

Amid much controversy, two couples tie the knot at local sheriff's office

'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.

December 1898

There has been a matrimonial boom at the jail this week. On Monday morning Charles C. and Margaret H., a young Nassagaweya couple, who were alleged to have "loved not wisely but too well," were married in the sheriff's office by Rev. A. Mahaffy. The bridegroom had been committed for trial under sec. 182 of the Criminal Code, on the information of Thos. H., father of the bride. Both the groom and the bride denied that there was any foundation for the information, but the groom said he was willing to marry the girl to avoid further trouble and the latter did not say him nay. Yesterday morning Thomas B. and May W., of the neighborhood of Burlington were married by Rev. D. W. Snider at the same place and under similar circumstances. Both brides were under 16 years of age and both grooms were released (from jail) after marriage.

December 1898

John W. Elliott, barrister, has removed to his office in his new brick building on Main Street, one door north of the Winn shoe factory, and his former office on the second floor of the Dewar Block is now occupied by W.I. Dick, barrister.

December 1898

Two young Milton ladies, Miss Deacon and Miss F.E. Deacon set out for Europe on Monday evening with Mr. and Mrs. R. Butler, of Ingersoll, their uncle and aunt. They will sail from Boston today on the steamer Dominion for Liverpool.

January 1899

John R. Barber, the Liberal representative for this constituency in the Ontario Legislature was unseated in November last for corrupt practices by agents and re-elected by a greatly increased majority on the 8th, but Halton Conservatives are not satisfied. They have filed another protest making the usual charges. It may be taken for granted that no one expects that any personal charges can be proved against Mr. Barber but if the case reaches a trial and it is proved that his agents have repeated last spring's practices and he be again unseated,

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the blame will rest on the agents, not on the petitioners. While this is the case, it's hard to see what the petitioners will gain for their trouble. Mr. Barber will hold his seat anyway until after the coming session of the Legislature and even should he be unseated then, another election would be likely to result in another increase majority, which would not add to the prestige of the Conservative party in this county.

January 1899

The G.T.R. train from Hamilton to Allandale, which was due at Milton at 6 p.m. on Saturday, stuck in a snow drift near H.G. Heaven's farm, three miles south of Milton. It remained there until between 3 and 4 p.m. on Sunday when it was released by a snow-plow brought from Allandale for the purpose. The passengers would have been half starved had not Mr. Heaven played the good Samaritan and brought them an abundant and most welcome lunch. (Ex-Reeve Earl missed ex-Mayor Dice's entertainment of members of last year's council at luncheon on the Saturday evening while stuck in the snow.)

January 1899

At the regular meeting of the Royal Templars of Temperance last Thursday officials elected were J.H. Peacock, Miss Mary Ford, W.J. Armstrong, E.F. Earl, Jas. M. Field, Robt. Galbraith, F. Pearen, Louis Smith, Chas. Smith. Robt. Petrie, Joseph Tock.

The council is in a flourishing condition, having now about 70 Select members and 130 Royal members, composed largely of the young boys and men of the town. A programme is provided every week, consisting of readings, recitations, music etc. and is a very enjoyable way of spending one evening of the week besides the mutual improvement it affords in the manner of conducting business etc.

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

If Metro Toronto can ship out its waste, then why can't Halton?, asks reader

Dear Editor:

A recent story in The Champion entitled 'Region looking at options for dealing with biosolids as population expands' leaves your good readers with the impression that a thoughtful government is working in our best interests to solve our biosolids disposal needs.

But I believe the politicians and supporting bureaucrats of Halton Region are intent on jamming down our throats the construction of an alkaline stabilization plant right in the heart of urban Halton. They'll tell us it's the best option, and that it's in our best interest. I think, in reality, this is very nearly a done deal.

An alkaline stabilization plant takes de-watered human waste, adds lime and produces dried pellets that are then spread on land.

Let's look at the bigger picture. We have biosolids that we must get rid of one way or the other. The Region's decision to dispose of the material within its own borders is on the surface commendable. But does it make sense? Metro Toronto ships waste out. Why shouldn't we do likewise? Why do we continue to simply bury it in our backyards if outside options are available?

Ah, but it's an eco-friendly solution — the argument will be. Or is it? The United States' Environmental Protection Agency classifies the de-watered biosolid that Halton proposes to bring into

the proposed new facility as Class B waste, which by definition has detectable levels of pathogens. This is scary stuff.

There are real concerns regarding the safety of this material — in solid form, in the vapours emanating from it, and when introduced into water systems.

Halton proposes to build the facility at the WA Bill Johnson location, just off Hwy. 25 in Oakville. If your readers aren't familiar with the site, it's that surreal structure seen on the north side of Hwy. 407. Consider the location. Oakville is rapidly expanding from the south and Milton from the north, while Mississauga and Burlington are expanding as well.

This location is smack dab in the centre of all that growth. Would we consider putting a nuclear generation plant in this location? Of course not. An alkaline stabilization plant in the heart of Halton, no matter how clean, odour free and eco-friendly its proponents promise it will be, can't be a positive addition to our increasingly urbanized community.

But it's surrounded by green space, insulating any impact on neighbours, it will be argued. It will, but Sixteen Mile Creek — literally meters away from Conservation Halton's watershed — is considered to be a protected area. Are we working at cross-purposes here?

We should also consider what this plant would produce — specifically, pellets with little or no fertilization value.

The Champion's article had it wrong in that Halton's own consultant Herb Campbell considers the product at best a soil conditioner, not a fertilizer.

What will happen when the wise and often-times fickle consumer decides he or she doesn't want any more pellets dumped into their field and garden? — especially when Metro Toronto will be trying to get rid of their own astronomical volumes of the same odious product. Then what do we do with the pellets?

If we absolutely must retain our human waste within our own borders, then let's put the solution, the 'option' the Region is considering, into the farthest darkest corner of Halton — not where it will negatively impact urban growth and the core residents of Halton for generations to come.

The alkaline stabilization plant is today's panacea. It seems to me that every time we succumb to a flavour-of-the-month solution we soon realize that next month's flavour is sour grapes, and the next a bitter lemon.

Please, reject the onslaught we are about to be subject to from Halton Region.

Andy Miksys
Oakville

Holy Rosary School says thanks to special friends

Dear Editor:

We believe in miracles.

Today's world is filled with many miracle marvels — including inventions, ideas and technology that often seem beyond our comprehension.

For many of us, such a world can sometimes be too fast, too harsh and too real. However, we can find solace, relief and comfort in the basic belief that mankind, in spite of our technological advancement, continues to need love, hope, acceptance and faith.

We also continue to believe in miracles. Such was the case of the nativity more than 2,000 years ago. It was a scene that offered hope, love and faith. It was a true miracle.

In our attempt to remember the one true miracle, we thank our friends at Edgar Howden and Sons who continue to 'power' our ideas and to the folks at Valle Foam who provided the miracle of snow. Merry Christmas.

Holy Rosary School
Staff and students

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