

Countdown to the MILLENNIUM 50 DAYS TO GO

As a salute to the upcoming Millennium The Canadian Champion will be reprinting different stories from the 139 years of Champion archives. Look for this feature every Friday through to the Millennium.



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As it appeared in The Canadian Champion December 13th, 1962

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13th, 1962

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"HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS" shouted the youngsters lining the parade route Saturday afternoon, and sure enough, there he was, perched atop his float waving at everyone. Pedicatted "Mountie" girls formed an escort for the float as Santa and his reindeer paraded from the Bruce St. school, along Main St. to the Arena. Following a brief program there, he handed out 3,000 bags of candy and treats to the children, and visited the hospital and Manor. The Milton and District Santa Claus Committee, comprising Milton Fire Fighters and the Canadian Legion Branch 136, sponsored the annual appearance of Santa Claus.

Parade, Program Delight all

Thousands Throng Santa's Parade Route

Main St., Milton, was bright and glowing with the cheery faces of happy children Saturday afternoon as they watched Jolly Old St. Nicholas ride the Santa Claus parade route to the arena.

The throng of thousands of children and adults enjoyed the parade including 28 assorted floats, majorettes, bands, clowns and cars, but it was dear old Santa that warmed the hearts and faces of the children as they braved the bright, chilly December weather.

The parade, sponsored by the Milton and District Santa Claus Fund, was again a big success. People were standing three or four deep along Main St. and the children and adults who attended the arena filled the ice palace to the rafters.

Old King Cole and the Hiddlers three, Pinocchio, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, a dragon and angels were among the fairytale characters in the parade.

Two Loane Scots Pipe Bands and the Acton Citizens' Band provided music for the parade while majorettes from the Oakville, Trafalgar high school and the Brenda Busby School of Dancing marched bravely in brief outfits in the chilly weather.

"Hornby Police" were represented in the parade by an early model motor car, pulled by a tractor, and manned by Danny Thompson and Danny Marucci in appropriate costumes. They and

their "constables" carried baseball bats to ward off any village criminals.

Santa Claus arrived on a float entered by the Milton Milling Co. and protected by 13 pretty Mountie girl escorts. The float was complete with dancing reindeer.

Husky Dogs

The Husky League, Kenneth of Milton had a float carrying a dog racing sled and five husky dogs. The Mountain Union W.L. float represented winter life in early Canada. The Milton School Safety Patrols sponsored by the Kinsmen carried a safety banner.

The local U.S.W.A. Local 4970 gave out cards and had a Christmas tree in the back of a truck and the Kinsmen Pee Wee hockey club marched with uniforms and banners.

The Christian Layman's group had a float depicting the Nativity scene, complete with a live sheep. The Milton Record Bar had a convertible complete with Ben Casey records, and continued nurses and doctors. Sprinkled throughout the parade were various tractors and cars sponsored by local dealers.

Elves Were Busy

A float entered by Hornby Garage showed Santa's elves making toys for Christmas, and the Coachman Car Club courtesy car was also present. An antique car with a gentleman and his lady (friend?) was entered by M. Darle Farm Machinery, as well as a Red-D-Mix concrete truck bearing Christmas greetings.

Gloria McDougall, the Snow Queen, was riding in a convertible as was Peggy McPhail. The Milton Fire Brigade trucks ended the parade with fire safety messages for the Christmas season.

Santa Greeted All

When Santa reached the arena he was greeted by a packed house of excited children. He was drawn around the rink on his sleigh by the Mounties and fairies, much to the delight of the children. Deputy-Recvee J. Charl-

ton welcomed Santa to Milton and then Santa told the children that he would be back in two weeks to fill everyone's stocking.

The clowns delighted the audience with an impromptu broom-ball game when a scheduled figure skating show had to be cancelled.

Each of the children at the arena was presented with a bag containing assorted candies, peanuts, oranges and books. Santa also visited the hospital, the Manor and some shut-ins.

Tries Water Glass Test Says Ontario St. Smooth

"I am very proud of the work we can be proud of the highways leading into our town" Inspector Alf Barron told Milton Councilors Monday in a written report on the newly-paved and widened Ontario St. South.

His report was submitted after council requested written reports two weeks ago from the inspector and road engineer Roy F. Smith, when they objected to "rough spots on the new road. Mr. Smith has yet to submit a report, and was unable to attend Monday's meeting because he is in hospital. Mr. Barron was hired by the town to inspect the job on their behalf.

Mr. Barron said that after the first complaints he had driven along the road with a full glass of water resting on his car's instrument panel. At 50 miles an hour, not a drop had spilled, he said, verifying the smoothness of the new pavement. Town clerk Jim Costigan had been invited along to witness the test, and while he couldn't verify the speed, he agreed no water had spilled.

Eight ton rollers used to lay the top coat of pavement had made some slight depressions in the south end of the highway, Mr. Barron admitted. However he tested the depressions in 150 places, and found the pavement only one-sixteenth of an inch out

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**Sunday Nov. 14
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Join us for the 25th anniversary of the Milton Santa Claus Parade from 2pm to 3 pm