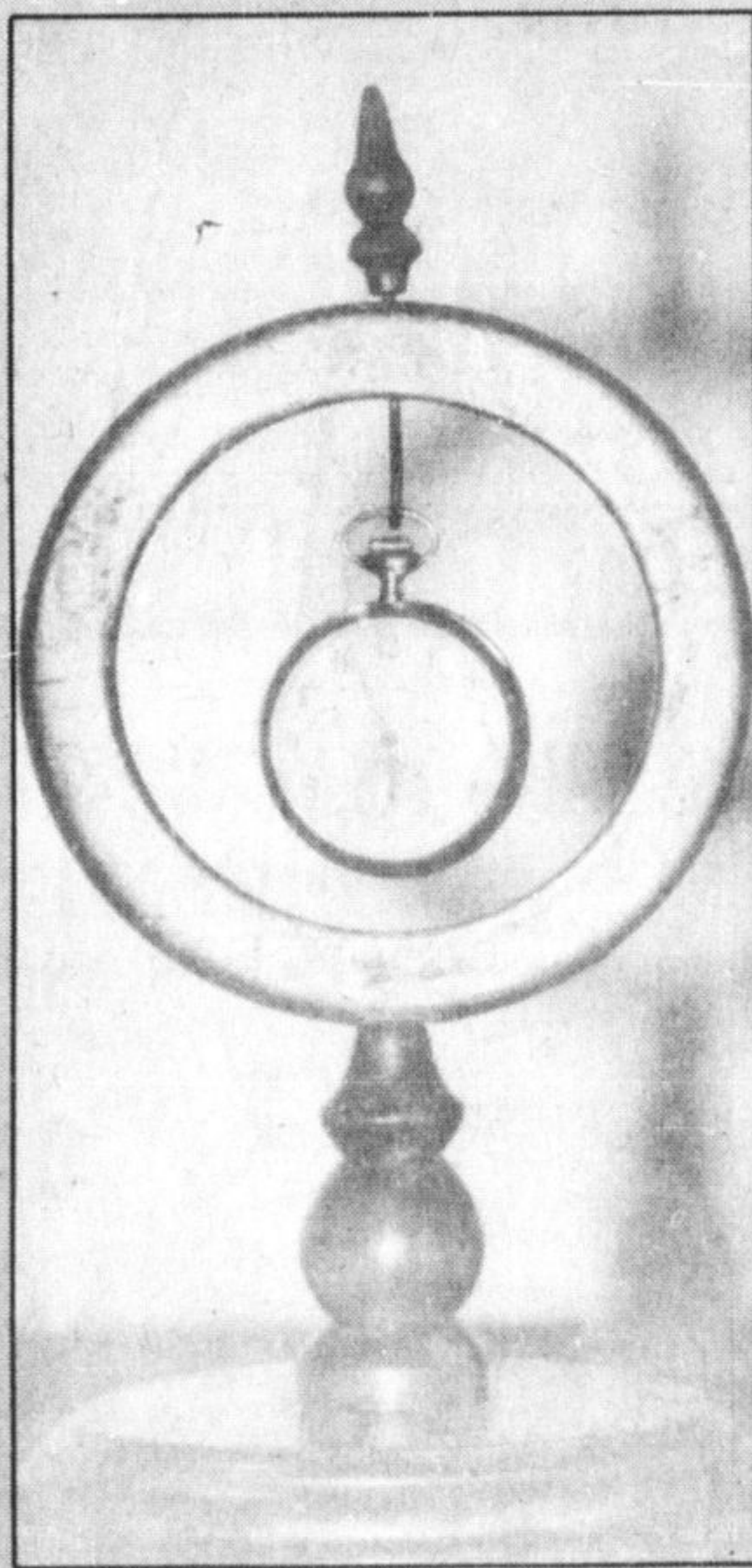
"I have never refused a call of suffering humanity or sued a man in court," states Anson's creed. "I would rather live in the hearts of my people than die rich as a croesus." He died in 1919, and the family sold 'the house in Palermo.'

### Two Daughters

Anson and Keturah had two daughters, the second of whom, Minnie Julia Beatrice Buck born in 1862, rose to great prominence following her marriage to Colin H. Campbell of Campbellville in 1884.

It appears only fitting that the Buck family collection was donated to the Halton Regional Museum, as it also has a family history of its own.

The museum is the original farm of Adam Alexander I who settled in the Milton area during the 1830s, hailing from the Kelso area of Scotland, according to curator Ernest Buchner. The property passed through four genera-



This 18-karat gold chiming pocket watch was presented to Dr. Anson Buck upon his retirement from Trafalgar township council in 1908 as reeve. He sat on council 40 years and missed only one meeting.

tions until Adam Alexander IV sold the 200-acre farm to the Halton Region Conservation Authority in the late 1950s. The museum, which opened in 1964, occupies six acres of land in Kelso Park which it leases from the authority for 99 years. "We have 70 years left," noted Buchner, curator since November 1982.

Of its six buildings, four are from the original Alexander farm—the stone house, blacksmith shop, barn and craft house, which was the piggery! A log cabin, circa 1830s, was moved to the site from Campbellville during the early 1970s, and opened as an early pioneer exhibit in 1975. The museum's Carriage House is a Centennial project of 1967. The Halton Regional Museum and all of its exhibits are opened seven days a week, from 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Halton's Loyalist Heritage, the Buck collection, is on display in Craft House.

## Asthma programs Oct 14

Programs for asthma sufferers are underway at Burlington and are about to begin at Oakville for the fall season.

Family Asthma Programs, sponsored by the Halton Lung Association began Sept. 27 at Burlington and will commence Fri. Oct. 14 at Oakville.

The gym/swim program at Aldershot High School, Burlington runs from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. and the same program runs from 7 to 9 p.m. at White Oaks Secondary School at Oakville.

To register for the program call Anne Gaudet at 827-4202 or the Halton Lung Association at 632-8499.

These courses are offered free and made possible by public support of the Halton Christmas Seal Campaign.

## Armstrong has change

A new member has been added to the committee which oversees vocational education in Halton.

Board of education trustees agreed recently to appoint their co-ordinator of guidance and co-operative education to the Advisory Vocational Committee.

The change was suggested by Milton trustee Ivan Armstrong.

## Business gets Week

Oct. 12 to 30 will be Small Business Week in Milton.

Small Business Week is being sponsored by the Milton Chamber of Commerce in affiliation with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

Now officially proclaimed by Milton Council Monday evening, the week is designed to focus public attention and private sector attention on informational and educational resources available under the small business week theme of "Managing for Recovery."

## Stamp Club names 1982 executive

The Milton Stamp Club has elected its 1983-84 executive.

They are: Mick Sensier, president; Dave Taylor, vice-president; Dolores Waters, secretary; Manfred Kanzenbach; and directors, Sean Brice, Kevin Verstraete, Ted Brown, and Bill Casson.

Mr. Sensier said the new executive "will soon be busy planning an exciting program for the coming year."

Anyone wishing to join or find out more about the Milton Stamp Club can do so by writing to the club at P.O. Box 203, Milton, L9T 4N9.

## Resident joins board

A Milton resident has been named to the board of governors of the Oaklands Region Centre, Oakville.

Mrs. Marion Bascom, B. ScN., of Milton, who is currently director of residential care at the Chelsey Park Nursing Home in Mississauga, joins the Oaklands board.

Mrs. Bascom was one of three new directors appointed Sept. 28.

## Big Director

A Milton resident has been named to the board of directors of the Big Brothers of Lakeville and Milton.

Ron Johnston, of 560 Hawthorn Court, is the new member.



This dress belonged to Keturah Buck, wife of Philip Buck II. It was entirely hand stitched.