

## Town purchases horse for various public works

'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.

June 1906

The town of Milton has invested in a horse, a husky looking Percheron, to draw the water cart and do other public work. This is the only horse owned by the corporation but it should be distinctly understood that this is no one-horse town.

...

The wedding of Dr. W. Edgar Robertson to Miss Minnie M.V. Smith, daughter of the Rev. Nathaniel Smith, has taken place. In September Dr. and Mrs. Robertson intend sailing for South China where the doctor has been appointed to the medical staff of the hospital in Hengchow.

...

E.C. Featherstone has completed a large group picture of all the past masters of St. Clair Lodge No. 135, G.R.C., from its institution in 1860 up to 1906, a collection of the individual portraits of some of the first of the past masters, but not one is missing. The large picture will be framed and hung in the lodge room and copies of a somewhat smaller size will be made for sale to the brethren.

...

Agriculture, Social- It is announced that at the Gastle garden party in Nelson there will be a very interesting demonstration of churning with a new churn. At Mrs. McMullen's the churn made the butter come in 1 1/2 minutes. It is said to be the wonder of the age.

July 1906

There was a debate on the Case road roller at Friday's meeting of the county council. It had been alleged that its actual weight was under its nominal weight, ten tons, and that it would not do the work required, but there was no proof of this and it was decided to pay for it this week. Mr. Kennedy, head agent for the Port Huron Engine and Thresher Co. was at the meeting, ready to take an order if the Case roller was rejected.

...

The Monarch Concrete Pavement Co., which has the contract for Milton's new sidewalks, has begun operations on both sides of James Street and will tackle other

## Milton Time Capsules



streets in due time.

...

The rule abolishing horse-racing at agricultural fairs and substituting competitive trials of speed has necessitated a definition, and that has been supplied by Superintendent Cowan. Under the new rule it is necessary to take into account points of excellence other than speed in awarding prizes.

...

Workmen are busy at the foundations of six of the dwellings to be built by the Milton Pressed Brick Co. and to be occupied by employees and their families. One family is still housed in the rink here and will appreciate better quarters. The enterprise of the company will somewhat relieve the house famine in Milton but many more dwellings are needed.

...

The road which runs northeast from Main Street across one concession, (Main St. east to Thompson) will be continued across to the 5th concession Trafalgar. J. Dickin, W. Dickson, Alex. Storey and Alex. Cook have agreed to give land for a forty-foot roadway. (It was called "Given Road" until recent years.)

...

The work of laying concrete pavements is going on fast in Milton, but there is trouble over a proposition to boulevard Main Street from the Methodist Church to the south end of the town. The objections urged are that the roadway will be made too narrow, that there should be no jogs in the walks, that there will be heavy additional expense and that the boulevard part of the street will be unsuitable for business establishments.

...

Lorne Duff is in town on a vacation after an absence of seven years. He spent the first two in Texas and during the last five he has been employed on the Panama Canal Commission.

*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

### Frustrations about Milton should be directed at Town Hall, not other frustrated individuals

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Jim Timbers and Paul Wild's letters regarding my opinion on high density housing.

First, I must commend and say kudos to both Mr. Timbers and Mr. Wild for coming out of the woods and expressing their concerns and frustration over the current problems plaguing our town. Town Hall needs to know that Miltonians care about their community and would like to be part of the solution.

Hence the ideas tossed about in *The Champion* are an attempt to provide Town Hall with some things to ponder. Ultimately though, any action or inaction to resolve Milton's problems rests squarely at the doorsteps of Town Hall.

Having said that, I must say any ideas expressed by myself, Mr. Timbers, Mr. Wild or anyone else is no holier than thou or cast in stone. With this in mind, I think Mr. Timbers' attempt to cajole and drive me out of town by saying, "If Mississauga is such a great community with such great leadership, why don't you move there?" is simply immature and childish.

On the one hand, he concurs and agrees with me on a whole range of issues, but would like to add to those issues, and on the other hand he wants me to get the hell out of

town. Who is more confused — him or me?

To analyze Milton's problems, a comparison needs to be made between Milton and the surrounding communities. If the surrounding communities were able to combat and resolve their problems, what lessons can we draw from them to help us resolve ours?

Conversely if they failed, we can learn from their mistakes so we don't make the same mistakes. I believe that was the basic premise of my comparison between Milton and Mississauga.

Secondly I must say that I could, if I want to, engage in splitting hairs or poking holes in Mr. Timbers' ideas by asking if Milton is such a great community and paradise, then why is he whining and complaining about traffic congestion on Milton roads?

If Milton has such great leadership why is he engaged in calling Milton council "inept"? Going down this road leads us into treacherous territory, which in my opinion defeats our desire to be part of the solution.

As to the high density/high rise development proposed at Derry Road and Fourth line, I must say to Mr. Wild like I said earlier that it doesn't fit with the existing development in the area.

It will stick out like a sore thumb

in the skyline. It will be painful to the eye. This isn't to say that I'm against high-density development. Milton isn't fully developed yet, therefore council can find an appropriate location for this type of housing.

I think Mr. Wild's lamentation about urban sprawl is completely ill-founded. The development on Main Street and Derry Road hardly qualifies as urban sprawl. Similarly, I'm not exactly sure how high-density housing is going to resolve issues of obesity, much less other health ailments. I can't understand how riding an elevator up and down a high-rise building will help an obese person lose weight. Shouldn't building sports arenas, parks and trails be the solution to obesity?

Finally, I must conclude by saying that I'm not the mayor, nor am I a councillor or a consultant for Town Hall. Any ideas I express are my opinions and shouldn't be taken as though I'm speaking on behalf of Town Hall.

If any Miltonian is frustrated at Town Hall, they must rightfully direct their frustration at Town Hall and not at individuals who are themselves frustrated with Town Hall.

Khamis Doka  
Milton

### Cart is being put before the horse in regard to many of the decisions surrounding growth

Dear Editor:

Just wanted to express my thoughts on two recent *Champion* articles.

In the October 14 issue, a story was written about the proposed subdivision at the corner of Derry and Tremaine roads. In the article the reporter used the word proposed and spoke of the need for a zoning change to be passed in order for this to happen.

It seems funny to me that the earth-moving equipment has already begun clearing the site and it has already been staked.

Isn't this a bit premature considering it hasn't even been decided on yet? Do you think that's just a formality?

This also ties in with *The Champion's* October 18

article on the traffic situation along Thompson Road, as once again the cart is placed before the horse. This area will be developed and the roads surrounding it might catch up in several years.

When I moved to Milton some 10 years ago, it was a quaint little town with charm. While I realize the inevitability of growth, it would have been nice if some forethought had been used in an attempt to keep the charm and keep the town as unique as possible.

However, it looks like Milton is becoming just another Mississauga or Brampton, with the box stores and plazas that are either already built or in the planning. Too bad.

Gunnar Lindberg  
Sunnyvale Crescent



## Quality of Life

### TRAFALGAR MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Dedication Ceremony for the Trafalgar Memorial.

**Date:**  
Thursday, November 10, 2005

**Time:**  
2:30 p.m.

**Location:**  
Trafalgar Memorial Corner of Central Park Dr. & Oak Park Blvd. Oakville, ON

**Parking:**  
Parking is not available at the Memorial. You are welcome to park at Wal-Mart (Trafalgar Rd. & Dundas St.) by the Garden/Tire & Lube Centre and either walk over or take an Oakville Transit shuttle bus. Buses will be departing at 2:15 p.m. and returning following the ceremony.



*The Trafalgar Memorial was built as a tribute to the original Trafalgar Memorial Hall that stood at the corner of Trafalgar Rd. and Dundas St. from 1949 - 1999. It includes an Honour Roll list recognizing Trafalgar Township veterans who served in World War I and II, and the Korean War.*

