

Young hooligans causing mischief throughout town

'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.

November 1905

On Saturday four or five boys held an elderly lady on Queen St. while one blew a horn in her face. Neighbors who went to the rescue and drove the boys away had their ears assailed by bad language. On Tuesday evening a gang of boys invaded the stairs and lower part of the town hall while the American Concert Co. were giving an entertainment. They made a great noise, went outside and pelted the windows with gravel and finally locked the door at the top of the stairs and made off. When the entertainment was over the audience could not get out until a man went behind the stage and opened the door. A number of residents on Main St. and in the east end of the town have had pickets and boards broken off their fences lately and it is supposed to be the work of the same boys. A little attention from the town authorities and the imposition of a few fines would do the boys good.

Joseph Timbers is now a County constable. Judge Gorham made the appointment yesterday.

A meeting of the Minto Curling Club was held on Tuesday evening. When the rink (on Mill St.) was built many curlers contributed on an agreement being made that the curlers should have the use of the ice every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening. This arrangement has not been carried out. Last season, for instance, the ice was appropriated for hockey matches etc, on curling nights so often that many curlers became disgusted and ceased to turn out for practice, and the club, which had flourished for many years, was almost dead. On Tuesday evening it was unanimously resolved that in future the curlers will not give up the ice on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday night during the season without the consent of the board of management. This means that when the ice is wanted from the curlers, application must be made for it and it must be made clear that the event for which it is asked cannot come off on any but a curling night.

The sad news has been received by cable

Milton Time Capsules



of the death of Dr. Robert Douglas Sproat at London, England. (The body is on the way home per the Virginian). Dr. Sproat was the younger son of the late John Sproat, of Milton. He passed his final examination at Toronto University a few years ago and shortly afterwards was attached as surgeon to a regiment of British regulars stationed at Bermuda, when his duties were principally to attend Boer prisoners. About a year ago he went to England where he was given an appointment as resident physician in one of the leading London hospitals, which he held up to the time of his death. He had held a commission as lieutenant in the 20th Lorne Rifles, having qualified at the School of Infantry. He was 26 years of age.

Don't fail to hear Prof. Firth, baritone, Miss Higgins, contralto, and Mr. Eaton, impersonator, at the school concert on Friday evening. Proceeds to buy maps etc. for the school. The bell, maps, charts, etc. were bought with the proceeds of past entertainments.

December 1905

At Friday's meeting of the county council it was decided to buy a stone crusher and horse roller, the best that can be obtained to be owned by the county and lent to the minor municipalities for use in making their roads. Whether anything is to be charged for the use of the machinery was not stated but if any charge is made it will be small. While many regret that a county good roads system has not been adopted and financial assistance thus secured from the government, the action of the council is a decided step in the right direction. It should result in a speedy and permanent improvement of county roads.

Neither of the two tenders for rental of the skating and curling rink received last week was accepted by its owners, who will manage it themselves during the coming season. They hope to do so to the satisfaction of all on account of difficulty in getting sufficient water.

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

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Declining quality of Canadian health-care needs to be addressed without the politics

Dear Editor:

I'm writing this letter in reply to *The Champion's* June 28 editorial concerning the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision that quashed a Quebec law banning residents from purchasing health insurance for services provided under the public health-care system.

In my opinion, the decision was a breakthrough for many patients, including those with cancer who were waiting beyond the medically-acceptable number of weeks to receive treatment. The doctor who launched this legal challenge 10 years ago was tired of watching patients die waiting for treatment. And isn't that what a doctor is supposed to do — save lives?

The Supreme Court of Canada recognized that the survival of a patient is more important than the survival of an ideology.

I feel our elected representatives have attempted to politicize health care rather than address the complexity of the issues of health-care delivery.

It seems easier to make this a battle of private versus public health-care, with scary American scenarios thrown into the mix. Canada's health-care affects every Canadian, yet politicians and journalists seem quick to abandon any intelligent appraisal of facts or real debate in favour of left versus right ideologies.

In Canada, long waiting lists for diagnostic and therapeutic services persist due to a shortage of equipment and trained-medical personnel.

Ask patients, or better yet talk to a technician who's now doing the work of three. Look at the average waiting time for treatment by a specialist, with figures available at www.fraserinstitute.ca.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to conclude that diagnostic imaging and medical treatment in Canada is in crisis thanks to years of government-funding cuts.

With regard to the public versus private debate, I met a gentleman who went back to India for his hip replacement surgery rather than

suffer with chronic pain waiting for surgery in Canada. When developing nations are providing health-care for Canadians, the political rhetoric about two-tiered health-care seems rather hollow.

The option to seek treatment abroad means, in my opinion, Canada does in fact have a two-tiered system — where the private option is supplied by other countries.

The Supreme Court has ruled that waiting times that put patients at risk are clearly not acceptable. It's imperative to resolve the issues that are compromising medical care in Canada in order to preserve our system of universal health-care.

A non-partisan approach to working with health-care providers and researchers to find the best solutions would go a long way to addressing these concerns and would achieve far more than the present political in-fighting.

Sophie Cheney
Campbellville

Care by Allendale staff was simply fantastic

(The following letter was addressed to the staff at Allendale Home Long-Term-Care Facility, and a copy was filed with *The Champion*.)

Dear Editor:

My sisters, cousin and I would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the care given to our mother, Mary Morgan, during her three years at Allendale by the present and past staff.

In our opinion, the atmosphere at Allendale is one of family. Every person on staff treats and speaks to all the residents by name and with personal concern and dignity.

The residents feel that personal concern, and the family of the residents feel like their concerns and questions matter.

Our mother passed away on June 24. The staff at Allendale made it possible for us to stay there for two days during this trying time.

During this period, there wasn't more than two hours

that passed that someone on staff didn't look in on us and our mother — checking to see if we were okay or needed anything.

"Was mom comfortable?", "Were we comfortable," "Did we want coffee?" and "Did we have any concerns?" were among things asked upon their regular visits.

And we can't express what the hugs from the staff meant to us.

Should any family be faced with the decision of finding a nursing home for one of their loved ones, they shouldn't hesitate to choose Allendale. The staff there will ensure that this transition is as painless as possible.

Our family thanks the staff from the bottom of our hearts.

Toni Morgan-Neller, Carolyn MacAuley,
Pauline Haydar and Jane Pierce

Be sure to include your name, address and telephone number when submitting a letter to the editor for publication.

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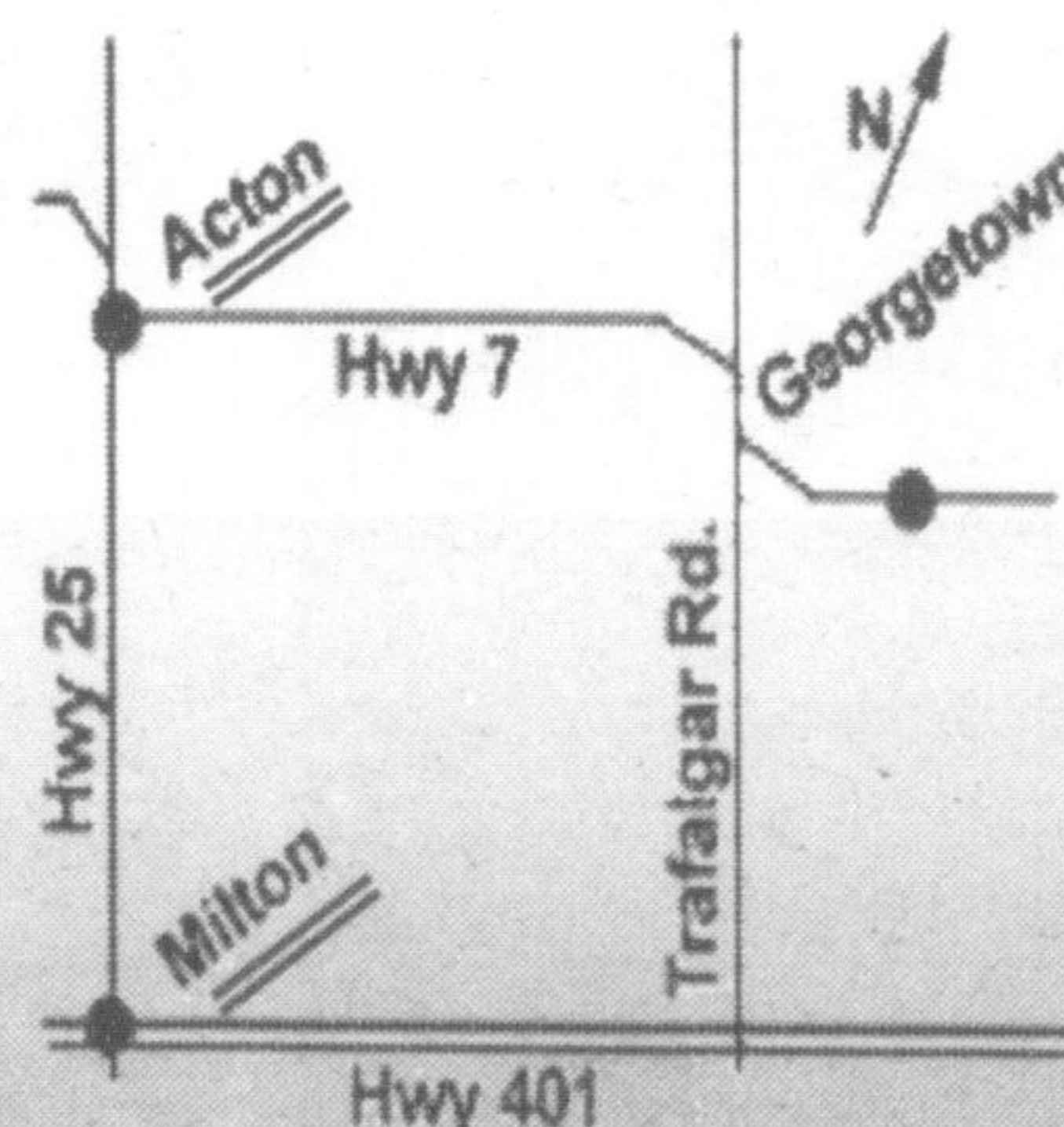
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