

Province suffering from real shortage of teachers

'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

A scarcity of public school teachers is reported throughout Ontario. The explanation is low salaries and high living expense. There are higher financial rewards in other professions. There is no encouragement to the brainy man or woman to adopt the teaching profession and the present situation will not improve until there is a general increase in salaries.

...

One of the two small bridges on the base line (Steeles Ave.) opposite T.J. Chisholm's farm has been demolished. It gave way beneath Mr. Downs's engine. Ex Warden H.W. Cook inspected it on Saturday on behalf of the road and bridge committee of the county council and said it would be replaced with concrete and iron. In the meantime the road is barricaded and all vehicles have to go through Mr. Chisholm's lane and a field. Another bridge, less than a mile away, on the 5th line of Trafalgar, has been wrecked in the same way by Mr. Stark's engine. It is a township bridge and Trafalgar council will have it repaired or rebuilt.

...

Geo. Andrew conducted the sale of the residence and furniture of the late George Hume on Saturday. J.W. Elliott bought the residence for Mr. Andrew. The price was \$3,250, a figure which shows that the value of Milton real estate has increased about 50 per cent, within the last two or three years. There is a great demand for good dwellings. There are none to rent.

...

At a meeting of the congregation of Grace Church, held in the school-house yesterday evening, it was decided unanimously to have a surpliced choir. The matter of providing ways and means was left by resolution to the members of the choir, who will appoint a committee from among themselves to deal with it. The choir men and boys will be provided with cassocks and white surplices. It is expected that the choir will be vested in time for the anniversary services, about Nov. 1st.

...

About 3 p.m. on Friday Ephraim Ferrier

Milton Time Capsules



and Robert Hilson were killed by a dynamite explosion at the lime works of D. Robertson & Son, on the C.P.R., three miles west of Milton. Ferrier, who had handled dynamite for three or four years, had drilled three holes for blasts. He was in the habit of keeping a small supply of dynamite at the quarry, but in this case he found that it had been exhausted. He went to where the main supply was stored and brought back a fresh lot, no one knows how much, but perhaps ten or fifteen sticks. He carried them in a box, in which there were also some caps and a piece of fuse.

He set the box on the ground and began to prepare his three blasts. Hilson, who was employed as a teamster, had just loaded his wagon with stone. He walked over to where Ferrier sat and, stooping over him, began a conversation. The men were about 100 feet away from other workmen. There was an explosion, but no one can say what caused it. Ferrier's body was thrown about 30 feet. Both his legs were broken and mangled and his body was more or less bruised and burnt. When other men reached him he was breathing his last. Both Hilson's legs were broken backwards at the knees. Though he was not as badly mangled as Ferrier, he died in a few minutes. He spoke once and said he was dying. He was about 55 years of age and left a large family, most of whom are grown up. Ferrier's age was about 30. He left a young widow and three small children. Both were steady, hardworking men. Hilson's family asked for an inquest, but Coroner McColl saw no necessity for calling one, as the death of the men was purely accidental and no one but themselves was responsible for it.

...

Among those who left for the Northwest by the C.P.R. harvest excursion on Tuesday were Robert Goddard, Milton; Calvin Patterson of Nelson; Alex and Robt. Wilson, Norman McDougall, Duncan McCallum, Wm. Aitkin, Alex Hume and Robt. Marshall of Esquesing.

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

Thanks to everyone who helped to make recent Main St. Yarns fundraiser a success

Dear Editor:

On April 30, more than 30 people from within and around Milton came to Main St. Yarns and gave up some of their spare time to help spread comfort to children of Third World countries through a doll-making event.

I want to thank everyone who created a doll to help make this event such a success.

More than 200 dolls were created to be used as packing material for

medicines and medical equipment that are shipped overseas. On arrival, the dolls are shared with children who have HIV or AIDS, or who have lost loved ones due to conflict.

Retired military sergeant Michael Comeau, the Ontario director of Icross Canada — a non-profit, non-military organization — was on hand all day to share the vision and to promote the program.

A special thanks goes out to

Stella Rulton for helping to organize the event and volunteering to continue working with Sgt. Comeau.

And of course, thanks goes to Samantha Attew, who continually supports my efforts as a small business and who I know I can count on.

I've always known knitters to have big hearts. This just proves it. Thanks again, everyone.

**Carolyn Anstey, owner
Main St. Yarns**

Seeing daughter's red wagon put in pick-up truck and taken away was extremely upsetting

Dear Editor:

On Sunday at approximately 12:30 p.m. I was driving my truck down Main Street.

I made a left onto James Snow Parkway when I noticed that my tailgate was down. Just then my daughter's radio flyer wagon flew out the back.

There were a few cars and trucks behind me, and when looking out my rearview window I was surprised to see a man in a black pick-up truck pick up the wagon, put it in the back of his truck and drive off.

What kind of disgusting individual would do such a thing?

Are there people out there just waiting for things to

fall off of trucks?

I was so totally shocked that I didn't get a chance to get the licence plate number.

I realize that the wagon can be replaced, but it was a gift for my daughter's first Christmas and the sentiment attached to it can never be replaced.

If anyone saw this incident and has the licence plate number of this truck I would really appreciate it if they could contact me at (416) 716-6662 or (905) 876-0099.

Thank you.

**Loretta D'Alimonte
Milton**

Businesses come through again for Spring Fling

Dear Editor:

Once again local businesses have stepped up to support Martin Street Public School's Spring Fling festivities.

Our annual event was held Saturday and included a bounce castle, climbing wall, karaoke, mini putt, dunk tank, games and lots of food for the kids.

Our silent auction, raffle and lucky number draw rely on the generosity of local businesses, which definitely came through again this year. Martin Street Public School's parents, students and staff would like to thank all of these businesses for helping to make our Spring Fling a great success.

The Spring Fling committee will continue to promote Milton businesses because of their history of support for our school. By doing so, our school — with its own long history — continues to promote Milton.

**Mark Wallis
chairman, Spring Fling**

Rotary Park's Splash Zone should be open by now

Dear Editor:

It was very disappointing to my children and I to find Splash Zone at Rotary Park still not operating last weekend.

Page 23 of the Town of Milton's Community Guide clearly states that it would be open the first weekend of June.

What could have been better for children on a hot, muggy weekend like this? Perhaps staying indoors and watching TV?

Splash Zone at Meadowvale Park in Mississauga has already been open every day for three weeks now. Last year Rotary Park's Splash Zone opened nearly a month after it was scheduled to.

On behalf of my children, I want to say to some people at the Town that if you know you can't deliver on an opening, please don't promise it.

**Olga Rodrigues
Fourth Line**

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