

# Automobile causes trouble for some nearby residents

'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.

September 1902

If the owner of the steam automobile who came to Georgetown from Toronto on Thursday ever returns he will find a number of persons who want his scalp. On Thursday Dr. Fisher was coming down the 9th line when he met the "infernal apparition" of a horseless carriage. Tom's horse took fright and forthwith the driver was pitched headlong into the ditch. The horse ended its wild race in the hotel shed at the station. Dr. Tom's only injuries were a few bruises, and strange to say, neither the horse nor the buggy was much damaged. The same machine made trouble for two young fellows, on the Paper-mill hill on Friday morning. The horse ran away, but fortunately no one was hurt. The automobile was driven by steam and made considerable noise. The automobile, like the bicycle, is coming to stay, and many accidents, no doubt, will occur until horses have become habituated to them.

Milton public school re-opened on Tuesday. Principal Inman taking charge of the model school, at which there was a number of students. Miss Pattison is in charge of Mr. Inman's department. Miss Bowes of Miss Pattison's, Miss Lawrence has been promoted to the room formerly taught by Miss Maclean, who has retired, Miss Earl to Miss Lawrence's, Miss Gertrude Hollinrake has been engaged to succeed Miss Bowes in the next department and Miss Minnie Allan of Brampton will teach the infant department for the fall term, after which Miss Bowes will have it permanently. The school buildings have been whitewashed inside and painted outside, and new ball-bearing seats of the latest pattern have been placed in the infant room and fourth department.

Robert Matheson, of Chicago, editor of Mina's Criterion and writer for other periodicals, arrived in town on Monday night for a flying visit to his brother, County Attorney Matheson. Mr. Matheson taught the old Milton grammar school during 1858, being its first teacher. He removed to Berlin and returned to the Milton grammar school in 1862. In 1864 he went into partnership with the late Isaac Hunter in the

## Milton Time Capsules



purchase of the Champion from its founder, J.A. Campbell. Mr. Matheson edited the Champion for some years, still teaching in the grammar school, and after leaving Milton published newspapers at St. Catharines and other points in Canada. He removed to Chicago many years ago and has been in the newspaper business there ever since, except for a short time during which he was in Montana. On Tuesday Mr. Matheson visited the public school and called on some old friends. Yesterday morning he left for Chicago.

Wm. Pollock, aged 41, foreman of the clay pit of the Toronto Pressed Brick Co. was in town and left for home between 11 and 12 o'clock. He walked up the C.P.R. track. His body was found opposite the Milton Pressed Brick Co.'s works horribly mangled. Dr. McColl coroner believes that at least three trains must have passed over him during the night. An inquest found he was perfectly sober and reliable. He left a widow and seven children from six weeks to thirteen years of age.

The Georgetown tennis club played a match with the local club here on Saturday and won by a score of 6 to 3 events. There were 10 events on the programme, but one of the mixed doubles remained unfinished on account of darkness. The events were all keenly contested. After the match the ladies of Milton club provided a tea for the contestants and their friends at the residence of Mrs. Watson at which nearly 40 persons were present. Milton players listed were J.M. Campbell, K.D. Panton, L. Prentiss, C. Bastedo, Miss M. Hollinrake, Miss E. Watson, C. Hollinrake.

Miss H.E. Bastedo was awarded first prize for flowers in water colors and 2nd for figure in oil at the Western Fair, London, professional class. Miss McDougall got 2nd prize in pastel, amateur.

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

## Story on proposed fluoridation of Milton water lacking sufficient data, says reader

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Jason Misner's article in the February 27 Champion about the proposal to fluoridate Milton's drinking water.

I was disappointed in the way the beginning of the article depicts all the children of Milton suffering from tooth decay and poor dental health.

I'd have like to have seen the percentage of children in Milton suffering from higher than average tooth decay along with age groups, since the issue dates back some 30 years.

Thirty years is a long time without fluoridation. What effects did it have on the children who are now in their teens, twenties and thirties?

Is the percentage of children over the last 30 years with tooth decay and poor dental health higher than that of towns and cities with fluoridation?

How about some numbers that

we can compare with before using our children as a main reason to alter the water.

My daughter is 13 years old and has never had tooth decay problems of any nature — not one single cavity.

I drank Milton water when I was pregnant with her and she has drank Milton water since she was born. I even made her baby formula with it.

I'm sure her dental health isn't unusual among her peers.

I'm 36 years old and don't have any tooth decay problems. I've never had a cavity. I've lived here for 17 years. The water has had no ill effect on my teeth.

My husband is 40 years old. He was born in Fergus and grew up in Milton, and has a total of eight fillings. He hasn't had a tooth decay problem of any kind in more than 16 years.

I'm sure our dental health isn't

unusual in Milton.

I'd have liked to have been able to read more information on the risks of bone disease in the article.

I believe that when you report on an issue like fluoridation — which may or may not have devastating effects on our children's oral health, may or may not increase bone disease and is an issue that later this year residents are going to be asked their thoughts on — then the article should provide in-depth information, so we can better understand the issue and give our thoughts based on being educated on the issue.

I will hopefully look forward to reading more articles on fluoridation in The Champion over the next few months, which will give the residents and their children more information before making their thoughts known.

Carolyn Richardson Milton

## Wal-Mart will benefit local businesses: associate

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to last Friday's letter by Audrey Cairns, who fears that Wal-Mart's arrival will hurt downtown businesses in Milton.

Here are some facts about Wal-Mart.

Wal-Mart has created more than 45,000 permanent Canadian jobs since 1994 and injected more than \$1 billion directly into the Canadian economy through construction of new stores in all regions of the country.

Wal-Mart's charity program, called Good Works, has donated more than \$30 million to Canadian charities since 1994. Each new Wal-Mart store creates approximately 200 new permanent jobs in the community. Bottom line, Wal-Mart is good for Canada and communities like Milton.

If Ms Cairns thinks that Appleby Line and Dundas Street in Burlington is an easy drive for local residents, then how much better is James Snow Parkway and Steeles Avenue in Milton?

Therefore, Wal-Mart is bringing convenient retail and grocery shopping closer to seniors in this commu-

nity.

I can't speak for anyone else, but with my family of five children I need to do shopping the most convenient way possible, which is to make as few stops as possible and travel as little as possible.

If I were to drive all the way to Burlington, Oakville, Mississauga or Georgetown to shop at Wal-Mart, then I'd do all my other shopping in those communities as well.

Independent research by Ryerson University over a five-year period showed that Wal-Mart doesn't put other retailers out of business. In many cases, it has increased sales at neighbouring merchants across Canada.

If I shop at the Wal-Mart in Milton, then I'll do my other shopping in Milton as well. Bringing Wal-Mart to Milton will only keep people who live in Milton shopping in Milton — and is that not the point?

Lori Partington, Wal-Mart associate Milton

## Letters welcomed

The Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise and reject letters. Letters can be faxed to (905) 878-4943, e-mailed to miltone@halton-search.com or dropped off at 191 Main St. E.



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- ✓ 7 Passenger Seating
- ✓ Tumble-under 3rd row seat
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