

Tannery destroyed and horse killed in late-evening blaze; owner estimates loss at \$250

'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.

May 1900

At about 10 p.m. Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCready, who had just returned to their home on Peru Road, saw flames issuing from the dye house and stable of Wm. C. King, who has been in the business of tanning and dyeing sheepskins and cleaning and dyeing clothing on Peru Road for several years. They could hear Mr. King's horse screaming in the stable. They sounded the alarm and the neighbours turned out, but it was too late to save the building or any of its contents, or to rescue the horse. A cutter was saved from a lean-to. Mr. King was on his way home from downtown Milton when the building took fire. He cannot account for the origin of the fire. Though there was a stove in the building, there had been no fire in it after 4 p.m. Mr. King estimates his loss on building, dyes and other materials, horse and buggy, at no less than \$250. Unfortunately he had no insurance. Though he has no capital, he hopes to make a fresh start and is already prepared to take orders for his cleaning and dyeing clothing.

John Featherstone made a \$4,000 shipment of live stock from the station at Milton to Toronto on Monday. It consisted of two car loads of fat cattle, 160 hogs and some calves and lambs.

By a recent arrangement of the post office department with the G.T.R., ordinary mail matter, that is unregistered matter, will be carried in a mail by the 10:15 a.m. train from Milton to Hamilton, Toronto, Oakville, Burlington and all points reached by the evening mail. This mail will close at 9:55 a.m. The advantages of the new service to the public of Milton, particularly businessmen, will be when morning trains are on time all letters are distributed here by 9:30 a.m. and there will be 25 minutes in which to answer correspondence before the close of the new mail.

The band will give their outdoor concerts in future on Wednesday evenings instead

Milton Time Capsules



of Saturday evenings.

Last week the Milton Fish and Game Club imported 4,000 fresh water shrimps from Caledonia, New York and put them in their trout pond near Campbellville. The shrimps are said to be the best food for trout.

Drover John Featherstone pays out thousands of dollars to farmers of this county at least twice a month, but his purchases of last Monday were rather heavier than usual. He paid \$7,000 for 47 cattle, 365 hogs, 30 calves and 20 sheep. The stock was shipped to Toronto.

The news of the success of the British troops in South Africa and the practical end of the war didn't arrive in Milton in time to arrange, like Toronto, for a full public holiday, but as we go to press a petition is being circulated asking Mayor Deacon to give the balance of the day to rejoicing and to proclaim a half holiday. The town is gay with bunting, the town bell has been ringing and the tooting of steam whistles has been almost continuous since the receipt of the news. (The celebration was premature, however, as the war continued until May 31, 1902.)

The Royal Templars of Temperance at Kilbride treated themselves to a banana supper on Friday night and had a most enjoyable time. They were visited by brothers and sisters from Hamilton, Milton and other places.

Georgetown council has given the Guelph Paving Co. an order for permanent sidewalks. Milton would be improved by adding to its pavements. There's no economy in repairing and maintaining wooden walks.

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



OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Teacher tells Chudleigh library shelves are empty and plants dead at her school

(The following letter was sent to Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh and a copy was filed with The Champion.)

Dear Editor:

I was eagerly anticipating the election platform that was released last Friday to the people of Ontario.

When I read your ad in The Champion, I was thrilled with what you are offering to the people of Ontario if you get re-elected this summer.

The first picture in the ad showed a group of elementary school-aged students in Oakville sitting and listening to your every word.

It was obvious that the picture was taken in a school library. The library shelves were full and neatly organized.

There were several resources sitting on the wooden desk beside you. Well-watered plants adorned the shelves.

There was a modern computer sitting in the background as well as a television that looked like it was less than 10 years old.

Schools in Ontario must be flourishing with all the extra money you've put toward education over the last few years.

But wait. I'm a teacher. My library shelves are messy; our plants are all dead.

Why? There's only one librarian in a school with 1,700 students. He doesn't have time for such trivial details.

Why is the school in this picture so different from my school? Oh. I see, all the students in the room are wearing uniforms.

I believe the picture was taken in a private school, and they don't rely on a funding formula dictated by the provincial government.

In the second picture you're touring a health facility with Tony Clements in Burlington. Wow — a new health facility, something good for Ontario?

The facility you're touring is a private clinic.

Was any provincial money put toward the infrastructure of the clinic?

Or will tax payers be paying off the mortgage and

loans to build the facility with their tax dollars over a long period of time?

In the third picture, you're presenting a cheque to a uniformed police officer.

It's unclear how much the cheque is for, but it must be a good amount. Otherwise, how would we have 43 more police officers in Halton?

However, the Halton Regional Police force is funded primarily by the Region of Halton.

In your new document ('The Road to Nowhere?'), you and the rest of the Tories are planning on capping municipal taxes, unless of course a costly referendum indicates that the voters agree to a hike in taxes.

Who's going to pay for the new police officers when the funding from the provincial program runs out?

You may be planning to double the money now, but teachers know better.

The money that was invested in new textbooks and resources when the new curriculum was introduced in grade 9 was cut back so much that when the new curriculum in grade 12 was introduced, most subject areas received no money for new texts.

What troubles me more is that none of the pictures in the ad were taken in Milton.

Is that because you can't find any pictures of how you've helped Miltonians in the schools and hospital that we use?

Where's the picture of you touring the hospital during the SARS scare?

Where's the picture of you pitching in and helping shelve books at Robert Baldwin School, where there's only a half-time librarian?

Where's the picture of you touring Maplehurst and showing us all how storing prisoners in a warehouse is making them better citizens?

When you show me these pictures, maybe I'll think about voting for you.

Lynn Shire
Cedarbrae Avenue

Pud

by Steve Nease



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