

Criticism raised over lack of early closing bylaw here

'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of The Champion and other publication in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

May 1905

Milton is behind the times in having no early closing by-law. There is no reason why her citizens like those of other towns cannot do their shopping in the day time. The merchants' employees should receive some consideration and should be given an opportunity for recreation and exercise during the long evenings of the summer. No reasonable person will object to an early closing by-law and the town council should take action without delay.

The old office of the Bank of Hamilton has been demolished and workmen are now engaged on the foundation of a new one on the same site. The office will be 23 by 65 feet and will be finished and equipped in the most modern style. (This has been replaced by the present CIBC building.)

A deputation appointed by the town council went to Toronto yesterday to oppose the bill to validate debentures for \$20,000 of the town of Perth for a loan to Arthur Winn, shoe manufacturer, of Milton, in consideration of his proposed removal to Perth. The bill was to have come before the private bills committee of the Legislature for consideration, but its Perth promoters were not ready and did not appear. The bill will be considered next week.

The open season for trout began on Monday and a great many Milton people were out. The weather was cold and unfavourable, but V. Chisholm and J.T. Hannant made a fine catch at Lawson's pond, Stewarttown, five of their fish averaging about one pound each. E.R. Biggar and Rowley Brush brought a fine lot of fish from the Twelve Mile Creek, Nelson. Some nice baskets came from the Sixteen, west of Milton. Tuesday was the opening day of the Milton Fish and Game Club at their preserve near Campbellville.

The following members turned out: Judge McGibbon, Brampton, Dr. Howitt, and Messrs. Gummer and Dickson, Guelph; T.D. Ross, St. Catharines and Wm. Panton and J.B. Lawrence, Milton.

Milton Time Capsules



There was a raw east wind, but a nice lot of trout were caught.

The fine new office of the Metropolitan Bank (Bank of Nova Scotia) has been occupied for some time, but the directors have decided on a mansard roof. The brick work of the front of the second storey has been removed, replaced by the roof, which will slope backwards. This will make a great improvement in the appearance of the building.

The construction of the radial electric railway from Burlington to Oakville is under full swing and the piers at Oakville over the Sixteen Mile Creek are completed and ready for the iron work. This will be much the longest bridge on the line, that over the Twelve at Bronte coming next in length and height. All piers and abutments both large and small are built entirely of cement.

The right of way which is altogether through private property has all been secured and paid for with the exception of a few pieces which the company are expropriating.

The town bell is not rung as long as usual at present, on account of the serious illness of Miss Petrie at her home on Main Street near the town hall. She is in a very serious condition and the bell disturbs her greatly. (She subsequently died.)

Mr. Atkins, of Toronto, electrical engineer, was in town yesterday. He has been employed to prepare plans and specifications for the improvement of the electric lighting plant which has been purchased by the corporation of Milton from the local company.

Work will commence shortly. The power-house will be erected near the town hall, on its north-east side. New machinery will be procured and the plant will be made first-class in every respect.

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

Milton still clinging to small-town charm

Dear Editor:

In response to Barbie Taylor's letter to the editor regarding the negative comments about Milton, I would like to share my personal experiences as a new member of this community.

My husband and I moved here from Elora and were attracted to Milton because of its country charm. We have enjoyed visiting the Farmers' Market and area farms for seasonal produce and our annual Christmas tree-chopping expedition. We have found that the local businesses also reflect the country charm with their personal service.

I'd also like to commend the Milton business operators for their exceptional customer service, which is reminiscent of the 'old days' in that the customer is treated like an old friend and neighbour. Milton Greenhouses provided the flowers for our wedding and helped to make the somewhat hectic

wedding planning a little easier. We've continued to use them for sending flowers and have found them to be outstanding. Another example of the personal attention and 'country charm' displayed by Milton business operators occurred recently when my husband was out of town, leaving me at home alone with my newborn son.

I awoke one morning to find that my car had a flat tire and so I called the local Ford dealer for help. I explained my situation and they had someone come out within half-an-hour to remove the defective tire, drive it back to the dealership and fix it.

They returned the patched tire within the hour and told me to call them later that day to arrange for payment. When I called to settle the bill, they had checked for any outstanding recalls on my car and told me that I should bring my car in on the weekend for a free service appointment to fix a recalled prob-

lem that had never been checked.

They told me that I could pay my bill for the repaired tire when I brought my car in on the weekend. I was so surprised in this day and age to deal with a company that seemed to genuinely care about my personal situation and not just about the final bill.

It seems to me that Milton is clinging on to its small-town ways and I sincerely hope that the surge of development in the area doesn't change that.

It's up to the new Miltonians to help preserve this town's ways by perhaps adopting a more positive perspective and to stop and say hello to your neighbours and offer a hand when needed. Rather than complaining, we need to look at what attracted us to this town in the first place and to make sure that the growth and development doesn't change that.

Melissa Pearson
Milton

Spring bringing out the litterbugs in rural Milton

Dear Editor:

The glorious signs of spring have reappeared in rural Milton.

Spring wild flowers are popping up and the birds and animals are active again.

People are hiking and biking in the countryside and on the trails. Rural Milton contains many beautiful areas. I encourage everyone to come out and enjoy this beauty. Newcomers to Milton in particular should spend time to explore what's so close by — including trails and conservation areas, especially the Bruce Trail.

Unfortunately, the ugly signs of spring have reappeared as well. Spring cleaning also brings out the litterbugs to rural Milton. Many rural roads now have piles of used tires, renovation rubble and bags and

boxes of who knows what.

I commend the hundreds of volunteers who spend their time and energy to pick up after these people. Several organizations are now planning blitz days to pick up this trash.

It would be nice if volunteers didn't have to pick up this stuff, but it seems that this has become a spring chore — one that many of us take on to follow behind the people who've done their own spring cleaning by dumping trash along the country roads.

By the way, tires can be taken to the dump on Regional Road 25 tomorrow. The dump also accepts renovation rubble. There's no valid reason for people to dump garbage along rural roads.

Joe Yaworski
Bell School Line

Thanks to all who made annual book sale a success

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Canadian Federation of University Women, Milton and District, I'd like to thank The Champion for its contributions to the success of our 32nd annual book sale.

Once again we had a very successful sale, which helps enable us to offer our scholarships to graduating students from Milton's three

high schools. This year we're once again offering them to students who are going on to university, and for the first time to students who'll be attending community college as well. We're also offering a mature woman award.

We're very pleased with all the publicity given to us by The Champion. As usual, Graham Paine's photos were excellent, and

the captions were attention-getting. We certainly have benefited from his great photos over the years.

Also, thanks to Sean Miller, who set up our advertisement about the scholarships that we award.

Thanks to The Champion and everyone who helped us make the book sale so successful.

Margaret Gray
CFUW — Milton and District

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