

Winnipeg MP Joseph Martin visits former hometown of Milton and calls on several old friends during brief stay

'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 1894

Hon. Joseph Martin, M.P. for Winnipeg does not forget his native town. He stopped off here on Tuesday morning on his way to Ottawa and called on a number of his old friends.

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Hon. Joseph Martin's visit. The weather was wet, and the roads almost impassable but there was a large turnout to hear the speech of the Hon. Joseph Martin, M.P. for Winnipeg.

He was met at the C.P.R. station (Court Street N.) by a deputation of young Liberals and by a number of old friends who escorted him to his quarters at the Wallace House, (later the Milton Inn, now demolished) headed by the band.

During the evening several speakers preceded him. Secretary Dick read an address of welcome. Hon. Joseph Martin recalled that Milton was his native town and it was almost 30 years since he had left the town — the last 12 being spent in Manitoba.

He was scarcely in the province a year before he had been returned to the Legislature. Later in the evening a banquet was given to Mr. Martin at the Wallace House. A number of prominent Liberals and some of Mr. Martin's old friends were present.

The spread was an excellent one and speakers followed each other until about midnight.

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There was a bazaar on Easter Monday at Grace Church. The patron was His Honor Judge Snider and the object was the building of a new church.

With the amount contributed at the Easter day services there was already over \$500 in the fund.

Ex Mayor Dice said he had known this parish and its needs for a long time and the present edifice he knew to have been built about 43 years ago.

In his opinion the present congregation should have an edifice more in keeping with the other places of worship in town.

Judge Snider, on opening the bazaar,

Milton Time Capsules



remarked that one of his first thoughts upon entering the present church was that it was not at all in harmony with the town or with the residences of the people who worship there.

He thought that a congregation, composed as it was, of so many influential and well-to-do people, should have a much more beautiful church and he believed that by practicing economy and procuring suitable plans there would be no need of a great expenditure in erecting such a building.

The amount realized at the bazaar was about \$150.

April 1894

At the Grace Church Vestry meeting, officials were appointed. Judge Snider, S. Young, V. Chisholm, E.W. Boyd, John Hunter and J.J. Dalton were appointed to a special committee to procure plans, specifications and estimates for the erection of a new stone church with a seating capacity of 300.

Altogether the meeting was a most satisfactory one. It is hoped that the foundation stone of the new church will be laid within the next year or two since the congregation is increasing and the seating capacity of the old church, which has for some years been insufficient, is being found more and more so.

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Dr. Freeman went to Campbellville yesterday in a cutter. He says that once over 40 years ago he traveled by the same kind of conveyance in this neighbourhood on the 10th of April and that yesterday's sleighing was the latest on record here in his recollection.

The snow was nine inches deep on the level.

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

'Canadians should be embarrassed,' says reader in response to letter by Dan McGill

Dear Editor:

Mr. McGill, Canadians should be embarrassed.

So the federal Conservatives are jumping all over Canada's prime minister to launch their campaign for the next federal election. On September 11 our national embarrassment Jean Chretien and his Liberals found themselves in a panic trying to find a hole to hide in while shifting the blame for their role in Canada's non-existent immigration control policies. Accustomed to pies in the face warfare, the magnitude of the terrorist attacks stunned them into wide-eyed wonderment, fear and inaction.

Dan McGill, president of the Halton PC Federal Riding Association, was overly kind to Mr. Chretien's leadership abilities in his letter to *The Champion*. So embarrassed are we that we now find it necessary to loudly applaud ourselves for giving information to the United States.

Mr. McGill's views regarding the helicopter deal being the main reason for Canada's heel dragging is arguable. The demise of the Canadian Armed Forces started long before 1993 when Mr. Chretien used his arrogance to impress naive leader-hungry Canadians and rose to the position of prime minister.

During Pierre Elliott Trudeau's tenure, he had an opportunity to change the direction but he blew it. Then along came Brian

Mulroney's eight years. Why did the helicopter concern wait until the end of his reign? Then the king of teflon — who is suddenly very sticky.

All of these self-serving leaders, controlled by greed and with utter disdain for grassroots people, were and still are hell-bent on deficit spending.

Counting on the might of our neighbours to the south for protection, our prime ministers made decisions that changed the face of our Canadian Armed Forces from fighter to peacekeeper. Our prime ministers felt that peacekeepers do not need sophisticated weaponry and training and this change would allow them to impose severe cut-backs on manpower and equipment with the savings going toward financing and increasing deficit spending.

Mr. McGill's contention that Canadians owe it to military personnel and a host of others to elect a new government is little more than a plea for votes and insulting at best. Terrorism is not a venue for politicking. The real problem is that we, in the great nation, don't have enough competent people in our government ranks at any level.

Voting is the ultimate expression of trust. Canadians should be embarrassed as we continually vote incompetence into power and immediately hide behind our infamous war cry, "Nothing I can do about it, dude." Our options are minimal in every election and

changing the government's party banner does very little.

Insanity is doing the same thing expecting different results. But when there's no choice because no one is willing to do anything embarrassment is and should be a strong option. We need to eliminate patronization and start running government like a business — with duly qualified people in decision making positions.

We need people who are not only responsible but also accountable, and most of all we need government levels that work cohesively in the best interest of the people.

Other than their own revenue, governments seldom control anything — they simply introduce and let the chips fall where they may. Change needs to start locally.

Milton's Councillor Mr. Challinor recently proposed to establish a policy allowing community groups to obtain funding for legal action up to \$25,000 of taxpayers' money provided the group's views compliment those of Milton's town council.

In other words, the Milton taxpayer will fund and guarantee payment to experts and legal representatives if they join with a community group and jump on the Town of Milton's bandwagon regarding planning issues.

How big will the old boy's club become?

Ken Cyr
Milton

Pud

by Steve Nease



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
to all our clients
God Bless You All!

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Dr. Emmanuel Aziz, D.V.M., M.Sc. (Hons.), Melissa Campbell,
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