

Controversy exists over licensing of area hotels

'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.

January 1906

Local option was carried at Oakville on Monday by a majority of 76 and defeated at Acton by 29. In Scott Act days Oakville was a stronghold of the antis and Acton of the supporters of the Act. The change at Oakville is said to be due to the owner and lessees, of two hotels who have been deprived of their licenses, working and voting for the by-law. Nassagaweya carried local option by a majority of over 100 according to reports, but the official figures have not been received. There is only one licensed hotel in the township, that at Campbellville. Under its present proprietor it has been and is particularly well conducted, more so than it is likely to be in other hands and without a licence. Trafalgar also carried local option but the size of the majority has not been reported here. There is only one hotel to close, that at Postville. It is less important to the travelling public than that at Campbellville, if important at all.

Councillors elected were J.W. Bews, A.G.H. Luxton, S. Dice, J.A. Waldie, W.J. Dewar, John Somerville. The by-law, to raise by debentures \$20,000 for sidewalks and a bridge on Main Street, was carried by a majority of 60.

Grace Church choir will appear in surplices and cassocks for the first time next Sunday.

Isabelle A. McBrien, A.T.C.M. will be here next Wednesday to arrange for classes in musical kindergarten and voice. For terms and information apply at Mrs. Kelly's music store

Dr. S. Zimmerman, formerly of Milton and later of Toronto, came to town last week, and will spend the winter in Ontario. He has a cattle ranch, near Rama, in Saskatchewan. He looks well and says he enjoys the free life of the west.

Operations have been commenced on the Stevenson Block (Bergsma's), which was purchased some time ago by Messrs. Bastedo & Co. The partitions are being taken down and with the exception of the brick walls, it will be practically rebuilt, the two stores being thrown into one.

It is now proposed that the Milton Men's Club shall be connected with the Mechanics' Institute, 50 cents out of the annual fee to go to the Institute. A deputa-

Milton Time Capsules



tion from the promoters of the club will attend the annual meeting of the Mechanics' Institute on Tuesday evening to make the above proposal, after which there will be a general meeting of the members of the club.

Two weeks ago Manager S. Syer, of the Canadian Carpet Co., Milton, took possession of the Victoria Carpet Mills, Dunnville, formerly owned by Kitchen Bros. Mr. Syer put Mr. Kitchen in charge of the manufacturing part of the business and at once set it going, in the making of ingrain carpets, art squares and Smyrna rugs. The plant is large and up to date. It includes a number of power looms. It is said it may be eventually removed to Milton, after an enlargement of the present buildings of the company (on Commercial Street).

The Canadian Bank of Commerce imported eighteen young men from Scotland, who arrived last week, will be trained at the head office and distributed among the agencies. More Scots are to come. It is explained that there is a shortage in applications for clerkships in banks. The low salaries paid in Canada, the slow promotions and the race suicide involved by the prohibition of marriage on a salary of less than \$1,000 a year may account for the shortage.

Milton curlers had their first practice Monday evening. There were two games and good ice. The arrangements with the managers of the rink are more satisfactory than they have been for years and it is hoped that the good old game will boom this season.

The license held by Landlord Black, of the Campbellville hotel, will expire on May 1st and, on account of the passing of the local option by-law, will not be renewed. It is reported that Mrs. Sullivan, owner of the hotel, has agreed to sell it to a syndicate of local optionists, who will conduct it on the temperance plan, providing good accommodation for the travelling public. The hotel is a necessity, but members of the syndicate may find it difficult to make it pay without the profits of the bar unless they increase its rates. Perhaps there may be an increase, but at any rate Campbellville is setting a good example and the enterprise deserves success.

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

Criticism of school board chair and vice-chair over director's buyout is definitely warranted

Dear Editor:

We're writing this letter in response to Mark Wallis' July 22 letter to the editor entitled 'Criticism over issues facing Halton District School Board should be directed elsewhere'.

We believe there are a number of glaring inaccuracies and omissions in Mr. Wallis' letter.

School boards in this province govern in accordance with the Ontario Education Act and its respective policies and bylaws. The Ministry of Education-endorsed handbook for trustees and school boards states that "The school board as a corporate body, as the legislative source of all decisions, and individual trustees are given no authority through the Education Act" (page 25).

Furthermore, bylaw 1014 of the Halton District School Board states that "Individual board members or groups of members shall not undertake any action, investigation or negotiation that may be construed as acting on behalf of the board, except by explicit direction of the board."

Without any discussion at the

board table, and in direct contravention of this bylaw, board Chair Paul Tate and Vice-Chair Peggy Russell engaged a lawyer for the purpose of terminating the director's contract or negotiating a departure package.

Mr. Tate was fully aware of the terms of the agreement and he and Ms Russell chose to take this action. Mr. Tate chose to negotiate the buyout package, which is not a case of him "simply having to honour the terms of the contract."

In our opinions, this buyout should never have happened.

Added to the severance package will be legal fees, costs of the court reporters hired by Mr. Tate, a costly executive search for the new director and perhaps costs of police protection at board meetings.

Now that the budget has passed, we expect that all invoices will soon arrive at the board office, and we will be able to determine the actual cost of the actions initiated by the chair and vice-chair without approval of the board as a corporate body.

Mr. Wallis is correct about one thing. We didn't support changes to

policy and bylaws, one of which will allow the chair and vice-chair to seek legal opinions on anything they wish.

Based on the outcome of their last legal opinion expedition, we don't believe that our board, our schools or our students can afford this luxury for these two trustees.

We were told very clearly that any deficit carried over to the next fiscal year, as a result of this large and unexpected expenditure, will come from classroom resources, information technology or building maintenance.

We know that it seems to be human nature to blame and to point fingers at others when one feels vulnerable.

However, we believe that whatever criticism Mr. Tate may be experiencing in the media has come about as a result of his own actions and the choices he has made.

Mary Chapin and Ethel Gardiner, trustees
Halton District School Board

Visit to war museum left something to be desired

Dear Editor:

Recently my wife visited the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

To her surprise, she was required to pay a \$10 admission fee, even though she showed the ticket taker proof of a \$10,000 donation made to the museum by our family.

My wife's father, an infantry colonel, was killed in the Second World War. She herself is a war historian and has been quite supportive of the National Council of Veteran Associations, which represents 51 veterans' organizations and of which I'm the chairman.

Last year my wife visited the British War Museum in London and the Australian War Museum in Melbourne. Admission to both was free.

At the Canadian War Museum, however, she was told she could get in for free only if she could prove that she or her husband was a veteran. She complained that the museum is intended to teach all Canadians about war, not just veterans and their families.

I also take issue with some things in the museum.

I think the paintings of two peacekeepers charged with the murder of a Somali youth are an atrocity, and seem to act like a magnet for many visitors — particularly the younger ones.

Also, a placard in the museum states that 41.4 per cent of those who served in Korea contracted venereal disease (VD), which I believe is misleading. Some soldiers with whom I served in the Royal Winnipeg Rifles in England came down with VD, with many treated four or five times.

However, the museum's figures apparently count each incident as separate. Moreover, VD was a crime under army regulations and accordingly, the soldiers were punished.

I certainly feel that the Canadian War Museum is an excellent tribute to Canada's military heritage, but at the same time there are some valid criticisms to be made about the contents inside.

Clifford Chadderton, chairman
National Council of Veteran Associations

Thanks to everyone who supported Nicaragua mission

Dear Editor:

Our missions team from St. David's Church in Campbellville would like to take this opportunity to thank all the local businesses

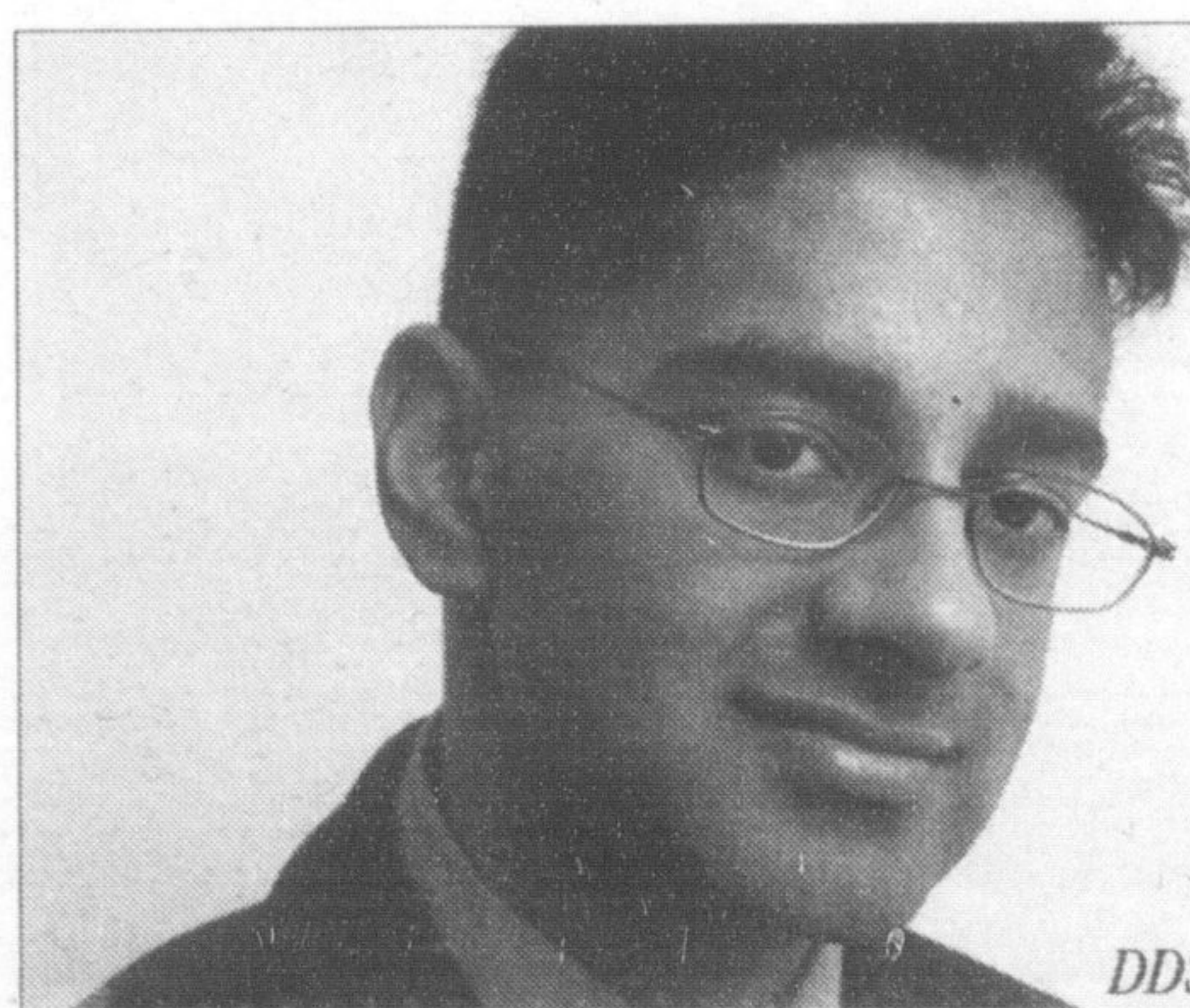
that made donations to our upcoming trip to Nicaragua.

More than 20 businesses supported our efforts, and all funds will help at feeding stations and in

Nicaragua, where we'll be visiting sick people and widows. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.

Jon Felsbourg
Campbellville

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