

## ✓ Young buys Jos. Brothers foundry and dwelling; will bring in all new machinery

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

### March 1893

Sidney Young has purchased from the Messrs. Stewart the foundry and dwelling formerly owned and occupied by Jos. Brothers (Commercial Street) and is taking all the old machinery out and replacing it with a new engine and boiler of much larger capacity and his planing mill machinery, so that the foundry is a thing of the past and will now be known as Young's planing factory and electric light power house.

...

On Friday of last week the water in the Sixteen Mile Creek rose very rapidly.

About 6 a.m. the ice became blocked below the Pine Street bridge, causing a jam so that the water overflowed the banks of the creek between the foundry and the bridge. Commercial Street and vicinity from the foundry to the base of the hill at Mr. Webster's was a stream of water of great dimensions.

Mr. Napp's, south of the foundry, was surrounded; Mr. Barber's below the blacksmith shop was in the same position; Barney Coulter in his mansion resembled a person on a lonely island.

Mr. Ramshaw's cellar in his new dwelling on the east corner of Charles and Pearl streets was a miniature lake; Mr. Bird, Mrs. Wilson, Messrs. Morley and Arthur Pitcher all had to be removed from their dwellings.

Mr. Winn had a very fine dog drown. The water receded during the night.

### April 1893

It was reported by the railway committee of County Council that the treasurer had received from the county's solicitors, Messrs. Bain, Laidlaw & Co. a cheque in the amount of \$84,622.52 in the suit of Halton vs. G.T.R. and the cheque had been deposited with the Bank of Hamilton in a special account, to bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent.

(The payment was the direct result of a lengthy action by the county claiming that the railway had not lived up to the agreement under which a bonus had been paid for the construction of the original railway.)

## Milton Time Capsules



### June 1893

A couple of young lads — Norman White son of Richard White and Matthew Clements, son of Deputy Sheriff Clements — on Monday afternoon got into an old boat on the pond and paddled around for a while when it filled with water and sank. The lads, being small, could not swim and went under water two or three times before being rescued from their perilous position.

...

On Monday night May 15 a valuable horse and buggy were stolen from the farm of John Breckon, Appleby. On the following Wednesday Mr. Breckon consulted with Oakville Chief Sumner and post cards were sent to the police at different quarters.

On Saturday last the chief got a telegram from Woodbridge stating that the horse and man were captured. Breckon drove right to Woodbridge that night only to find that he had been cheated by the constable who had neither horse nor man.

...

R.S. Porter has a number of men engaged preparing a foundation for a block of four fine stores (currently McCuaig Insurance, Tony's Barber Shop, Bill Mather's and Milton Bible Church) on Main street, between the post office and Higginbotham & Co.'s drug store and has ordered 150,000 bricks from the Toronto Pressed Brick & Terra Cotta Co.

The block will be an ornament to the street and will fill up the ugly gap left some years ago by the burning of the Taylor block of wooden buildings.

(The block was occupied later that year by Wm. Little, harness maker; Thos. Morton, tonsorial artist; Mr. MacPherson with a general stock of furniture and funeral furnishings; and Head & Co. with dry goods and groceries. The Masonic lodge occupied the rear part of the second floor over Head & Co.)

*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](mailto:jdills@idirect.com).*

# OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

## Man says traffic issues should have been dealt with before new development began

Dear Editor:

In regard to the recent article and subsequent letters in your publication regarding Milton's road and transport infrastructure, how is it that our politicians didn't already decide that our antiquated and overcrowded roads needed upgrading?

The traffic issue isn't a new problem that has happened overnight or because of the new housing that's being built. This problem has existed for many years and should have been dealt with before the construction of new housing started.

Upgrades to roads should have been part of the plan for the new development with the housing companies picking up part if not all of the cost of upgrading roads, whether through a tax on each acre or levee on each new house.

Furthermore, there are two further problems that may arise in the future and I'm wondering if anyone in the town has even noticed or conducted a survey to record these potential problems.

The first problem concerns the CN Rail development. Whether we like it or not — and I'm against — this project is going to bring a huge boom in traffic to the Milton area.

Firstly, there will be a significant

increase in truck traffic and through that, a rise in the cost of keeping roads smooth and operational. Council should now start to zone most streets in Milton as no truck traffic areas including Main Street, Thompson Road and Bronte Road.

If we can't stop the trucks coming, we should at least put regulations into place that limit their ability to use shortcuts through our already overcrowded town streets. Also, the CN development is going to bring increased rail traffic as part of the agreement to let them develop in Milton.

The Town should make rail underpasses a part of this development since simply travelling from Childs Drive to the Milton Leisure Centre (a 10-minute walk or three-minute drive) could prove to be a nightmare in the near future. With a train travelling west crossing the roads at Thompson Road and Main Street the only access to the centre would be via Ontario Street, Steeles Avenue and then south on Thompson Road.

This is only one of many examples of journeys that will be impacted all over town — not to mention the extra time it'll take fire and ambulance crews to respond to

911 calls.

Secondly, the state of our sidewalks in town is nothing short of shocking and abysmal. A prime example of this is the walk from the mall to the GO station.

The only sidewalk available from this stretch is located on the north side of Main Street (the GO station is on the south side). This means that pedestrians have to make a dash across a busy four-lane road to get to the GO station or add an extra kilometre to their walk by using the crosswalk at Thompson Road.

On the south side of Main Street there's a well worn path through the dirt and grass that's evidence of a demand for a sidewalk on this side of the street. Another problem is the lack of wheelchair/stroller ramps on our sidewalks.

I hope that somebody in this town is thinking of these things, but sadly after reading the article in *The Champion* about Milton's five-year plan, I doubt anybody is thinking past where the next doughnut is coming from. Maybe Milton needs a change and maybe that change will come at the next election.

**Craig Harrison**  
Childs Drive

## Veteran of Second World War offers thanks to all those who bought poppies for Remembrance Day

Dear Editor:

Perhaps you have wondered where your money goes when you donate and are given a poppy. May I take this opportunity to tell you.

I'm a veteran of the Second World War who lives with emphysema.

My breathing is not particularly good and therefore I can't walk too far.

You may have seen three scooters following the veterans marching in the Remembrance Day parade in Milton.

I was riding one of them. Without my scooter, I would

almost be house-bound.

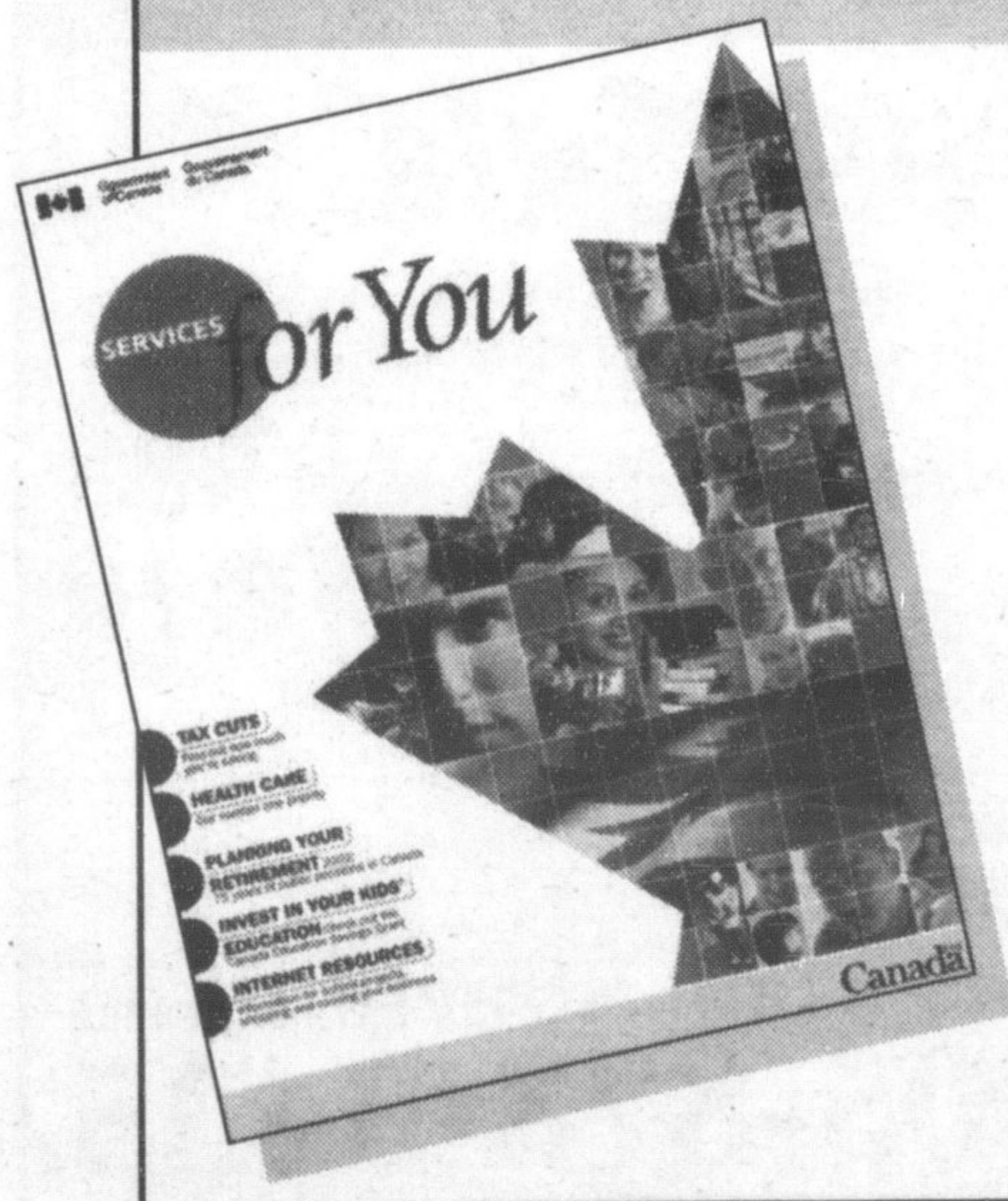
The scooter was bought with your donations to the Poppy Fund.

Many thanks to all those who donated.

**Bert Porter**  
Millside Drive

Got an opinion on a local issue? If so, please fax us your letters to the editor anytime to 878-4943.

## You've got mail... coming soon



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