Housing yet to be provided for indigent citizens 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.

February 1905

There are only eight counties in Ontario which have not provided for their indigent citizens by erecting houses of refuge and all are required by the act passed in 1903 to do so before the end of this year. Each will receive \$4,000 from the government on the completion of the work. Halton is one of them. The matter was discussed for the first time at Saturday's meeting of the county council and will come up again at the next meeting when it is hoped Dr. Bruce Smith, inspector of prisons and asylums, will be present to advise the council as to size and plans of buildings, amount of land required and other particulars.

At the request of Road Commissioner A.M. Campbell of the Department of Public Works, Warden McGibbon will call a convention of all the Municipal Corporations of the County of Halton and all others who are interested to be held in Milton on the 28th to consider the question of road improvement. There is no question about the necessity for better roads in Halton but their improvement has been deferred from time to time on account of the expense involved.

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The question of expense should no longer be an obstacle as the Government will pay a large proportion of it and as it has removed the restrictions on such contribution, so that whatever work is done the counties will receive payment on it. On account of the importance of the subject to be considered and the valuable information which may be looked for from Mr. Campbell every part of the county should be represented at the convention by councillors and other citizens.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Press Association was held at Toronto last Thursday and Friday. Halton was represented by H.P. Moore, of the Acton Free Press, Ex.-Pres. of the Association; E.A. Harris of the Burlington Gazette and Wm. Panton of the Champion.

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The Inspector for the Fire Insurance Underwriters visited Milton last week and found that the cold snap had caused the

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Milton Time Capsules



freezing of three hydrants from which water would be required in case of fires. The hydrants were thawed out by building fires around them.

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Mrs. David H. McCartney (Horanda Denoon) of Trafalgar, 36, died at her residence after three weeks' illness. She was the second daughter of the late George Denoon. She leaves a husband and three little children, the eldest of whom is seven years and the youngest three weeks old.

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On January 19th, the anniversary of the birthday of General R.E. Lee, a great gathering was held in Memorial Hall, New Orleans, for the bestowal of the Southern Cross of Honor upon fourteen worthy Confederate veterans. One of the fourteen was Mr. Peter Gibbons, one of Esquesing's most highly esteemed farmers. The medal came to hand on Tuesday. It is a bronze medal, of the memorial cross pattern, and on the reverse side is inscribed, "Southern Cross of Honor," and on the obverse, "United Daughters of the Confederacy to the United Confederate Veterans." Mr. Gibbons prizes this recognition of his connection with the Southern army very highly. When the war broke out he was in New Orleans, and enlisted under Gen. Lee in June 1861 and was constantly under arms until the close of the war in 1865. At the siege of Vicksburg he was severely wounded, a Union soldier's bullet passing through his right wrist.

Galt Juniors came to Milton on Friday and played an exhibition hockey match with the locals. They brought only six men, one of their players being unable to leave home, but the locals were short-handed too.

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The mails for Orangeville and intermediate points on the snow-blocked C.P.R. line were sent from Toronto in four sleighs, a distance of sixty miles.

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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

News of Fourth Line closure disappointing

Dear Editor:

I recently learned through a story in The Champion that Fourth Line will soon be permanently closed from Derry Road to just south of Main Street East.

Northbound traffic will be forced to go east only on Derry Road, as there will be a centre median installed along Derry Road.

I've never complained to the Region or newspaper before, but I feel that poor planning of this nature needs to be pointed out.

I live west of Fourth Line off of Clark Boulevard, and I use Fourth Line to get to the 401 at least twice a day. When I purchased my home, I factored in how close I was to a major highway and how accessible it was. This location was perfect, as I didn't want to have to drive through town yet at the same time didn't want the highway right across the street.

Usually highway exits tend to be onto major streets. Our Fourth Line exit is going to be a dead end in both directions, one block north and two blocks south.

Common sense tells us that to have less traffic on residential roads we should direct traffic to more major roads and then make those roads wide as needed.

However, the Region's plan seems to be the opposite, to take the major road that serves the entire residential area on the east side of Milton and force all of the drivers onto downtown streets or onto residential roads.

Fourth Line has high traffic volumes around the clock, and forcing all of these vehicles down smaller streets doesn't seem to be the right answer. The suggested route for me to take now from the 401 is Main Street to Thompson Road and then onto Clark Blvd. This new route will take me past two schools, the Milton Leisure Centre, six parks, a skateboard park and countless homes. My current route home on Fourth Line takes me past just one park.

Wouldn't the Region and Town rather have traffic directed down a street with minimal housing, parks and areas where children play?

My plan is to take Fourth Line to either Crow Pond or Harwood Drive and then to Trudeau Drive and Clark Blvd. once construction is complete. I don't like to drive down residential streets where there's a lot of children playing and jumping onto the road.

I've spoken to a numerous residents in the new area where I live and none of them knew about this plan before I told them. All of them would prefer to continue using Fourth Line and not be directed onto more residential streets, putting children and school zones at higher risk of accidents.

It upsets me that I never heard about any meetings and wasn't given the chance to voice my concern about the road closure.

I don't know if it's too late to change things, but I'd really like to see this closure re-evaluated.

This incident has soured my view on the decision-makers here, and I don't look forward to future 'improvements' in the area.

Nick Dorak Gazley Circle

Please help support students' trip to Grenada

Dear Editor:

I recently had the privilege of working with a group of students from Milton District High School who are preparing for a trip to the island of Grenada, where they intend to provide new shelters for those damaged by Hurricane Ivan.

This island was devastated by this event, and is now on a long road to recovery. In preparation for this, our task was to load the donated building supplies for this project onto two large sea containers.

Often we hear in today's world about the troubles of our youth. Well I'd like to tell you how proud I am of this group of kids. As a team they came together and accomplished our goal with enthusiasm and precision.

When the kids get to Grenada, it's important that all of us remember that they not only represent Milton District High School but our town and country as well.

After working with this group, I'm fully confident that they'll make us proud. The kids are out fundraising to cover their expenses. They are still short of their financial goals, so please help them with this truly honourable objective. Donations can be made by visiting www.mdhshelpsgrenada.org.

David Morrow Robarts Drive

Men's help during accident was greatly appreciated

Dear Editor:

Thank you to my knights in shining armour. Stranded on the side of Britannia Road recently, I tried to remain calm with four children in my van after sliding into a ditch. Of course, it was a week that I was without a cell phone.

The first 'knight' was a true gentleman who saw me motioning to see if I could borrow his cell

phone. Then my second 'knight' arrived on the scene and started to tie a rope to my bumper to try and pull me out with his pick-up truck.

As it turned out, that wasn't necessary, because the second gentleman ended up waving down two friends he recognized driving by in their dump trucks. These last two took about 30 seconds to hook my van with their chain, and I was

quickly on my way.

I tried to shake hands with 'knight' number two, but he whisked me away with a wave of his soiled hands — probably dirty from working at his farm nearby — saying "Go on, git."

Thanks to all of those gentleman for being my good Samaritans.

Laurie Smart Milton



