

Influx of English and Irish immigrants arrive in area

'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.

March 1904

The Globe reports the arrival of 150 English and Irish immigrants at Toronto on Monday. All who were willing to work on farms got that kind of employment. \$175 to \$240 a year was offered to experienced men and \$100 to \$150 to men from towns who knew nothing about farming. Another lot of men arrived yesterday.

...

James Currie, mail carrier, set out for Hornby and Drumquin this morning with an unusually well-filled bag, owing to the arrival of delayed mail matter. He went only a short distance and turned back on account of snow drifts caused by the high winds that set in last night.

...

R. Burling, undertaker, had charge of the funeral of the late Mrs. Joshua Worthington of Kilbride last Monday. On his way home his hearse upset in a snow-drift and all the glass on one side of it was broken. The damage amounted to about \$60. The hearse had to be left on the road until yesterday when it was brought home.

...

Halton County last year had 364 births, an increase of 20 over the former year; 120 marriages, a decrease of 2; 243 deaths, a decrease of 18. The ratio of birthrate per 1,000 of population was 18.5, three less than the average for Ontario. The death rate was 11.3, which is 1.3 less than the provincial average.

...

The low-lying section of the west end of Milton (Mill St. near Bronte St.) has been flooded for some days, owing to the thaw and the outlet for water being blocked by ice. Stewart Moorehead had to take up his carpets as they were covered by two inches of water. He, Chief Constable Bradley and neighbours have had to wade into and out of their houses.

...

The Lorne Rifles will receive new clothing before the June camp and officers commanding companies are now preparing the necessary requisitions. Lieut.-Col. Appelbe has succeeded in securing an issue of serv-

Milton Time Capsules



ice caps to replace the old Glengarries, which have been discarded. The change will save about \$100 to the regiment as the importation of a lot of Glengarries would have cost about that amount. Col. Appelbe has also received permission for the naval pattern, flat-topped forage cap for the officers of the regiment.

...

The intermediate team of the Marlboro's of Toronto, champions of their district, played an exhibition match with the locals at the rink on Friday. The game was the fastest and cleanest that has been played in Milton this season. The locals won by 10 goals to 5.

...

A skating party, under the management of Miss Gertrude Featherstone, was held at the Drumquin skating rink on Saturday evening.

...

John Porter, landlord of the Campbellville hotel, has sold out to David Black, a man of many years experience in his business in the Western Hotel, Guelph. Price paid \$1,700.

...

The March sittings of the First Division Court were fixed for last Friday, but did not come off as there was no cases to try nor judgment debtors to examine. This was the first time since the Division Courts were established that there was no business for sittings in Milton.

...

E. Edmonds died at St. Catharines last week. He was the eldest son of the late Wm. Edmonds, who had a bakery in the '50s and '60s where the Milton Methodist Church now stands, and had been in the baking and confectionery business himself at St. Catharines for many years. He had a large trade and kept several wagons on the road.

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

Proposed cycling committee a step in the right direction for this region

Dear Editor:

We've just moved here, and while the outdoors and feel of Milton is wonderful, we've noticed a lack of bicycle-friendliness here.

There's a lack of good metal hoops for locking up bikes at most stores and a lack of bicycle lanes on streets with major traffic.

While biking around town, I've been at such a loss over the lack of places to leave my bike.

So it was good news to read in last Friday's *Champion* that a com-

mittee could be formed next year to help promote and encourage increased cycling throughout Halton.

Our former hometown of Toronto had countless bikes lined up outside downtown businesses, and in general cars were aware of and mixed well with pedestrians and bike traffic.

The reason for this was grassroots efforts that helped create awareness, trails, bike lanes and maps showing bike routes — mak-

ing Toronto a great city for walking, roller blading and cycling.

Any city can have a personable and welcoming charm to it if people aren't addicted to sitting in their cars.

The story on a cycling committee possibly being formed here is great news, and I truly hope it happens. Let's bring on the grassroots efforts here.

Lynne Moquin
Heslop Road

Please take extra care and always watch for cats while driving in residential areas

Dear Editor:

I'm extremely upset with all the animals killed by vehicles in our community.

Last week our cat was struck by a car. She managed to get to someone's doorstep, where she died. It infuriates me that someone not only couldn't see a cat, but must have heard or felt their car hit something yet didn't stop to help.

Citizens of Milton, please pay attention on the road. Animals can quickly dart out of bushes or trees.

On a similar note, please keep your cats inside.

Our cat ran out of the back door. She loved being outside and we usually didn't think anything of it. Unfortunately, she climbed the fence and followed it to the road.

If you have a cat capable of climbing your fence, it's much crueler to let it go outside than keeping it in. House cats are meant to be just that.

If this story makes anyone reconsider letting their cat out, then Mitzy's death was not in vain.

Patricia Martin
Baverstock Crescent

Time has come to get leash-free dog park here

Dear Editor:

It has occurred to me that the people of this town spend way too much time worrying about man's best friend, as well as how and when these dogs interact with the fine people of this town.

If we spent as much as half the time on other problems in this town — and we all know the problems I speak of — maybe our four-legged

friends wouldn't seem to be such a big deal.

Like many people living in Milton, I'm a responsible dog owner — one that respects the rights of others and only wants man's best friend to be just that.

This town has a big population of dogs and I believe the time has come to have a leash-free park, like the ones they have in Oakville. We

can make this happen with the support of the people in Milton.

If you're interested in making this happen, please e-mail me at dogpark@branditx.com and maybe we can get it done.

We need a place in Milton where dog owners can let their animals run free.

Chris Gray
Milton

Visit from humane society about cat was upsetting

Dear Editor:

I recently received a warning from the Oakville Humane Society because my seven-year-old cat goes off my property.

I've been told that their next visit will result in a fine.

Apparently Milton has a bylaw stating that cats must be on an owner's property at all times unless they're on a leash. Surely Milton has more significant things to worry about, like traffic and education.

Cats wander — it's in their nature.

My cat's not hurting anyone. She loves kids and the sunshine.

I'm very upset about this situation and I want other owners of outdoor cats to be aware of this bylaw.

One day the Oakville Humane Society may visit you as well.

M. Waltz
Mary Street

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