

## Milton council endorses use of electricity to light town — couple of light fixtures to be erected to test their capacity

*Time Capsules are gems of information extracted from past issues of The Champion and other publications to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.*

September 1891

Electric Light. At a special meeting of the town council on Monday evening a report was adopted that the town should be lighted with electric light. It was recommended that the Ball Electric Light Company, who is presently putting in the fixtures to light the stores and dwellings in the town, erect two lights as a test of their capacity so the committee could report as to the number of lights that would be required to light the town.

The proposition of the company is 10 lights at 15 cents per light for 200 nights at a cost of \$300 per year, or as many more lights as may be required at the same price. In place of 10 lights it will take at least 15 or more to light the town properly. On Tuesday, the fever on the electric light question got so high that five of the town councillors signed a requisition (drawn up by the mayor) to reconsider the report adopted at the meeting on Monday evening.

The Ball Electric Light Company is to furnish 10 or more lights of 1000 candle power at 15 cents per light, each night, for 200 nights in the year for a term of three years, or an additional term or terms of three years. A number of conditions were inserted so that the town will have electric light by the 6th of October if the company will sign the agreement as passed. A resolution was then passed instructing the fire and light committee to have 15 lights placed in the most suitable places on the streets in the town.

Later the committee identified the locations: at the corner of Main and Court streets, at the corner of Main and Commercial streets, on Main street near the band stand, at the corner of Main and James streets, at the corner of Main and Elizabeth streets, on Mill street opposite J.W. Elliott's, on Victoria street about 400 feet from James Street, on Martin street opposite Mrs. Cartmer's, on Mary street west near James Deforest's, corner King and Brown streets (Registry office), corner Hugh and Queen streets (Mr. Austin Willmott's corner), corner Sarah and Foster

### Milton Time Capsules



streets (Dr. Freeman's), corner Prince and Pearl streets, corner Pine and Court streets (Mr. Deacon's) and on the corner of East Mary and Charles streets.

November 1891

On Saturday afternoon and evening the wind was blowing a perfect hurricane and about at 6 p.m. an alarm of fire was sounded. James Lindsay's saw mill on the corner of Pearl and Fulton streets was on fire.

Mr. Lindsay and his men had been turning heading (material for making cask-heads) for barrels during the day and all hands were at supper when the fire started. The mill was built of heavy timbers and was filled with heading and other light stuff.

The two hose reels were early on the spot and soon two streams were playing on the burning building. Although the firemen worked willingly and hard against the strong wind, smoke and heat in their faces, it was utterly impossible for them to save the mill which was completely destroyed.

One of Dr. Robertson's houses, occupied by J.S. McCannell, was also burned to the ground — the house being in the direct course in which the wind was blowing across the street from the mill.

April 1892

Monday Town Council considered a by-law on its third reading, for the appointment of Stinson Bradley as chief constable, but it was blocked a second time owing to Councillor Armstrong's pledge to the prohibitionist Reformers of the South Ward not to support Bradley.

When the yeas and nays were called for the councillor refused to vote and as other members declined to do so until he should set the example the proceedings came to a full stop and the meeting adjourned leaving the town, as before, without a chief constable.

*This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, chair of research, who can be reached by e-mail at jdills@idirect.com.*

## OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

### Malboeuf agrees with recent editorial about lack of funding for local mental health clinic

Dear Editor:

I'm in full agreement with your editorial comments of September 7 pertaining to the refusal of the provincial government to cover the budget shortfall of the North Halton Mental Health Clinic.

The government says it's unable to come up with \$60,000 to cover the shortfall of this important and much-needed clinic, but seems to have no problem finding \$3 million to finance the 35 per cent salary increases for MPPs. If our local MPPs voluntarily refused to accept their increases, there would be more than enough money to finance the clinic.

While on the subject of the MPPs' salary increase, I would like to remind everyone that since this government came to power they've been downloading many provincial responsibilities onto regional and municipal governments such as road maintenance, ambulance services and social housing — just to name a few.

By doing, so the workload and responsibilities of MPPs have been reduced while the workload for municipal politicians has increased.

So why are our MPPs getting a 35 per cent increase? Common sense dictates that they should be

taking a cut in pay, not getting an increase. They're doing less and have fewer responsibilities — so why do they deserve a pay raise?

How ironic it is that we have a consensus among all parties in support of this 35 per cent increase. How is it that when it comes to fixing our healthcare or education system they can't seem to agree on anything, but a 35 per cent increase to their salaries — no problem, united they stand.

Is it any wonder people have such a low opinion of politicians?

**Rick Malboeuf**  
Halton regional and Milton councillor

### Safety council president hopes terrorists' acts won't lead to potentially-dangerous practices in air travel

Dear Editor:

In light of the unbelievable tragedies that struck the U.S. airline industry earlier this month, pressures will be brought to bear by MPs, some members of the travelling public and others to allow airline pilots, while on duty, to carry weapons including handguns.

The Canada Safety Council fully recognizes that employers have the legal responsibility to properly equip and train workers in order to maximize workplace safety. However, the issue at hand raises difficult and disturbing questions for both public safety and employee safety. Studies tend to reveal people who carry a weapon for protection are more

likely to increase violence than reduce it. The weapon is also more likely to be used against the victims than by them. It should also be noted that handguns are classified as prohibitive weapons under Bill C-68, the federal government's gun control legislation.

If such a measure is being considered, consultations must be held with appropriate government departments and agencies and others to ensure it meets the most stringent standards for both public safety and employee safety.

Anything less is simply not acceptable.

**Emile J. Therien, president**  
Canada Safety Council

### Single mom expresses frustration over her stolen bicycle

Dear Editor:

I'm 20 years old and a single mother of a 21-month old. I'm raising my daughter alone, going to school and working towards my grade 12 diploma. I also work part-time as a waitress to support my daughter.

On Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 9:30 a.m. I locked my bike up at Carriage Square and went to work. I returned for my bike at about 2 p.m. to go to school. I was upset to find my bike lock cut and my bike missing. It was my only means of transportation to work and school.

It has a specialized, blue front mounted baby-seat for my daughter. The bike and seat combined cost more than \$300, which took me all summer to repay my mother, who had loaned me the money.

I would just like to thank the person that has made my life just that much harder. Because of you, I have to leave my house over an hour early to walk my daughter to daycare, then walk across town to work then walk across town again to go to school. I also have to walk my daughter to the leisure centre for her specialized aquatic therapy.

I can't understand why a person felt that stealing my bike with a baby seat and a dinosaur horn was such a great triumph. I worked long and hard for that bike so I could have a better way of getting around with my daughter. It will be some time before I will be able to replace it. If anyone has seen a blue Northland mountain bike with a blue front mounted baby-seat, please contact me through The Champion office or Milton police station.

**Shyeon Leonerd**  
Milton

## SPOKES N' SLOPES

• BMX • ROAD • MOUNTAIN • HYBRID •

### Jack Wierzbicki Memorial Ride

Sunday September 30/01

10:00 am Milton GO Station

\$25 per cyclist All Proceeds

Donated to the Wierzbicki family.

• Riders and volunteers required •

Over 300 riders will attend from across Southern Ontario.

Ask Matt  
for details

## BLOW OUT 2001!

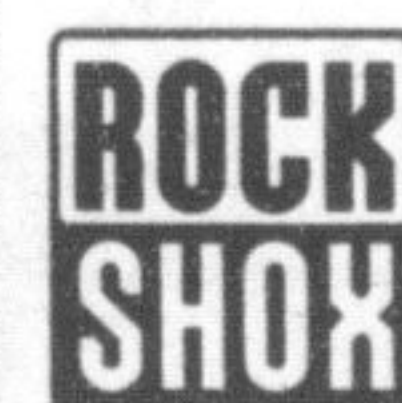


Suspension  
Seat Post

As Little As

**\$74.99**

Suggested list price \$220



Jett Front  
Shocks

**\$99.99**

Suggested list price \$200

Vista Headlights

**\$14.99**

Regular Price \$22.99

89 ONTARIO ST. N. MILTON

905-876-7676