

# Farmer's pants catch fire after lighted pipe left in his pocket

'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.

## November 1902

On Monday noon a Nelson farmer was seen passing Duff's barber shop with his pants on fire. T.J. Bradley followed him into Hume Bros. feed store and notified him of the fact, and the fire was quenched without the assistance of the brigade. A lighted pipe in the man's pocket was the cause of the conflagration.

...

Rev. Canon Tremayne of Mimico, formerly of Milton, was presented with a handsome lamp and chair by his parishioners upon his attaining 50 years in the ministry.

...

Next Sunday will be Temperance Sunday in the Methodist Church, Milton. In the morning the pastor will preach on "Partakers in Other Men's Sins." In the afternoon the Sunday School will take up the World's Temperance Lesson "Erring Through Wine." At night the pastor will preach on "Banish the Barroom." The Quarterly Board of the church has appointed a large temperance committee to take active measures and carefully superintend the temperance work of the Church, Sunday School and Epworth League.

...

The range of the Milton Civilian Rifle Association has been fitted with butts and targets, the latter of canvass with elevating arrangements. The members have had several practices and good scores have been made. 4000 miniature cartridges have been ordered for indoor practice during the winter.

...

The Reformer (a Milton newspaper) professes to be shocked at the frequency of Sunday drunkenness in Milton (the *Champion* editor says). There may possibly be the odd case of it but nothing to compare with the number in the good old days when under the Scott Act Milton had four whiskey dives for every hotel she has now. Sunday was their big day and Monday that for returning by express their empty beer cases, whiskey kegs and jugs which were regularly in evidence at the C.P.R. station. The Reformer was not so easily shocked then and said nothing.

## Milton Time Capsules



...

A large gathering turned out to the temperance meeting held in the town hall on Tuesday evening. The speaker of the evening was the Rev. John Neil, of Toronto, formerly of Nassagaweya. Mr. Neil was an active prohibition worker when a resident of the county some eight-teen years ago and his ardor in the cause has not diminished. Johnson Harrison also gave a short address. J.S. McCannell occupied the chair. Committees for the different wards were appointed.

## December 1902

November 1902 was the warmest November recorded by the Meteorological Office in the records begun in 1830.

...

F.H. Ryckman of Flamboro Centre shipped on Monday last from the G.T.R. station here four car-loads of apples in 852 barrels. They were consigned to a firm in Manchester, Eng.

...

Rev. Canon Mackenzie, having retired, removed to Milton last week and will make this town his home for the future (with his daughter and her husband Mr. and Mrs. William Panton.) Rev. Mr. Ballard will succeed him as rector of Chippawa. Mr. Ballard was curate here about twelve years ago, when Canon McKenzie was rector of Grace Church.

...

The Halton Branch of The Farmers' Association was formed in Milton on Friday, Nov. 28. The farmers present were unanimous and enthusiastic in support of the new organization. The following officers were elected: President O.R. Lindsay, Esquesing; Vice-Pres., R.E. Hall, Trafalgar; Sec.-Treas., Frank J. Barber, Georgetown. The representatives for each township on the executive board will be elected at meetings which are being arranged.

*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](mailto:jdills@idirect.com).*

# OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

## Returning Miltonian says despite growth, this is still a great place in which to live

Dear Editor:

I've been following with great interest the letters of concern to your paper regarding Milton's development.

I empathize with some people's deep feelings and frustrations over the changes that have swept across our town in the last few years.

However, as a returning Miltonian, I would like to share my perspective regarding this great town.

I was born and raised in Milton. I was a '60s child who grew up surrounded by the warmth, friendship and caring that I came to recognize as uniquely Milton.

During the years I grew up here, Milton had its share of change to struggle with — everything from the Wimpey development to the demolition of the Brown Street Arena, and from the closing of the Milton Tennis Club on Main Street to the expansion of Milton Mall.

And don't forget the building of the new Canadian Tire and the new Loblaws.

Concerning all of these changes, opinions were fierce, and debates never-ending.

So here we are, once again faced with controversial change.

## We should all take the opportunity to seize God's love and compassion this Easter: Father Curtis

• from FATHER on page 6

We might think twice about judging the individual foolish for waiting an entire year to claim his millions, yet are we not foolish when we remain silent and fail to claim love as our way of living?

It's my hope and prayer that each

of us may find the courage, strength and wisdom to refuse to remain silent when opportunities arise for us to be loud in love.

Jesus' passion and death was no lottery, but rather a sure and certain hope that if we claim Jesus' love as our own we will inherit a far

greater treasure than any game of chance — eternal life.

Now that's one prize worth shouting aloud and claiming immediately. Just imagine the freedom.

And quite frankly, I don't see that

changing in the near future, either.

People grumble and debate about this town and what's happening to it like they always have.

Yet still they remain friendly and welcome new residents as old friends.

They ask, "How are you?" and really mean it. They wear their pride for Milton on their sleeves and pity the person who challenges them on it.

Please don't stop that. That warmth, spirit and pride will only be absorbed by our new residents, and then onto their children. That's how Milton has always maintained its quaint, small-town charm throughout its history.

I applaud the long-time residents for voicing their concerns. They helped make Milton what it is today and only want what they feel is best.

They love their town no less than their parents did, or my parents did for that matter.

I only hope that they keep their spirit and continue to share their friendliness to show old and new residents what it takes to be a Miltonian.

Kevin Smith  
Norris Circle

## Letters welcomed

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters. Letters must be signed and the address and telephone number of the writer included. Letters can be faxed to (905) 878-4943, e-mailed to [miltoned@haltonsearch.com](mailto:miltoned@haltonsearch.com), or dropped off at 191 Main St. E.

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