Man jailed for his disorderly conduct during group's visit

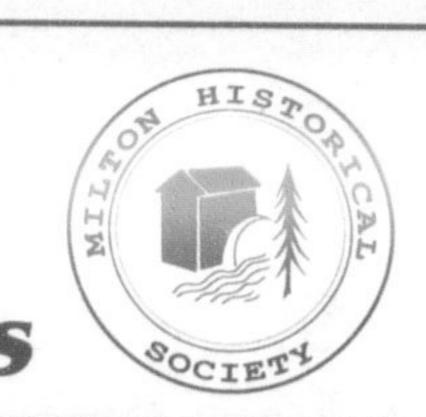
'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of The Champion and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

August 1903

The Toronto young men who raised the row on the 3rd inst. at and near Hartman's hotel in which Chief Constable Bradley was assaulted, appeared before Mayor Dice and Magistrate Hartley on Tuesday. The taking of the evidence occupied nearly all day. Wm. Kettlewell, H. Palmer, Alex. Buckler and Eugene Conroy were charged with assaulting Chief Constable Bradley. Buckler was committed for trial on this charge, but the cases against the other three were dismissed. Buckler was committed for trial on the charge of stealing a bottle of whiskey from the hotel. Palmer was also committed for trial on the charge of obstructing the constable in the discharge of his duty. Bail was accepted in Palmer's case. Buckler is in jail. All the men were fined \$1 and costs each for being drunk and disorderly and all but Buckler settled. Buckler and Palmer will be arranied before Judge Gorham next Tuesday morning. Constable Griffith of the Toronto police, who was in town on Tuesday, having come home to attend the funeral of his mother, informed the Champion that two of the men were well known to the police as members of the Stanley Park gang. P.C. Charles McKinnon, of Toronto, wrote to Chief Bradley to the same effect.

On Thursday evening Stanley Buck, aged 13, son of J.W. Buck of Milton was sent, mounted on W.A. Lawrence's thoroughbred mare, Blandley, to deliver a telegram to W.J. Clements 3rd line Esquesing. The mare was very fresh, and on her return along the base line (Steeles Ave.), ran away with the boy, who, as he saw a G.T.R. freight train approaching the crossing, tried to turn down the 2nd con. of Trafalgar (Ontario St.) to enter the town at its north end. The mare had the bit in her teeth, wouldn't be turned and dashed on. As the train was neared the boy took his feet out of the stirrups and when the mare dashed against a flat car he was hurled across it and would have cleared it but for a stake, which stopped him. He got up on his feet and being dazed and unconscious of what he did, jumped off the far side of the car and stood there until the train passed on. The train was going north, was only 15 minutes in advance of the passen-

Milton Time Capsules



ger train, and there was no time to spare, and as the boy when asked if he had been hurt said he was all right, no stop was made. The boy's escape was miraculous. Though bruised in a number of places, he was not badly injured in any of them. He went to the mare when the train passed and found her standing up, but there was a large hole in her breast and she did not live long. Mr. Lawrence valued her at \$200, and on Friday received an order to send her away to a purchaser.

In order to open an entrance to the rear of his property on Main St. George Hume has had the old shop formerly occupied by Wm. Sloan, removed by E. Core. This makes a break in the wooden block south of the Champion office.

. . .

A number of the members of the Milton Rifle Club turn out every Saturday for practice at the ranges near the works of the Toronto Pressed Brick and Terra Cotta Co. and the tyros are improving fast. Members who have not yet turned out are requested to do so. They will find their ammunition ready for them.

Station Agent Ray of the C.P.R., Milton, reports that he sold about 30 tickets on Tuesday and yesterday for the harvesters' excursion to the Northwest. Among those who bought them were Calvin Fleming, William Smith and Alex B. Chisholm, all of Milton, and W. Lawson, N. McDougall and John, George and Alex Wilson of Esquesing.

. . .

The contract for laying the granolithic walk on Main St. was awarded by the town council to The Forest City Paving Co., of London at 11.95¢ per square foot for walks and crossings. The manager was in town on Tuesday and in company with Mayor Dice visited the gravel pit in Nelson where the material for the walk will be secured. Operations will begin next week.

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

Studies show protecting escarpment from development increases adjacent land value

Dear Editor:

Establishing a permanently-protected Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt was a central promise in the new Liberal government's election platform.

Just last month, the interim Greenbelt Protection Act passed third reading, allowing the government time to study more permanent options for the future.

Opponents of the act have argued that development controls such as those proposed by the blue ribbon Greenbelt Task Force unduly limit the property rights of landowners and therefore bring down property values. But where is the evidence of this?

Since 1973, the Niagara Escarpment has been the focus of provincial legislation to protect and enhance its unique qualities. The centerpiece of this protection is the Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP), adopted in 1985.

The NEP takes precedence over all other provincial and municipal laws and regulations, and is administered by the provincially-appointed Niagara Escarpment Commission.

Since the beginning, development control on escarpment lands has received criticism from some landowners. Just like those opposing the Greenbelt Protection Act, opponents of escarpment protection have argued that such controls would reduce demand for escarpment land and bring down property values.

These concerns were raised during the NEPs reviews in 1991-1994 and again in 1999-2001. But are these arguments based on fact or fiction?

In 1980, the Province commis-

sioned three studies, undertaken by professional real estate appraisers in Dufferin, Grey and Simcoe counties to assess property value effects of the 1973 Niagara Escarpment legislation. These studies demonstrated that the legislation had no negative impact on real estate values for agricultural, estate residential or recreational properties.

A study released last year, entitled 'A Comparative Analysis of Land Values Within and Adjacent to the NEP Area', went one better.

This study, commissioned by the Niagara Escarpment Foundation, and the Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment (CONE), evaluated the sales of vacant lots from 1999 to 2003 in one part of Dufferin County, comparing sale prices of properties outside of the NEP area and those inside with similar characteristics.

Vacant lots were analyzed in order to avoid the bias introduced by building improvements. Alan Ernest, the study's author, demonstrated that lots inside the plan area sold for prices between 8 and 32 per cent higher — depending upon their size — than similar lots outside the area.

Not only did controls on development not reduce property values in the study area in Dufferin County, they increased them.

It wouldn't be appropriate to blindly extend the findings from this study area to the entire Niagara Escarpment. The author, however, suggests that there's strong anecdotal evidence that properties along the Niagara Escarpment sell at equivalent or higher prices when compared to similar nearby properties located outside the Niagara

Escarpment Protection Act.

Escarpment reap the benefits of escarpment protection. Those individuals who want to enter into this vibrantly beautiful area of Ontario pay for that privilege, and seem to do so gladly. Over a third of all real estate listings within the NEP area commented positively on the proximity to the Bruce Trail or public parkland within the Niagara Escarpment parks and open space system.

In my opinion, most people see the development controls in a positive light — as an effective way to maintain the attractive open landscape around property they're considering buying.

The Niagara Escarpment is internationally recognized as a unique and highly significant natural environment, and an area of exceptional beauty. In 1990, the escarpment was designated a World Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The plan has been studied and admired worldwide as a model for land use planning in World Biosphere Reserves. Along with other reserves such as the Florida Everglades, Galapagos Islands and the Serengeti Plains, the Niagara Escarpment sets the standard for environment-first land use planning and navigating.

There's strong evidence the NEP increases property values in the area it covers. Couldn't the Greenbelt Protection Act do the same?

Bradley Shaw, executive director Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment

Letters welcome

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 e-mailed to miltoned@haltonsearch.com, faxed to (905) 878-4943 or dropped off at 191 Main St. E.



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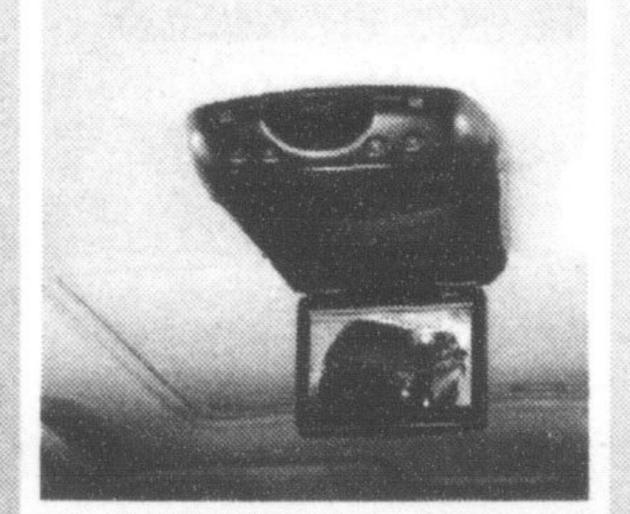
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