Local engineer slated to go to Russia for consultation

Milton Time Capsules

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

August 1901

Engineer Henry Holgate of Toronto, who is an old boy from Milton, will go to Russia shortly for consultation on and perhaps superintend the transmission of a water station 85 miles long. He's a specialist in water powers.

• • •

A meeting of the committee which has in hand the building of an Anglican chapel-school at the Terra Cotta Brick Works (Milton Heights) met last evening at Jas. Transom's. About $450 has already been promised toward the building, and active steps will immediately be taken for the erection of a small church. The services for the past few Sundays have been held at Arthur Transom's, but Mr. Hamilton's barn will be used again in September.

• • •

W.H. Lindsay closed his doors on Saturday evening and on Monday made an assignment to Hugh Campbell for the benefit of his creditors. Mr. Lindsay is likely to move with his family to Toronto, where two of his sons hold good positions. He has been in business in Milton for nearly 30 years and has been one of the most prominent, useful and respected citizens of the town. His failure and the approaching departure of the family are greatly regretted.

• • •

Manager C.J. Lewis of the Toronto Pressed Brick and Terra Cotta Co. in Milton is busy with his big contract for 400,000 bricks for the fine new hotel which is being erected on the site of the old Golden Lion store, on King Street East in Toronto.

The hotel will be six stories high and one of the finest in Canada. It's to be ready for occupation next May. The bricks which Mr. Lewis is supplying are of a special size, extra quality and of a yellowish color, which is obtained by extra burning.

September 1901

A bad pitch-in took place on the C.P.R. at Guelph Junction this morning about 3 a.m. Engineer William Jones of Toronto Junction died at Toronto General Hospital at 9 a.m. from the injuries he received. The daily freight from Chicago, with refrigerator cars of dressed beef, had pulled into the yard and was standing on the main track, while the engine was doing some shunting.

The semaphores were put up to block the line, but for some reason which cannot as yet be satisfactorily explained, Mr. Jones of the daily freight from St. Thomas disregarded the signals and crashed into the end of the standing train, completely smashing its caboose, wrecking the next car containing dressed beef, and setting it on fire and derailing another dressed beef car.

• • •

Last Friday evening a running match, the result of an old dispute, was pulled off between E. Young and W. Patterson. Two races were billed. In the first one, a 400-yard dash, Patterson dropped out about halfway through and in the second, about 200 yards long, the runners collided and the race was called off. Alf Waldie was the referee.

• • •

A meeting of the public school board was held last Friday night. It was decided that vaccination for the school children would not be compulsory until November 1. The time had been fixed as September 1, but it was thought to be too short notice. All the members were not present, so the meeting was adjourned until next Friday night, when the teachers' salaries will be decided on.

• • •

Oakville people are thinking of building an enclosed skating rink. Tonight there will be a meeting in which the matter will be discussed. Milton has felt the benefit of a good covered rink and the promoters of such an enterprise are worthy of all support. (The project to build a covered rink in Oakville fell through, owing to the inability to raise enough money.)

• • •

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has sent to the American Government and people an official expression of sympathy in connection with the shooting of President McKinley.

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

Stricter laws needed to fight impaired driving, mother of drunk driving victim tells Premier

(The following letter was addressed to Ontario Premier Ernie Eves and a copy was filed with The Champion.)

Dear Editor:

To Premier Ernie Eves, the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Halton/Peel chapter is asking for your commitment to make the fight against impaired driving a priority for the provincial government in the next mandate.

In June, MADD Canada released Rating the Provinces 2003, a comprehensive study of impaired driving legislation in which Ontario received a respectable grade of a B.

We look forward to our national office meeting with the provincial attorney general, minister of transport and Ontario officials to identify the specific initiatives your government can act on to improve impaired driving laws.

The victims, members and concerned citizens of MADD's Halton/Peel chapter would like to bring a number of issues to your attention during this important election campaign.

There's no other road safety issue in Ontario that kills, injures and adversely affects as many people as drinking and driving.

In fact, it's the number one criminal cause of death in our country — on average killing more than four Canadians and injuring 200 each day.

The human lives lost, the tremendous health and social costs involved and the innocent victims of these totally preventable crimes all point to the urgent need for impaired driving to be a focus of the provincial government's mandate.

In order to more effectively fight this crime and better support the victims of impaired driving, there are some specific issues our membership wishes to have addressed in the near future.

Mr. Eves, we ask that you consider and support the following four requests as action items for the Ontario government early on in the new mandate. MADD Canada urges the Ontario government to:

• Strengthen the graduated licencing program by imposing stricter late-night driving restrictions, lowering the blood-alcohol-content limit to zero for supervising drivers and requiring G1 drivers to remain at the initial stage for 12 months, regardless of participation in a driver's education program.

• Provide greater support for police by explicitly ensuring their authority to systematic RIDE programs, use of passive alcohol sensors and standard field sobriety tests. These measures will help to better apprehend both alcohol and drug-impaired drivers.

• Strengthen the 12-hour licence suspension program by extending suspensions to 24 hours, having police required to report suspensions to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and introducing sanctions for multiple suspensions.

• Strengthen the vehicle impoundment program and introduce a vehicle forfeiture program. Any person driving without insurance or a licence — or convicted of impaired driving — should have their vehicle forfeited.

Given the seriousness of this criminal offence, and the fact that too many Ontarians continue to be killed and injured as a result of people who drink and drive, MADD Canada is calling on all MPPs to make fighting impaired driving a priority of the next government.

Impaired driving is a crime that deserves our constant vigilance and commitment if we're to put an end to it. I trust MADD Canada has your support and we look forward to hearing from you while you're on the campaign trail.

Stephanie Dooley,
Victim's advocate
MADD, Halton/Peel

Independent Living Halton publicity relations director says thanks to Opsteen family for all of their support

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to thank the Opsteen family for their continuing support of Independent Living Halton.

This year, the Opsteens favoured us with two successful garage sales during which they raised $3,435 dollars for our organization.

We're so grateful for their hard work year after year, as a result of which thousands of dollars have been raised in support of adults with physical disabilities. In addition to hosting and running the event, the Opsteens solicit donated items for the sale, and turn over 100 per cent of the proceeds to Independent Living Halton.

On the occasion of the Opsteen's 13th charity garage sale, we were happy to announce the change of our operating name from Joyce Scott Non-Profit Homes Inc. to Independent Living Halton.

This change better represents who we are, and the nature of our business. We continue to operate Deborah's Home, and look forward to expanding our Attendant Outreach program.

Thank you Opsteen family, donors, and shoppers, for your generous support again this year.

Maria Sewell,
Publicity and community relations
Independent Living Halton

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