

OUR READERS WRITE:

Full time firefighters attack Watson, Gordon

March 23, 1975

Dear sir,
I wish to comment on the article in the Champion of Wednesday, March 19, 1975, concerning the request for more full-time firefighters in Milton.

I feel that I am qualified to speak on this subject, because I am a full time, paid professional firefighter for a borough fire department in Metro Toronto, and have been for 13 years now.

Milton fire chief, A. Clement, is ever so right in claiming that you must have enough full time professionally trained personnel to operate efficiently a fire department vehicle, especially the new '47 Snorkel, due here next Spring.

Complex job
The average taxpayer I would think is unaware of the dangers involved with today's firefighting. Everyday our job becomes more complex, dealing with circumstances like pressurized atmosphere, radioactive materials, highly explosive and toxic gases and chemicals, high voltage electrical areas, etc.

I could go on and on, but situations like some of the ones mentioned above are common in Metro Toronto, and not just routine houses and smaller commercial fires. The full time paid professional firefighter deals with these situations almost daily. This is not to say that these situations could not happen in Milton, but if they ever did, is there enough immediate manpower here on duty to control and confine these dangerous situations until the volunteers arrive?

Milton volunteers, from what I have seen, in my opinion, are reasonably well trained, considering the lack of training and teaching facilities, which is obviously

expected in a small town, mainly because of financial reasons. They also appear to be fairly well dedicated and conscientious. But then there are two people, namely councillor Jim Watson and Acting Mayor Don Gordon, who deserve honorable mention.

Raps Watson
Over the years, I have read many political statements in the papers that were either stupid or ridiculous, or both. But the statements that were made about firefighters from councillor Jim Watson, in my opinion, just proved to the taxpayers that he is incompetent, naive, ignorant and unqualified for a political position on the Milton Council.

Any man who claims "that volunteer firefighters are better than full time firefighters in every respect, and that Milton would be starting down a perilous path by hiring more full time firemen" or "that he can't see that Oakville and Burlington being as efficient even if they had 50 full time men," is about as intelligent as a moron or dullard. Mr. Watson your statements are an insult to FULLY TRAINED paid professional firefighters all over the world, including our own Chief Clement, Lt. Coulson, and our mutual aid departments of Oakville and Burlington.

As for Mr. Don Gordon, with all due respect to your position on council for the town, I feel you are equally as guilty for being a fence sitter by backing up these atrocious and immature statements. I hope your names will not be forgotten by next election, because I know that I won't forget them.

Respectfully submitted
E. G. Tarullo
121 MacDonald Cr.
Milton, Ont.

Hydro need not proven yet

Dear Sir,
Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter just sent to Halton MPP Dr. Frank Philbrook, which should be of interest to Halton residents who will be living or working close to the very extensive Hydro installations planned for this community in connection with their massive 500Kv electrical transmission network.

Also enclosed is a petition form upholding the stand taken by John Root, MPP for Wellington-Dufferin and Murray Gaunt, MPP for Huron-Bruce in the legislature that:

(i) Hydro has failed to justify this corridor in terms of cost and power need.

(ii) Hydro has failed to provide an adequate and independent study of the area.

(iii) Opportunity for public participation in determination of route as it affects both agriculture and the environment has been inadequate.

Unless a similar petition has been circulated already among your subscribers, concerned Halton residents are asked to add their names to the growing number of

residents alarmed at the prospect of desecration on a scale unheard of previously to this scenic community.

Transmission of electrical energy of this magnitude of current and voltage is a notable 'first' for Hydro in this province, the only situation roughly comparable and documented is Louise B. Young's "Power Over People" published in paperback by Oxford University Press, 1973, at \$3.75, if you are able to find a copy. The Ohio State Power Co. assured affected residents that their proposed 765Kv line would have minimal environmental impact. What happened when the line was activated scarcely lived up to these rosy expectations.

There are economically viable alternatives to unsightly overhead construction that are also superior from a health and safety standpoint. It is incredible that Hydro should be permitted to disregard the benefits of modern research in electrical transmission.

Yours very truly,
D. A. Moffat,
R. R. 3, Georgetown

Refutes statement

121 Mill Street,
Milton, Ontario,
March 20, 1975.

To the Editor of the Canadian Champion:
The article about my attendance at regional committee meetings was substantially correct except for one misstatement—I did not and would not say that the other regional representatives "did

not want to switch committees". To begin with, they have valid reasons for serving on the committees they are on. Secondly, if the committee I am on is changed to the morning, that is my problem and must be resolved by me.

Sincerely,
Councillor Marjorie Powys

Hydro: all the facts

Dr. Frank Philbrook,
Member of Parliament for Halton,
118 Confederation Bldg.,
OTTAWA, Ontario,
K1A 0X2

**HYDRO'S 500 Kv LINE:
HAVE THE PUBLIC ALL THE FACTS?**
Dear Dr. Philbrook,

In hand is a copy of a request by Murray Gaunt, MPP Huron-Bruce, released Feb. 13, 1975, to launch a full scale public enquiry dealing with the Bradley-Georgetown branch of the proposed Pickering-Bruce-Nanticoke transmission line above.

Examining just one item out of context: "Hydro corridors have a potential of 70-80,000 megawatts (white) approximately 4,000 megawatts are now being consumed in the Golden Horseshoe area", it is obvious that the small hydro consumer who with premium rates effectively subsidizes the large user, is shortly to subsidize the export market as well. Perhaps this is a new version of the Columbia River power pact signed too hastily in B.C. days of yore.

After lengthy public discussion on why the Nanticoke-Pickering section of the line should go where Hydro said it should, we were told that time had run out for discussing the northerly Bradley-Georgetown branch, where Milton, not Georgetown, would be the target area for more than 100 acres of transmission towers, switchgear and transformers controlling huge blocks of electrical energy at high voltage.

The Bradley branch, as you well know,

Sir, traverses in a giant swath some of the finest scenic vistas and arable land in your riding and beyond. There would be far less opposition from farmers, owners and conservationists en route IF the line could be buried at nominal cost. Several methods using D.C. (direct current) have been successfully used even underwater elsewhere than North America, and research in A.C. (alternating current) using tubes with sulphur hexa-fluoride, a non-toxic gas as insulating medium, promises to be fully competitive with tower design. Apparently, Hydro has considered all other than traditional tower design methods to be either prohibitively expensive or impractical with virtually no public debate on this all-important point. If additional research is needed for a vastly more acceptable solution than to add to the considerable number of steel scarecrows that already detract from our view, then we have the resources, the brains and the time to supply it.

In her book "Power Over People", (Oxford University Press '73), Louise B. Young, American physicist, educationalist, editor and author, relates the shock hazards, corona discharge, noise and pollution and physiological and psychological stresses foisted upon an unlucky public located adjacent to the Ohio State Power Line operating at 765Kv. Not to be outdone by this minor victory, plans are currently underway to double this voltage on new lines. Could this attitude be contagious?

Yours very truly,
D. A. Moffat.

Misunderstood B. Johnson

Dear Sir,
I would like to comment on the letter from Mr. P. Wood, Acton, I feel Mr. Wood misunderstood what Mr. W. A. Johnson was saying in his letter regarding Hon. G. Kerr. However over the years, Mr. Johnson has been called many names some un-

complimentary but "Conservative" must be the ultimate.

Yours truly,
(Mrs.) Betty Stone,
R. R. 2, Rockwood.

Protests ban on cans

Letter to the Editor,
The Milton Champion,
MILTON, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

While I sympathize with the Nassagaweya Ratepayers Association and its concern over the garbage disposal dilemma as a property owner in the Milton area, I do not entirely subscribe to the philosophy expressed by its president, particularly his ban-the-can attitude.

If Mr. Johnson had his way, the path would lead to the banning of all containers, including the corrugated paper products and other disposables which are manufactured by his company (Domtar). And what about newspapers? Should we place a ban on newspapers, or have the publishers arrange to have their newspapers picked up for return to the circulation departments after they have been read by the subscriber?

Ignores plan
Also Mr. Johnson seems to ignore the provincial plan for resource recovery plants which is probably one of the most enlightened and advanced in the world. Resource recovery technology is already substantially developed and is being incorporated in plants to be built in Ontario and at such U. S. centres as New Orleans, St. Louis and Milwaukee. This technology

incidentally, has been developed by companies in the private sector—not governments.

Closer to home, the Ontario Government plans call for a resource recovery plant to be built in Halton County within two years.

Closer to home, the Ontario Government plans call for a resource recovery plant to be built in Halton County within two years. No major problem.

Why pick on soft drink cans? Because unthinking people discard them in public places instead of in proper garbage containers? Perhaps, Mr. Johnson should throw his group's efforts into a public education program rather than seek to ban products and thereby cause the loss of many jobs.

I have read that cans constitute less than one per cent of the municipal solid waste by weight, and according to city engineers, operators of landfill sites and incinerators, cans have never been a major problem in terms of solid waste management.

By all means, let's be on guard against the garbage dilemma, but let's get our priorities in order in coping with the problem.

Sincerely,
John Grimshaw,
41 Mason Blvd.,
Toronto

Alcohol worse than drugs

Dear Sir:

This letter is in response to your article on the Drug Information Meeting held by Bruce Hood which appeared in The Champion on Wednesday, March 12.

There are several points in the article which, I feel, were improperly stated. I would, therefore like to express my views on them.

In reference to "the youth" who, when spaced out on the hallucinogen L.S.D. would sneak into funeral homes and gaze into caskets. "I feel it should be pointed out that L.S.D. is a mind-distorting drug. The youth had "tripped" into the past and was, he thought, looking for his mother who had died at an earlier date.

The article further states, "In another incident, police detained eight youngsters aged 15 years whom they had caught drinking in a car." I feel it really should be pointed out that only one youth was 15 and that the majority of the people detained were of legal age to drink. Please realize that I am not supporting either that they were drinking out of residence or drinking and driving, but merely clarifying a point.

One point that came out at the meeting which I do not feel was brought out strongly enough was the need for better communication, not only between parents and their families but between every one of all generations.

Total communication is of paramount concern in order to solve whatever problem we do have. Therefore I feel that these two minor discrepancies must be pointed out in order to keep a completely honest flow of information and to stop the continual feeling of frustration by the "young generation" at being continually "picked on" by the "establishment".

Further, in reaction to the small box relating to the sale and distribution of "acid" at high school dances and whether or not it is safe to go to high school dances: first let me say that I went to five years of high school dances and I never once had acid

pushed on me; secondly, may I say that "acid heads", as they are sometimes called, are in a very definite minority at any function where young people gather and a small one at that. Thirdly, in all honesty, short of chaining your child to the table at home, he or she could, if they wanted to, get hold of drugs or alcohol at many other places than simply a dance.

My final point, if I may, is to point out what, I feel, is the most noticeable omission of all. Both at the meeting and in the article the most dangerous drug of all was soft pedaled, and that is alcohol.

Alcohol is used for every reason mentioned for illegal drugs. However, it has had far more devastating effects on our society than all others combined.

First, there are 100 reported alcoholics for every (1) one reported junkie, or narcotic dependent. Second, alcohol is involved in 50 per cent of all traffic accidents. Third, its use is on the increase because it is much easier to get.

During my work as an unofficial and, admittedly, non-professional counsellor, I have seen the liquid crutch ruin more homes than any other cause. When younger people than myself are asked why they do it, one common answer is, "My parents do it, so it must be all right."

In ending I would like to express my personal thanks to Mr. Hood and all the others who helped him do something which badly needed doing. I would also like to advise all people to support his effort to better inform everyone about the drug situation by getting informed. I personally wish to help in any way possible, what is indeed, a fine cause.

Yours truly,
John Comber, age 21,
320 Highside Dr., Milton.

P.S. Anyone who wishes to discuss or refute my letter is invited to write me at my home. I will answer any and all letters I receive.

MDHS

Track team meets Georgetown club

By Andrew Willoughby
Jenny Duignan placed second in the girls' section of the Lion's Club Regional Public Speaking Contest, which was held in the Lion's Hall at the new arena on Monday 17. The winner was from Streetsville Secondary School.

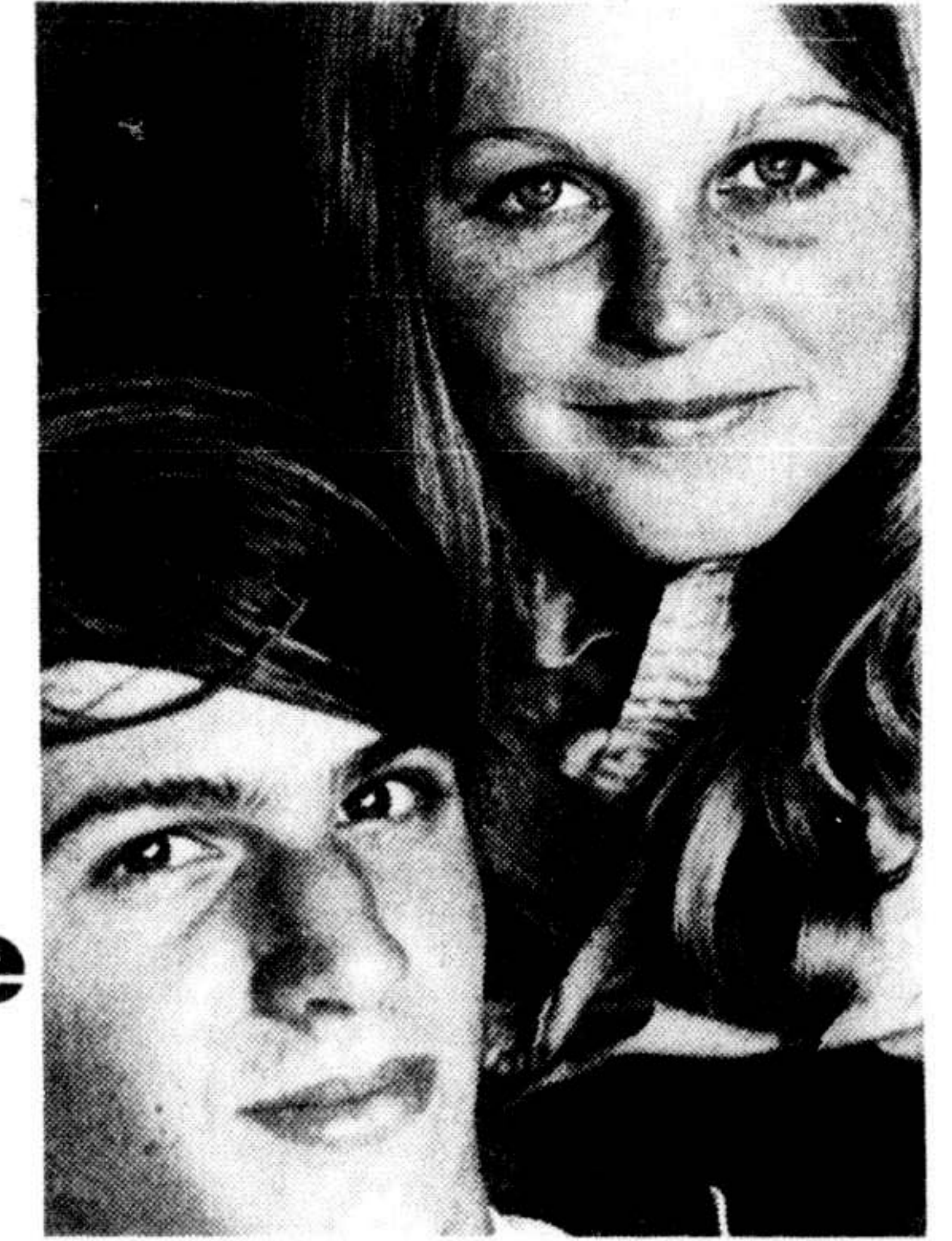
On Wednesday 19, the track and field team made a fine

showing at an intramural Track meet against Georgetown.

Jenny now advances to the next phase of the competition to be held at the Estaminet Club, Burlington in April. John Duignan also competed in the boys' section but did not place in the top two.

On Tuesday 18, the badminton team hosted Georgetown high school. The team played well winning most of their

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Hon. Frank S. Miller, Minister

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