

From Champion Files

## Can't happen to you?

One of the foibles of modern society is the false impression people carry about tragedies such as accidents, fires and deaths. It's always "the other guy" who seemingly gets involved—never ourselves—and the "it can't happen to me" attitude carries us through life until that tragic moment when it does happen to US

Now don't get the opinion we are being overly pessimistic about tragedies. Count us among those who have said, over and over again, "it can't happen to me." But we wonder if too much optimism lulls us into a false sense of security so that when tragedy does strike, we're not really capable of facing up to the shock.

Such is the case, unfortunately, with growing drug use among our young people. The family which adopts the "can't happen to us" attitude is frequently shocked into reality when it is discovered their son or daughter is involved with drugs. The anguish, the recriminations and the stigma can seriously alter the family's lifestyle.

That's why we feel it is important for local parents to spare a couple of hours next Tuesday evening to attend a drug information seminar sponsored by Milton Lions Club, starting at 7.30 p.m. at the Milton Central Library's meeting hall. The program should detail the problem, hopefully provide some answers, and allow free discussion on this vital topic.

We hope the parents of Milton attend en masse. It's their duty to learn what they can now, before the problem hits their family and it becomes necessary to learn about drugs the hard way—from a tragic experience.

And for readers who think drugs may not be such a problem, let's look at some recent statistics from Addiction Research Foundation. A 1972 survey of over 6,000 high school students in Toronto shows the percentage of students who ad-

mitted using alcohol, tobacco and drugs at least once in the last six months:

Alcohol 70.6 per cent, tobacco 38.3, marijuana 20.9, glue 2.9, other solvents 6.5, barbiturates 18.2, opiates 4.0, heroin 1.9, speed 3.3, stimulants 6.4, tranquilizers 10.2, LSD 6.4, other hallucinogens 7.2.

It was shocking to see that drug use was fairly heavy at the grade seven level where 45 per cent admitted using alcohol, 24 per cent tobacco, 4.7 per cent marijuana, 12 per cent solvents, 12 per cent barbiturates, six per cent tranquilizers and two per cent LSD. The figures reached a peak in the grade 9-11 range and for most of the drugs a slight tapering-off was noticeable in the grade 13 level.

And don't scoff because these are Toronto figures. It is happening here too. Addiction Research Foundation officials told The Champion the Toronto statistics are just as applicable across Halton as they are in the city.

Halton Regional Police statistics also show how much drug users and traffickers have come in contact with the police. In 1973 police carried out 475 drug investigations and 431 of these were "cleared by charge"—meaning one or more persons was taken to court. In 1974 the figure rose to 559 investigations and 464 cleared by charge. We have no specific figures on Milton alone but the Georgetown police reported 24 investigations in 1972, 55 in 1973. Burlington had 173 cases involving marijuana alone in 1973, 149 of which were cleared by charges. Those charged included 194 males and 15 females aged 16 and over, one male and two females under 16, for a total of 112 persons facing marijuana charges.

So, you think it "can't happen to you"? Let's see you out at next Tuesday's meeting where you'll get an education about the current drug scene in Milton, and how you as parents can cope with it.

## Getting to know you

"Getting to know you" may be as appropriate for the Rotary Club's student exchange program as it is for a song title.

Again this year Milton Rotary is hosting an exchange student, this time Wendy Gardner from New Zealand and we would like to say a public welcome to Wendy.

Wendy will be attending Milton District High School while she spends a year among us, hosted by Rotary families and visiting area clubs.

Last year the local club hosted Denmark's Lisabeth Hieselen and from Milton, Gordon Thompson went to Belgium.

In the summer Greg Rusk will be going from Milton to a country not yet named. Several years ago

Alfredo Casas was here from Mexico.

It seemed appropriate to salute this activity of the local club in building "bridges of understanding", particularly since Rotary International this week marks its 70th anniversary.

The exchange program, multiplied by many clubs and countries provides an appreciation and understanding of the world which will be so important in the "global village" concept of the new generation.

We commend the Rotary Club for its work in the youth exchange program and extend a "happy birthday" on the 70th anniversary of Rotary International and as the local club celebrates a birthday too—its 28th.

## Commenting briefly

### Shivering prices

Strange, isn't it, how costs soar when governments get their fingers in the pie? Case in point: a news story last week told how Halton Region sold its administration building in Milton a couple of years ago to the provincial government for \$1.7 million and moved to rented quarters in Burlington, rather than spend half a million renovating the Milton building for a new headquarters. Now the cost estimate is ready for the new regional headquarters Halton wants to build. The price tag is a cool \$7 million. Cool? Well, it made US shiver!

### Need our support

Milton's Scout-Guide groups held their annual church parade at Knox Presbyterian Church Sunday afternoon. The Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and leaders greatly outnumbered the handful of parents making up the audience. It's unfortunate that

Guiding and Scouting in Milton doesn't earn more parental support. The programs help build the community leaders of tomorrow, yet the leaders of today seem to want to let them go it alone.

### A grand reunion

Milton and District Kinsmen Club deserves a pat on the back for sponsoring a fun-filled reunion of retired Kinsmen from the original Milton Kinsmen (1955 to 1968) on Saturday evening. The "new" Kin Club members got a big charge and an inspiration out of seeing the "old sweats" in action, and the old-timers seemed to enjoy getting together with former Kin friends for the evening. What's even more important, the "new" and "old", young and not-so-young appeared to blend together quite well and if there was any generation gap, it wasn't apparent. Well done, Kinsmen.



STARKLY SILHOUETTED against the cold winter sunset are these trees along a farmer's fenceline. The heavy dark sky suggests a further snowfall before morning.



## Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

Came across a new party game recently, and thought you might like to try it on your guests.

It all began with some friends of ours who like to play with words and create wild puns. They had a bit of a problem and one said to the other: "We seem to be in dire straits."

The other replied solemnly: "Yes, Dire Straits separate Tierra Del Fuego from the Cape of Good Hope, I believe."

Or something like that. And they were off. They tried it on some of their friends, and the result was a collection of puns that even Shakespeare would have blushed at.

All you need is a knowledge of geographical terms and a total inability to blush at the atrocious puns you produce.

Some of our friends will undoubtedly try, if I know people, to turn it into a pornographic geographic game. This is almost unavoidable, because there are a lot of people with dirty minds, unlike you and me.

These excursions on the face of our pure and bland society will come up with filthies like Sunapha Beach, the State of Nymphomania in which we find a mountain called Mons Pubis and a wood labelled Shewor Forest. Pay no attention to them. They'll suffer enough in the next world for contriving such monstrosities as Taka Peak, Ita Butte, Para Buttes and Maka Pass. Oh, they'll suffer.

But not as much as you'll suffer when your guests get into the swing of things and start producing such items as Melon Coulee and Sherbet Shore.

Perhaps what you should do is partition your guests into groups, give each group a geographical term, and see what happens. Thus, you might say to one group: "O.K., your topic is bays. Let's hear some bays." So you get such items as Hound-dog Bay, and Stagat Bay and Brought To Bay.

To another group, you submit streams, and they supply such doozers as Upha Creek, Niktha Creek and Sleau Burn. If there's an aly in the crowd, he might suggest Live R. At the basis of this body of water is Font of Life, and running off from the main river are Minna Rills. In there somewhere you will find Compression Springs.

Don't go away, it gets worse. In front of me I have a map, showing this unusual world, drawn by an excellent cartoonist who became involved.

On that map is an island called Nomanison Island (the poet Donne), on which is a lighthouse called Gotta Light and a cape called Cape Waukain. All we need is a Bullfighter's Cape.

Someone drew cities, so that on the map we have Greater Kappa City and, in small print Lesser Kappa City. In these cities may

### Our readers write

## Invites Snow to debate

(Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to Halton East MPP Jim Snow and a copy was filed with this newspaper for publication)

Dear Sir:  
I feel I must write to you, as our Halton East M.P.P. I am writing to you as a Registered Nurse, in protest of the new drug plan for the elderly which says, "Drugs must be dispensed individually, for the residents of homes for the aged, by a trained pharmacist instead of buying in bulk."

I have had three years of hard, 12 hours a day training and 40 years of experience, 12 of these at Halton Centennial Manor in Milton. Therefore I feel I speak with experience and authority, in saying, "no pharmacist or individual sitting in a swivel chair in Toronto somewhere, knows the first thing relating to how a home for the aged has to operate."

You are not dealing with mentally alert patients as in a hospital. Most of the residents in a home are senile and are there for Tender Loving Care 24 hours a day, as they can no longer live alone and take care of themselves. Their families cannot cope with the situation for 24 hours.

Secondly, the cost to the taxpayer will more than double under the new plan due to waste of drugs that will have to be flushed down the toilet, thus polluting the lakes in time.

I lived through the depression years of the 30's when a nurse had to care for these people in their own homes, as there was no hospitalization, old age pension, or money to pay for a doctor, medication or a nurse. Therefore you nursed 24 hours a day for your board. Thus I cannot tolerate such waste and the high cost to us, the taxpayers, when millions in the world are starving and dying for lack of medication.

The administration of drugs, as to amount needed and when needed, is the duty of a Registered Nurse, not a pharmacist, who has no contact with the resident whatsoever. How does he know when they are in pain, restless or hallucinating?

When we had bulk drugs we had something on hand to give them when needed, but now we have to order from a pharmacist and wait for delivery. By that time the resident may have died or become so noisy, that the whole wing is upset. It looks to me as if "A nurse is considered no more than a morn in a white uniform and cap. What is the role of a nurse coming to?"

Thirdly, more nurses will have to be hired, raising the operating cost some more, as one nurse can no longer prepare medications for 220 residents each time, when you have to open hundreds of "safety top" containers which is a waste of precious time and blisters on the palm of your hand.

A hospital has only 20 or 30 patients, on a ward, where the doctors visit daily and review medications. A big difference from a

nursing home of 370 residents, where the Registered Nurse is at the helm to use her training and common sense, when you have P.R.N. and standing orders to go by.

Years ago I won the award for Halton County debating team, so how about the challenge to debate the subject—"Resolved that Registered Nurses are better qualified to prepare and administer drugs to residents in homes for the aged than a pharmacist who is ignorant of nursing care and procedure of such homes."

An open invitation is extended to those who make such laws to spend a couple of weeks in a large nursing home and follow the nurses in their work and learn the care and habits of our residents.

This is how I feel and felt I must voice my opinion as a taxpayer and a Registered Nurse.

Yours truly,  
Lillian Thomas  
R. R. 1, Campbellville

## Courteous

Dear Editor:

My congratulations to you and your staff on winning the first prize award. It is truly a great paper, there is something for everyone in it, and your staff is so helpful and courteous.

Continued success in the future.

Sincerely yours,  
U. J. Waters,  
20 Elizabeth St., Milton

## Great honor

Dear Mr. Downs, Mr. Dills:  
Congratulations once again on your winning first prize for the best weekly paper. It is the "best", anyone who can read can see that, but it's just a great honor for our town and everyone at The Champion newspaper office to keep winning year after year.

Only a dedicated and co-operating team could make it all possible, it's proof positive that you are all doing a fine job every day, bringing us the news and good services by means of The Champion. So congratulations to a fine paper and a fine group of people who deserve the credit for this honor they have received again.

Yours truly,  
Edith Sharpe,  
429 Pearl St., Milton.

## Exemplary

Dear Mr. Dills:  
Congratulations to The Champion on being judged by the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association as the best newspaper in its class along with top honors for composition, layout and display advertising.

This award truly reflects the exemplary service your newspaper provides our community and indeed is a fine example of dedication to community service.

Again, our sincere congratulations!  
Don Lambert, for  
The Milton Public Library Board

## Misleading

To the Editor:  
We would like to clear up a misconception on the part of many people arising from an article in the Feb. 19 issue, concerning the O.M.B. hearing on the proposed Consolidated Sand and Gravel quarry at Speyside.

The article was correct as far as it went—the O.M.B. hearing set for March 10, 1975 was cancelled. However, there will be another hearing! The date of a new hearing, and before which body, i.e. the Niagara Escarpment Commission and/or the Ontario Municipal Board, is dependent upon the decisions made by the Cabinet of the Government of Ontario and the Supreme Court of Ontario.

Because there will be at least one, and possibly more hearings, the general meeting of the Speyside Area Ratepayers Association set for Friday, Feb. 28 at 8 p.m., at Speyside Public School, is going on as scheduled. And once again, may we stress, to oppose this issue effectively we need your support. Please be there.

Jim Sheldon - President,  
Speyside Area Ratepayers Association.

## Philosobits

By Edith Sharpe

I have found lately that not to be frustrated, one should do more things one really wants to do, and less of the things one doesn't want to do. It's easy, try it.

Life need not be a problem, it's only when the enjoyment of living has ceased that it becomes more of a burden than a problem.

Some people, I find, are much like "porcupines", no way can you get near them, much less cuddle them.

## 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, February 25, 1955

Milton Junior Farmers won the top spot for their presentation in the Drama Festival at Oakville Friday night. Three members of the cast also won awards. Bill Kelly was named the best actor and Dorothy Ingram and Jean Peterson won jointly the best actress award. Stuart McFadden, director of Pink Patches, accepted the W. I. Dick trophy.

A shroud of inactivity was dropped over Milton Arena this week following the early Sunday morning fire that resulted in (unofficially estimated) damage as high as \$25,000. Doors were nailed shut and padlocked to the press and public with photographs of the interior prohibited. Inspector George Halliday of the Fire Marshal's Office refused admission to the building pending his investigation which had not been completed Wednesday morning.

Milton-North Trafalgar Planning Board Tuesday night put a freeze order on all new subdivisions, then set to work in earnest to prepare the land use map and official plan for the town. According to a resolution approved by the Planning Board, no new subdivisions will be considered until May 1, during which time the board will be able to devote its meetings to the preparation of the town's official plan under the guidance and with the assistance of the recently engaged Milton planning consultant P. Allan Deacon.

## 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of THE Canadian Champion, February 16, 1925

NEGLECTED CEMETERIES—County councils generally have given favorable replies to the letter from Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, Chief Officer of Health for Ontario, drawing attention to the fact that the Cemeteries Act places upon municipalities the responsibility for the keeping of graveyards in decency and order, that this was not being done and many of the burial places, particularly the older ones, were in a deplorable condition. It is understood that action will be taken through the province for the better care of the graveyards. The old cemetery here, in which lie the remains of the honored dead of the early population of Milton and neighborhoods, has been neglected for years and its condition is disgraceful. The local councils, not the county councils, are responsible for the cemeteries.

Last week the following appeared in the Acton Free Press among a number of items headed "Milton": "The town council has a decided policy for economy this year. The salaries of the town officials are being reduced. A motion was presented last week to reduce the salary of the Clerk and Treasurer by \$300". Milton town council is not proposing any such economy as the above, nor has any such motion been introduced. The Town Clerk and Treasurer is one of the most efficient and he gives all his time to his duties. Nobody has hinted that he is overpaid, and he certainly is not.

## 75 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, February 22, 1900

LOCAL NEWS—John L. Scholes, the Toronto amateur boxer, who won the championship of Great Britain in England some time ago, has added that of the United States, which he won Monday at the Amateur Athletic Club's tournament at New York. A few years ago Scholes was a boy soprano and sang at a concert in Milton. J. K. Johnstone, Government Inspector of Electric Lights, was in town on Tuesday. He inspected the plant of the Milton Electric Light and Power Co. and pronounced it first-class.

PATRIOTIC WORKMEN—The following 35 employees of the Milton Pressed Brick Co. have contributed \$1 each to the National Patriotic Fund: Levi Smith, James Transom, Arthur Transom, James Hamilton, John Armstrong, George Heaney, George Pollock, William Pollock, Wesley Cardinell, George Atkinson, James Newell, George Atkinson, James Newell, William Robb, John Chapman, David Kippen, James Springsteen, Richard Timbers, Charles Hills, Thomas Rob, John Hitchell, Robert Vanleeth, Emerson Anderson, John Morley, David Kenny, Charles Vaughan, James Fleming, William Smiley, George Hill, Albert Wales, William Shepherd, Robert Smith, John Stover, Henry McClellan, John Mills, and Robert Hall.

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