

## Law states that horses have right of way over automobiles

'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 1904

If your horse is afraid to face an automobile on the road, hold up your hand and the driver of the motor must stop and assist you to pass. Such is the law and among the provisions of the license which the owner of an automobile must have. The license costs \$3 per year.

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The provincial volunteer firemen's convention and tournament took place. On the second afternoon of the convention the delegates were treated to a drive to the terracotta works, over the mountain and to the reservoir. On Wednesday evening the Milton brass and reed band gave a concert at the Court House Square in honor of the delegates all of whom attended. Thursday the town was gay with bunting and other decorations. The competing brigades arrived by three excursion trains. The procession presented a fine appearance and was about a mile in length. Shortly after 11 p.m. the last train left and all was quiet again. The meeting of the firemen was a big event in Milton's history. Visitors generally expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the reception given them with the good accommodations afforded by the local hotels.

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Angus, eldest son of Wm. Sloan jr., was knocked down and run over by a rig on Main St. on Thursday evening. He was severely bruised about the body but no bones were broken. An elderly man, whose name we did not learn, was also run down by the same horse, the driver of which never looked back to see what damage he had done.

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On Tuesday two immigrants, Frand Le Manquand and his brother, arrived in town, secured employment at the Milton Pressed Brick Works, and arranged for board at the house of Walter Shingler. They were put into a double-bedded room, the second bed being occupied by James Milton, a Scotch immigrant, who had been engaged at the works for the past six weeks. Yesterday evening Mrs. Shingler advised the brothers to buy dinner pails. According to their story they went to their room and found

## Milton Time Capsules



Milton in it. Milton had been paid off and was to leave for Montreal this morning. Frank went to his trunk, took a gold sovereign from it, laid the coin on his bed, locked up the trunk, and the brothers went out, forgetting the money. After they had got down town Frank discovered that he had not the money and both went back to the house where they found Milton in their room. Frank said "I forgot my queenie." Milton said "I did not take it," and rushed out. The brothers could not find the coin and Frank swore out an information, charging Milton with stealing it. It was afterwards found lying on the ground close to the house. Milton was arrested by Chief Constable Bradley and brought before D. Hartley, J.P. this morning. The brothers gave evidence and Milton swore in his own defense that he entered the bedroom after the brothers' return. The magistrate dismissed the case on the ground that the evidence was not strong enough for a conviction.

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A heavy storm occurred Saturday. Hail did great damage in Esquesing. Mr. Peddie, of Mansewood, says that the heads of the oats there were stripped and so were the tomato and potato plants. He saw hail stones which were over an inch in diameter. The windows, on one side of his house, were broken by the hail. G.E. Saunders, of Agerton, says that his oats were threshed in the stems by the hail and could be scooped up out of the furrows. A new barn on the farm of the late John Kitching, Nassagaweya, was burnt, with its contents, hay, fall wheat and implements. John Wrigglesworth, county councillor, of Ashgrove, had five head of cattle killed by lightning. Wm. Lawson, of Esquesing and Mrs. Porter, of Appleby, each lost a steer and A. Claridge, near Acton, three horses in the same way.

...

The Bennett House stables have just been completed, and Jos. McCartney says he can stow away 32 horses.

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

## Recent letter about pitbulls quite misleading

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to T. Andrews' letter on pitbull muzzling that appeared in last Friday's *Champion*.

I agree with you in respect to people who let their dogs run wild out in public places such as parks and the fairgrounds. This shows that they're irresponsible owners. A responsible owner will have their dog under control at all times.

However, that's the only thing I agree with you on.

The history of pitbulls is just that — history. Yes, they used to be fighting dogs and most likely still are in some Third World countries.

But animals evolve and adapt in the same way we do. Just because of the bad practices and the way these dogs were used many years ago, that doesn't mean they make bad pets now. People make bad dogs, which is why we need to push education. And as far as I'm concerned, owning a pitbull has nothing to do with status.

As for pitbulls having a "lack of intelligence," my dog is only eight months old and is probably more obedient than most of the dogs out there — especially others her age.

I also believe that breeders do understand the problem with the breed. That's why responsible breeders are registered and only breed purebred pitbulls. The main problem is with 'backyard breeders', who cross-breed these animals. And I would put money on the fact that a high percentage of pitbull bites are from cross-bred dogs, or due to bad ownership.

I don't agree with how town councillors have singled out pitbulls. By not including all dogs — or even the breeds that more frequently bite — they're setting themselves up for a lawsuit. By muzzling only one type of dog, they're saying pitbulls are the only ones that are dangerous.

I also question the statistics quoted by T. Andrews. I work with animal control officers, and believe

me pitbulls don't represent 50 per cent of dog attacks. It's much lower.

Also, where did T. Andrews get that 3 per cent of all dogs owned in Canada are pitbulls? Until a proper poll is done, it's impossible to say what percentage of dogs pitbulls represent.

I wouldn't suggest getting a pitbull unless it had papers stating it was a purebred. Getting a dog like this second-hand isn't a good idea, because you don't know how the dog was treated.

Pitbulls can make wonderful pets. They're smart and affectionate. But like any pet, they do require a lot of work — namely education, training and socializing.

There are many people who disagree with the decisions of our government regarding pitbulls. I know we have to start somewhere in terms of addressing the issue of dog biting, but let's do things right.

John Cook  
Milton

## Speeding on Woodward is indeed a big concern

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to a letter in *The Champion* regarding speeding on Woodward Avenue.

I, too, live on that stretch between Martin Street and Ontario Street. As the mother of three children, speeding is of great concern to me and my family.

I've been the unfortunate witness to one child being hit by a driver, plus several other near misses.

I've also noticed that in order to stay on schedule, bus drivers are some of the worst offenders of the speed limit. Please drivers, slow down and remember you're supposed to be setting a good example for our kids.

The problem is a noticeable one and when Father

Mark Curtis was campaigning for councillor, he promised that if elected he would definitely work on solving the problem. I must also mention that only once in my four years of living here have I seen a police officer posted to look for offenders in this area.

May I suggest that the Town look into posting more signs indicating that this is a school zone — one servicing two schools. Perhaps a new stop sign before the Holy Rosary School entranceway could be put up, or even speed bumps.

This is one of the busiest areas for school kids. Let's treat it as such.

Tamara Riley  
Woodward Avenue

## Local repairman's expertise and service is top-notch

Dear Editor:

I'd like to compliment a local craftsman on his expertise, demeanour and sparkling conversation at a time when impersonal mass-marketing techniques seem to be the norm rather than the exception.

I had occasion to drop in to Thomas Jolie watch and clock repair shop recently. It was his day off, but not until he was well on the

way to diagnosing and repairing a malfunction in my daughter's time piece did he mention this.

I shouldn't be surprised by his expertise. In 1987, he repaired a mantle clock that had been manufactured in post-war occupied Europe. The European firm advised me that it couldn't be repaired, but Mr. Jolie fixed it.

In 1992, I was reliably advised by a highly-reputable firm that had

manufactured a wrist watch that had been presented to my father in 1925 that it wasn't able to be repaired. However, Mr. Jolie fixed it in totally satisfactory manner.

I think that Mr. Jolie's approach, capability, proven reliability and pride in workmanship will serve him well for as long as he chooses to perform his chosen craft.

D.I. Richardson  
Milton



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