

Road-making competition draws sizeable gathering

'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.

May 1906

There was quite a gathering in Milton on Thursday of those interested in good roads to see the competition of road machine makers arranged by the County Council. The County Council of Wentworth sent representatives and so did Brampton. Unfortunately little was done on that day on account of the late arrival of some of the machines, and the actual contest did not take place until Friday. There were two crushers, from the Good Roads Machinery Co., of Hamilton and the Climax Co., of Syracuse N.Y. The American machine was of a smaller size than the other and smaller than required by the council. The larger Climax machine might have held its own with that from Hamilton, but the smaller could not. All the same the resolution to give the Hamilton machine the preference was opposed by three out of the seven members of the County Council who met after the competition. The J.I. Case Co. of Racine, Wis. and the Port Huron Engine & Thresher Co. sent steam road rollers. Both did splendid work and opinion as to their merits varied greatly. The Case roller got the preference, like the Hamilton crusher, but a majority of one. Its rear axles were one piece of solid metal, while those of the Port Huron roller were bolted to the boiler and there was some doubt as to their stability. They, however, were guaranteed to stand any strain put on them. Another difference was that in the Port Huron roller the greater part of the weight was on the rear roller, while in that from Racine the weight was evenly divided. The even distribution got the preference from the council and also from the Wentworth councillors who bought the competing Case roller before Halton's council met. Halton will get two new machines and the Hamilton crusher will remain here for use until replaced by the new one. There was no competition of graders, but the Climax Co. sent one to show what it could do. It was pronounced by good judges to be much the best that they had seen in operation.

The first baseball game of the season was played on Saturday at the fairgrounds between Milton and Carlisle. All of the locals except Campbell, Atkinson, Springgay and Field were new to the team.

Milton Time Capsules



Milton won by a score of 12 to 1.

...

Workmen are engaged in building a residence (159 Martin St.) for D.S. Robertson on the two acres of land on Martin Street which he bought some time ago from Jasper Martin. Thos. Coxe bought four acres adjoining and may build too.

...

Last week the Canadian Carpet Co. moved all the machinery from their Dunnville factory to that here. This means a largely increased output and also more hands for whom dwellings will be needed.

...

Messrs. Dewar Bros. have sold out their stock of hardware to Messrs. Clements & Co., who are removing it to their store, corner of Main and Martin Streets. Councillor W.J. Dewar will remove to Edmonton next month and his brother, John, may also go west, but has not yet decided on it. Both the Dewar brothers have lived in Milton since their childhood. They are popular, have been prominent in the affairs of the town and will be greatly missed. It is not likely that any new firm will go into the hardware business here.

...

W. J. Lindsay, of Toronto, is in town soliciting subscriptions for shares in the Farmers' Bank of Canada which has received its charter and will begin to do business shortly. Mr. Lindsay has secured a number of subscriptions for shares in this neighborhood. (The bank later failed and local supporters lost heavily.)

...

Though the band has been weakened during the last few months by the removals of leading players, particularly by that of Stephen Conway, solo euphonium, Bandmaster Gollins has got it into a fine state of efficiency. The first open air concert of the season was given on Saturday evening. On the program were several selections played publicly for the first time.

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

High-density housing needed in Milton to combat both urban sprawl and poverty

Dear Editor:

Khamis Doka's recent rant against plans for development of high-density housing alternatives belies a 'me first' attitude that's not needed in Milton.

People often criticize our local government officials for a lack of foresight when they speak of plans for high-density housing when, in my opinion, the provision for a mixture of housing types is reflective of good town planning.

Urban sprawl is bad for communities and is often associated with a host of health concerns ranging from rises in obesity to respiratory ailments caused by decreased air quality. It's also shown to lead to a decreased sense of community and rise in greenhouse emissions.

It takes a crippling toll on green space, wildlife and agricultural land, along with the consequent blow to things like water quality and quantity.

Low-density communities make

public transit less cost-effective for municipalities, which compounds several of the problems mentioned above. The cost of supporting the infrastructure upgrades required for huge, sprawling communities is far higher than those required to support a more dense population.

While Khamis Doka may extol the virtues of Mississauga and Mayor Hazel McCallion's urban planning legacy, the huge migration of people from that city hardly supports the idea that people want more of the same. In fact, Ms McCallion has stated that the urban planning of Mississauga and the associated sprawl is one of her greatest mistakes as mayor.

Khamis Doka seems to suggest that people who live in high-rise buildings are the ones who participate in gang violence and shootings. I live in an apartment and I haven't shot anyone recently. I do know, however, that increases in crime are associated with an

increase in poverty, which is associated with escalating housing costs that are associated with a lack of affordable housing.

So the argument seems to shoot itself in the foot.

It is, in part, an effort to prevent increases in poverty that has caused the Region of Halton to develop an affordable housing strategy, which includes a call for high-density housing.

I'm highly suspicious of the motives of people who argue against affordable and high-density housing options. Town council should be strongly commended for listening to suggestions on mixed development.

Before the wave of new development in Milton, we had a mixture of housing options. The same is called for now by forward-thinking people.

Paul Wild
Ontario Street

Housing letter contained incorrect information

Dear Editor

I'm writing in response to Khamis Doka's October 7 letter entitled 'Ongoing preoccupation with high-density housing is simply not healthy for our town'.

The letter contains a great deal of misinformation about housing and economic development in Milton. The most serious error the writer makes is in saying that Milton council has "little or no vision at all for attracting investment and employment to our community."

I submit the following facts and leave readers to draw their own conclusions. The information comes from the Spring 2005 edition of Milton.ca News, a publication of Milton Economic Development.

- From 2000 to 2005, the town has recorded a 53 per cent increase in the number of households and a 54 per cent increase in square feet of industrial/commercial

space. No other community in Ontario can compare with Milton's rate of balanced growth across all sectors.

- 2004 was a record year for industrial and commercial growth in Milton, with over 1.4 million square foot of new construction.

Two recent projects are a 352,000 square foot building belonging to Verus Partners fronting on Hwy. 401 at the Steeles Ave. overpass and Smurfit-MBI's 261,000 square foot facility for manufacturing corrugated containers. Just a drive around the industrial/commercial areas north of the 401 demonstrates that Milton's economic development is keeping pace with the residential growth, as is needed for a healthy community.

Wendy Schau
Ward 4 Councillor

Letter's Thanksgiving list had one glaring omission

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Alison Kingelin's recent letter entitled 'Church's Thanksgiving message uncalled for'.

With respect, Ms Kingelin left

out the person to thank for providing the earth and the heavens so that we have the soil and its nutrients, the rain and the sun and all the other raw materials without which there would be no turkey, no veg-

etables, no delivery trucks and — in fact — no family members to celebrate with. And there would be no Alison Kingelin or anyone else.

Elizabeth Aiton
Milton



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