

## Practical joker suspected of spooking local children

'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.

December 1903

An alleged spook has appeared in the East Ward and has caused quite a scare. Several children have been badly frightened. There is talk of trying whether a silver or other bullet will lay the ghost and if, as is likely, some practical joker has been having some fun at the expense of his neighbours, he had better quit it or attire himself in boiler plate.

...

Two boys, mounted on horses, raced up Main St. on Monday night, greatly endangering pedestrians. They richly deserve prosecution, but unfortunately no one appeared to know who they were.

...

A close contest may be expected in Halton in the coming general election for the House of Commons. It may be taken for granted that Mr. Henderson, the present member, will be the Conservative candidate. He has become a prominent figure at Ottawa as one of the ablest debaters in the Opposition, he is popular at home and has been invincible in the contest in which he has been opposed by non-residents of this constituency. Mr. Deacon, the Liberal nominee, has made his home in Halton ever since 1885 when he received his appointment as public school inspector. He has done the best of work in that capacity, he is known in all parts of the county and is respected everywhere as a good citizen and a man of exceptional ability. He has the advantage of being the representative of a Government under which Canada has prospered and is prospering as she never did before and has developed from a colony into a nation.

...

Milton Council approved payment of \$9 to Chief Constable Bradley, as his salary from Sept. 1st 1903 to Jan. 1st, 1904. Council also called tenders for the position of nightwatchman in place of Charles Downie, deceased.

...

Charles Downie, nightwatchman, was on duty on Saturday night and on going home in the morning complained of being unwell. He stuck to his work on Sunday

## Milton Time Capsules



and Monday nights, though he was anything but fit for it. He was downtown Tuesday evening but went home early. Shortly afterwards his malady increased, he vomited almost constantly and he died on Thursday evening. He had lived in this neighborhood a great many years. He was an honest, upright man, a faithful employee of the corporation and his death is mourned by a great many friends. He was 76 years of age and had been healthy and vigorous until lately.

...

A hockey match is planned for New Year's night at Milton rink, Halton Old Boys of Toronto vs. Milton. The game is called at 8. Admission, ladies and children 10¢, gents 75¢. Skating New Year's afternoon and evening.

...

Last Monday J.H. Peacock shipped 113 hogs to Collingwood. They cost him \$1,175. The total number of hogs shipped by Mr. Peacock during the year just ending was 6,280, an average of 523 per month. The amount paid for them was \$72,200. Mr. Peacock also shipped 20 carloads of cattle during the year. Mr. Peacock's agency is not only a good thing for the farms of this neighbourhood, but also for the town as a fair proportion of the money he pays out must be spent here.

...

Milton is under short allowance of water. While there was a shortage in other places, our reservoir was fairly full until last week when it was suddenly emptied by the bursting of a pipe in a vacant building which should have been shut off. The water was found to be escaping at the rate of about 10,000 gallons per day and the G.T.R. having been shut off at Georgetown, was taking an extra large allowance. The leaking pipe was attended to and the daily loss reduced by 2,000 gallons but so far the leak in the main has not been found. The G.T.R. has been shut off, taps run only half time and the reservoir is filling slowly so that our fire protection is all right again.

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

## OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

### Canadian Tire's replacement of stolen bike turned sad story into a heartwarming one

Dear Editor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere gratitude for everyone's help in what was a very difficult and troubling situation for myself and my son.

Back in August, I wrote a letter to the editor about the theft of my son's bicycle that was published under the headline 'Nine year old boy's trust lost with recent theft of bike' on August 13.

In this letter, I mentioned that there was no money for another bicycle and that this had been a devastating situation for my son and I.

Well, I had not even had a chance to receive my copy of The Champion that Friday when assis-

tant editor Steve LeBlanc notified me that new general manager of Canadian Tire Marcello Garofalo had already phoned to offer some assistance in the matter, as did a kind woman named Karen Kettle, who I never had a chance to contact to thank. Thank you, Karen.

As Marcello and the new ownership and management weren't taking over the store until August 26, we decided to wait to go and see him about a new bike and that would give us a little bit of time to save up some money.

As it turned out, my son Derek received a new bicycle on September 7 — and at absolutely no charge.

I was overwhelmed with the

kindness and generosity of these wonderful people, and if this is any indication of anything, Milton can expect a caring new management at Canadian Tire to proudly share the new expanding marketplace in town.

Derek and I can't thank them enough.

It's unfortunate that it took a stolen bicycle for us to realize why it is we moved to Milton in the first place — for the kindness of the people.

And thanks to Mr. LeBlanc and The Champion for the assistance in helping us turn a bad situation into a heartwarming and happy one.

Jill Johnson  
Milton

### Kids' constant dedication and enthusiasm made for a wonderful season on the old ball diamond

Dear Editor:

It all started off in February of this year

When our little girl asked us to coach her with a tear

We'll give it a shot, though it's been a long time

The kids will support us during this uphill climb

So off we went with our roster in hand

Hoping and praying our uniforms would soon land

Our lack of fashion didn't bring us down

Their hearts were above this, we saw not a single

frown

How could we lose with Rene at the plate?

Her fancy stance would tempt all fate

A double play master, what a wonderful break

Josh was the man, many DPs he did make

Tommy had his own way to wear his cap

Rather than baseball, it looked like rap

Team spirit we had to drive us and steer

Jessica possessed it, you could hear her loud and

clear

Full concentration Matthew would display

While at bat his thoughts would never stray

Jacob PT as he's known, had a kill-the-ball style  
And when he made contact, he would hit it a mile  
With his lucky helmet and bat, Justin would take aim  
He swung with such passion, a lion he could tame  
Tyler the chopper had a downward swing  
He was determined to make contact, a smile that would bring

"Who's ready, Milton?" we would forever shout  
Devon's "I am" was always first without a doubt  
With Dylan at bat we had no fears

For if golf was the game he would simply change gears

He's here, he's there, he's everywhere

Jacob P covered first from the field, such energy is rare

You should all take pride in your accomplishments this year

We're proud of you all, in our hearts you'll remain dear

Thank you Scott B. Prior for a fantastic season.

Coaches Debbie, Pat and Danielle

### 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 [miltioned@haltonsearch.com](mailto:miltioned@haltonsearch.com), faxed to (905) 878-4943 or dropped off at 191 Main St. E.

Little Kids



**GRAND OPENING**  
October 4, 2004  
**LITTLE KIDS DAY CARE CENTRE**  
800 NIPISSING ROAD  
(905) 693-4880

- Programs for children from 15 Months to 12 Years of Age
- Transportation to and from schools
- Full and part time placements
- Before and/or after school placements
- Summer camp programs
- Now accepting registrations at our Milton location
- Nutritional breakfast, lunches and snacks
- Seconds from the GO Station
- Qualified E.C.E. teachers along with experienced child care professionals

Call for more information

**JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH**

**11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**