

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Dave Moore's letter on Twiss Road misleading

Dear Editor:

The Twiss Road area that's been the subject of much debate these days falls between Twiss Hill and Steeles Avenue.

This area is governed by the Town of Milton, Conservation Halton and the Niagara Escarpment, and has been designated an environmentally-sensitive area.

When the decision was made to widen this section of road, there were several meetings to inform the residents of what would be happening. The residents who attended these meetings generally agreed that they only wanted a hard top surface to keep the dust down and to control the pot holes. No other changes were considered necessary.

The 'horrendous Twiss Road hill', as described in a recent letter by Dave Moore, isn't as difficult to travel as the hill going up the

mountain on Appleby Line.

If Mr. Moore thinks nothing larger than a van can navigate the Twiss Road hill, he — I believe — is mistaken. There are pick-up trucks, fuel delivery trucks and cube vans driving on this hill all the time. A sign stating 'No Trucks' is posted at the end of the road, although every so often tandem trucks with trailers manage to drive down it.

Mr. Moore, if you think every resident on this road is wealthy, I'd like to know where all this money can be found. The majority of the residents who live here started with nothing, worked very hard and saved so that they could have a nice home.

Mr. Moore complained about the loss of the Sunset Rock climbing area. However, there were 'No Climbing Without a Permit' signs posted on this rockface long before the widening of Twiss Road.

The Conservation Halton people are understandably concerned about the liability if someone had an accident there. When the climbing groups were using this rockface, it was evident that they were not concerned about the beauty of the rocks. They thought it necessary to paint instructions on them to show where to climb.

The Twiss Road widening construction crew wasn't responsible for the happy face painted on this rock surface. Some teenagers thought it would be funny to put a happy face there, as well as spray painting several mailboxes in the area.

Furthermore Mr. Moore, the Twiss Road residents I know have no objections to people parking along their road. There are many who do so themselves and walk the Bruce Trail.

M. Twiss
Twiss Road

Milton's property taxes simply getting too high

Dear Editor:

I know every budget is a tough process, but does anyone every really look at ways of saving the taxpayers money?

Living in rural Milton, taxes just keep going up every year, with — as far as I can tell — no additional services to the area. The only thing that I've got over the past several years was garbage collection.

Earlier in this year a report by C.N. Watson and Associates predicted Miltonians will have an average tax increase of 4.7 per cent every year until 2021. That means that on a tax bill of \$2,000 in 2004, a resident will be paying \$4,366.40 in 2021.

To that end, I feel many people will be forced to sell their homes because the taxes will just be too high for them to remain. Why can some regions across Ontario manage no tax increases while others just keep going back to the public for more money? You can only go

back so many times before the well is dry.

Mohawk Slots bring in millions of dollars for the Town of Milton each year. Is it okay to use this money for capital projects, or should it go to lower our property taxes? If the Town is running short of cash for projects, we have to ask ourselves, why? I can remember a few years ago when town council said growth would pay for itself.

I also remember a letter to the editor by longtime Miltonian Pat Kelly that predicted growth would cost the residents more money on their property taxes.

I'd like to see our local politicians find ways of cutting taxes, either now or in the future. If large corporations across Ontario can find ways to reduce their budgets, then surely there can be ways to reduce our taxes.

Kevin Brackley
Milborough Line

Thomas Jolie is indeed a credit to his profession

Dear Editor:

I fully agree with D.J. Richardson's endorsement of local watch and clock repairman Thomas Jolie.

In this day of voice-mail and big box stores, my recent visit to Mr. Jolie's shop was both refreshing and exhilarating. He knows his craft and truly enjoys it — which

seems rare nowadays.

A quick visit to his shop is quite interesting, seeing all the goings on, including all the old clocks and watches there.

These days, most of us have forgotten the inner peace and happiness derived from a good day's work, as well as charging a fair price for a job well done. Mr. Jolie

has not forgotten these things.

He jokingly told me that his bank account isn't that large, but the amount of cheer and goodwill he spreads is contagious.

Clients like me pray for his success — both financially and otherwise.

Arvind Badiani
Milton

Woman in shock but uninjured after stepping off moving train

'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.

September 1904

On Monday evening Miss Buck, of Campbellville, came to Milton by the 8 o'clock C.P.R. train to visit her sister, Mrs. C. Bundy. The train slowed up before coming to the wooden bridge west of the diamond crossing, and Miss Buck stepped off, thinking she was opposite the station, and fell 20 feet down the embankment. A young man saw her go out, heard her fall and gave the alarm, but it was some time before the trainmen found her. She was taken to the residence of her sister, when it was found that though no bones were broken, she was suffering greatly from shock.

On Thursday last while one of Thos. Coxe's teamsters was driving over the Peru bridge with a load of lumber, the bridge caved in and the load upset. The binding chains had to be cut and the lumber carried over the creek, necessitating a lot of work. Mr. Coxe says that some of the bridges throughout the county that need repair, have been left until accidents happen. A separator and engine passed over Peru bridge the evening before the accident and probably damaged the structure. If they had gone through no doubt there would have been enough paid in damages to build a good bridge.

The Halton Farmers' Institute is giving cash specials at the fall fair for judging competitions on Durham cattle and heavy horses. Every farmer's son should be a competitor for these prizes. They will be asked to judge a class and write down, on a blank form supplied, their reasons for placing the awards. The classes will then be judged by Prof. Day of the Agricultural College, Guelph on cattle and Mr. Grey, of Newcastle on horses who will then give the prizes to the ones coming nearest to their awards. These competitions should be of great interest to farmers as they will no doubt be very instructive.

G.E. Saunders of Agerton, was in town on Tuesday evening. He estimates that he lost \$1,000 by the fire on the 1st which destroyed an unoccupied dwelling on his property in which he had stored a large quantity of honey and apiarists' supplies.

Milton Time Capsules



Unfortunately an insurance policy, which had expired shortly before the fire, had not been renewed.

Yesterday morning Charles McGregor, Jr. of Trafalgar and his partner, Bert McCann, who had been threshing with their separator and traction engine at Mr. Vansickle's farm, near Palermo, on Tuesday, prepared to move out. Mr. McGregor turned on the steam, but the engine did not start, the steam being centered. Without turning off the steam he got up on the road wheel, took hold of the fly wheel and turned it. It started suddenly at full speed, one of his arms was caught between the friction and the wheel. He was whirled around a number of times and finally thrown about six feet to the ground. One arm and one leg were each broken in two places and four ribs were fractured. His condition is very critical. He threw up a quantity of blood last night and it is feared that his internal injuries are serious. His physician, Dr. Puck, is unable to say at present whether he has any chance for recovery. (He was later reported to be recovering.)

October 1904

There was a large attendance of Halton Conservatives at their convention which was held in Milton yesterday. David Henderson, M.P. was unanimously nominated as their candidate. Parliament has been dissolved and the Government has chosen a favorable time to go to the country. Canada has never been more prosperous than it has been under the Liberal Government.

Bowes's Methodist Church, Boyne, (St. Clair Masonic Hall) having been remodeled and painted, reopening and anniversary service will be held on Oct. 16.

Jasper Martin of Hillsdale, is in town looking after his coopering and lumber business.

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.

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