

Nearby Burlington to get phone hook-up; more than 100 subscribers on board

'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 1905

Burlington will soon have its local telephone system in working order. The system is being installed at present by the Bell Telephone Co. and has over 100 subscribers. This will be a great convenience to the fruit men in that neighborhood and is an indication of progress being made in Halton.

...

The Rev. Stanley Wade, B.A., son of Rev. Canon Wade, of Hamilton, has been appointed to the charge of St. George's Church, Lowville, and St. John's Church, Nassagaweya. Mr. Wade began his duties in the parish on July 16th.

...

Rev. W.M. McKay and family left last week for a vacation at Balsam Lake, near Bobcaygeon. Rev. Mr. McWilliam, Librarian of Knox College, Toronto, took the services at Knox Church on Sunday. On coming to town he called on Canon Mackenzie, who is an old friend and who was the first librarian of Knox College.

...

The real estate of the late Geo. Hume was offered for sale by Geo. Andrew auctioneer. The flour and feed store and buildings connected with it were bought by Thos. Hume, of Toronto, for \$3,000. Robt. Hume, of Nassagaweya, bought the lot on which the Champion office (164 Main St.) and A. Duff's shop stand. Both the purchasers are brothers of the late Mr. Hume.

...

The annual convention of the Provincial Volunteer Firemen's Association was held at Merritt on Aug 1-3. Milton delegates were L. Smith and A. Waldie and Chief Earl. A special excursion was run from Milton, 447 tickets being sold at this point alone and the rush was so great for tickets that the station agent had not time to supply all before train time so had to supply the rest on the train. The Milton fire brigade turned out to its full strength of 25 men under command of Asst. Chief Bundy and took the Milton band along 21 strong. The chief event in the sports was the hose

Milton Time Capsules



reel race in which nine teams were entered. There are 17 men in a team and the race consists of running 200 yards with the reel, fastening the hose to a hydrant, then running out 300 feet of hose, breaking at the last 50 feet and putting on a nozzle. Milton received 3rd prize, doing the whole thing in 52 1/2 seconds. This was a disappointment as much better time had been made in practice and was caused by the reel running into some rough ground at the point where the nozzle was to be attached and the hose was jerked out of the hands of the couplets thus losing several seconds. The Milton excursion arrived home at 1:03 a.m.

...

August 10, 1905 Fire—About 5.45 on Monday afternoon, M. Potchett gave an alarm of fire. He had noticed the storehouse in the rear of John Willmott's tin shop (192 Main St.) blazing fiercely. The alarm was rung and the firemen were soon on the scene, but as the building was frame and very dry, it was half consumed before water was turned on. They succeeded in confining the blaze to the storehouse, in spite of a wind and the very large number of frame buildings very close to the shed, which was practically destroyed with its contents. Mr. Willmott was in the rear room of his shop facing the storehouse, and the fire gained headway so rapidly that the whole building seemed blazing when he first noticed it.

The rear of Jas. Hollinrake's building was only about six feet from the blazing building and before the firemen arrived they had caught fire in several places, but Mr. Bowes, of the Hollinrake firm, kept the fire in check with water from a convenient barrel, in spite of the great heat. The building was owned by John Riach, of Hamilton, and is a complete loss. Mr. Willmott lost about \$100 worth of stock, including a barrel of gasoline and one of coal oil. That these did not explode is strange. Instead the fluids ran out on the floor and burned out there. The cause of the fire is a mystery.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached at idirect.com.

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Neighbours' generosity with recent fence moving was simply overwhelming

Dear Editor:

Moving into a new neighbourhood comes with its share of nervousness and trepidation.

Last August my wife, two kids and I made the move here from Mississauga. From the moment we moved in we were welcomed with open arms and open hearts from everyone.

Having been involved in a serious car accident — and subsequently undergone two back surgeries — my ability to do many of the day-to-day chores that many take for granted is very much limited.

Incredibly, my new neighbours have been available at a moment's notice, and been overwhelmingly helpful at these times.

This brings me to the reason for this letter. Having lived here for only three weeks, I received a letter from a neighbour through their lawyer requesting that I move my fence — that I didn't install but

which turned out to be encroaching on their property.

I mentioned to one of my other neighbours on Monday that the deadline for me to have the fence moved was rapidly approaching, and that's when things kicked into gear like a whirlwind.

My dilemma was brought up simply enough over a few beers and a game of cards. What happened next was something my wife and I couldn't believe, and something everyone should hear.

At 8:30 a.m. Tuesday I had half the neighbourhood in my yard. They were led by a man named Kevin who owns a local company called Pro Post. He showed up with a few friends, and all kinds of machinery. He proceeded to spend his holiday digging, sweating and showing incredible humanity by moving the fence the required distance.

This was a major undertaking, as my posts were a good four feet into

the ground — buried in concrete.

When he was about an hour or so into the job, I inquired about the amount I should expect to pay him. Without a second of hesitation he said, "Nothing. I just wanted to help."

This fellow Kevin had never even met me, and wouldn't have known me if he tripped over me, yet he was here on his day off just to help a fellow neighbour.

As a new resident of Milton, I'm overwhelmed by the sense of community I felt Tuesday, and it's something I truly wanted to share in these types of seemingly never-ending negativity.

To my wonderful neighbours, I offer a great big thank you — and party to follow. And to Kevin, I'd like to say that my beer will always be cold and my door will always be open.

Don Evans
Sherwood Road

Support for youth program much appreciated

Dear Editor:

I'd like to thank all of our donors who generously contributed to the first Peer Outreach Support Services and Education (POSSE) Project Murder Mystery silent auction fundraising event recently.

Our sponsors included Matt's Rib House of Milton. With their help, we were able to raise more than \$3,000 to help at risk youths in north Halton.

POSSE was designed by youths in north Halton to meet the needs of their peers through training workshops and street-level outreach programs. This project is geared toward youths, especially at-risk youths —

and is founded on the belief that youths are a valuable resource.

These young people are experts of their own lives and experiences, and therefore are in possession of the best solutions to the challenges they face. POSSE is a non-judgmental, harm reduction project committed to meaningful youth involvement.

Once again, thanks for your generosity and support for POSSE, our youths and our future.

Domenic Padula, project co-ordinator
POSSE

Help sought for Weekend to End Breast Cancer efforts

Dear Editor:

When it comes to kindness, generosity and a willingness to share, it must be said that Miltonians do make a difference.

During Saturday's Farmers' Market — the first of the season — we were extremely lucky to have a booth there in support of the Weekend to End Breast Cancer, which is taking place September 10 and 11.

To help sponsor our participation in this coming event, we sold herb seeds and kits with everything needed to start an herb garden, and accepted donations.

Each participant in this important walk must raise a minimum of \$2,000, and we look to creative initiatives in order to attract needed funds that are used by Princess Margaret Hospital for research into early diagnosis and treatment of

breast cancer.

We have elected to use the Farmers' Market as a location to increase awareness of this extremely important initiative and to help garner support for this worthy cause. We will be there again on July 23. Please make sure to come out and talk with us at our table. We look forward to meeting you.

Kathy and Roxane Beyette
Milton

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