

# Children die from taking opium left on doorsteps

'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.

December 1906

A Miltonian says that a short time ago his little son found a box of pills which had been left on his doorstep as a free sample. The child thought they were candy and would have eaten them if he had been allowed to do so. They contained enough opium to kill several small boys. Cases of the fatal poisoning of children by free samples of patent medicines distributed as the above pills have been reported at different places.

...

County Council gave permission to the township of Trafalgar to open a roadway 40 feet in width across concessions four and five in the new survey of the said township and between lots 13 and 14 of both concessions, on the understanding that the county does not assume any responsibility. (This was the extension of the present Main St. from Thompson Road to Fifth Line.)

...

A number of employees of the Milton Pressed Brick Co., all more or less recent arrivals from Britain, went on strike last Saturday on account of a reduction having been made in their pay. A few have gone back to work at the reduced rate. The rest are still out and likely to remain so. It is said that all the places have been filled by new men.

...

Taking advantage of the cold snap, the owners of the rink started a man to make ice some days ago. He was getting on well, but the water supply was shut off. The reservoir is low, notwithstanding the late rains. Apparently there are leaks in the mains or intake pipes or both. Milton is not likely to have a hockey team this winter.

...

The Milton school board met on Monday, received and accepted the resignation of Miss Hockey, teacher of the continuation classes, and gave Misses Bowes and Lawrence an increase of \$40 each in salary, from \$350 to \$400 a year. It has been intimated that Milton's Model School will not be abolished just yet, but will be continued at least a year.

## Milton Time Capsules



...

Brock Chapman has been promoted to the teller's wicket in the Milton agency of the Bank of Hamilton. He is only 16 and is the youngest teller in the bank's employ.

...

George Storey has sold out his hardware business to John T. Hannant, but retains his agency for the Deering implements. H.H. Freeman retains his position in the hardware store.

...

On Tuesday the town's horse and his harness were sold to Murray Crawford, of Campbellville for \$200. The animal cost the town \$215 and his outfit, freight and other charges brought the total up to \$267.

...

The rink opened on Monday evening. A fine sheet of ice had been prepared by John Trimble, who has been engaged for the season as caretaker by the Rink Association, who will run the rink themselves, instead of leasing it. Curling will begin tomorrow. Season tickets for skating and curling are on sale.

...

John T. Hannant has bought out the hardware business successfully conducted for ten years by George Storey.

...

Justices of the Peace appointed for Halton included the following for Milton: William S. Chisholm, Alexander C. McNabb, John W. Murray, David Hartley, Samuel Dice, Hugh Campbell, Richard L. Hemstreet, David Robertson, J.H. Peacock.

...

A couple of days before Christmas, C.E. Galloway circulated a subscription list for the benefit of the poor of Milton. The result was the distribution of \$50 and two tons of coal among those thought to need and deserve assistance.

*This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached at [jdills@idirect.com](mailto:jdills@idirect.com).*

# OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

## Let's hope 2006 has more democracy and community involvement in Milton

Dear Editor:

How can citizens truly get involved when they're not even allowed the time to review a proposed budget before it rapidly gets passed by a well orchestrated council?

Whatever the reasons for this urgency, I feel they don't justify the kidnapping of democracy by Milton council. In my opinion, citizens have once again been gagged.

A recent article in *The Champion* reflects the hurried budget process that we've just again had in Milton. In reality, how many councillors actually talked with their electorate about the budget? How many people actually knew what the budget was about and how they could get involved in the discussion?

I think there's been too many times the citizens of Milton have had democracy removed from their right to be actively involved. I believe council doesn't adhere to public consultation guidelines when they don't wish to do so. This pushed-through budget is a good example of that.

There needs to be — and there will be — changes in 2006.

Democracy has to be — and will be — returned to the citizens of Milton.

Do Miltonians need the Region of Halton, the Province of Ontario and our federal government to get involved and help ensure we actually have a chance to participate in democracy? Many would say we do.

I ask Miltonians to help us in our struggle to regain basic democratic rights in Milton, for I think clearly they have been taken away from us.

There will be changes coming next election, but we also need to have a measurable democratic process in place that will give new councillors the clear ability to speak on behalf of their electorate and not just be forced to follow the thinking of a few on council.

Please understand that we do have a few on council who really want to make a difference on behalf of the citizens of Milton, but in my opinion it appears they're being continuously over-governed in their ability to be effective.

May the new year bring us: **Peace** — Heaven knows there's been little enough of it on our plan-

et lately.

**Prosperity** — For everyone, not just a few on council.

**Health** — As it used to be in Ontario, the premier health centre of the country.

**Democracy** — As defined by the citizens and not by the politicians in power.

An editorial passage published last January in *The Champion's* sister paper, *The Flamborough Review* reads: "Democracy is government by the people. That's the definition in most dictionaries. It doesn't say government chosen by elected politicians on behalf of the people whether the people like it or not because politicians know what's good for the masses better than the masses do themselves. No it doesn't say that. And let's hope it never does."

I really hope 2006 can be the year that this quote truly becomes a tested reality, and not just a dream of Canadians. I know that many of us in Milton truly hope for it to happen.

**Bob Beyette**  
Campbellville

## Country Heritage Park and its artifacts are simply too important to let slip away

Dear Editor:

I'm amazed at the apathy shown by the Niagara Escarpment Commission and residents of Halton in regards to the possible closure of the place housing tens of thousands of historical items — Country Heritage Park.

And this on the basis of one complaint — out of 56,000 Milton inhabitants.

As for aesthetics of the vehicles being parked there, what about the trucks across the road from Country Heritage Park?

Or what about the remains of the gravel pit further

south on Tremaine Road constantly being used by trail bikes roaring through its paths?

I'm sure the American antique collectors are rubbing their hands in glee at the thought of taking home our historical treasures that have been lovingly restored and maintained by volunteers.

The Town of Milton receives a portion of the slots revenue from Mohawk. Country Heritage Park would be a good investment for our future generations, to educate them about our heritage.

**H. Shaver**  
Milton

## Letters welcome

The Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise and reject letters. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Letters can be e-mailed to [miltoned@haltonsearch.com](mailto:miltoned@haltonsearch.com), faxed to (905) 878-4943 or dropped off at 875 Main St. E.



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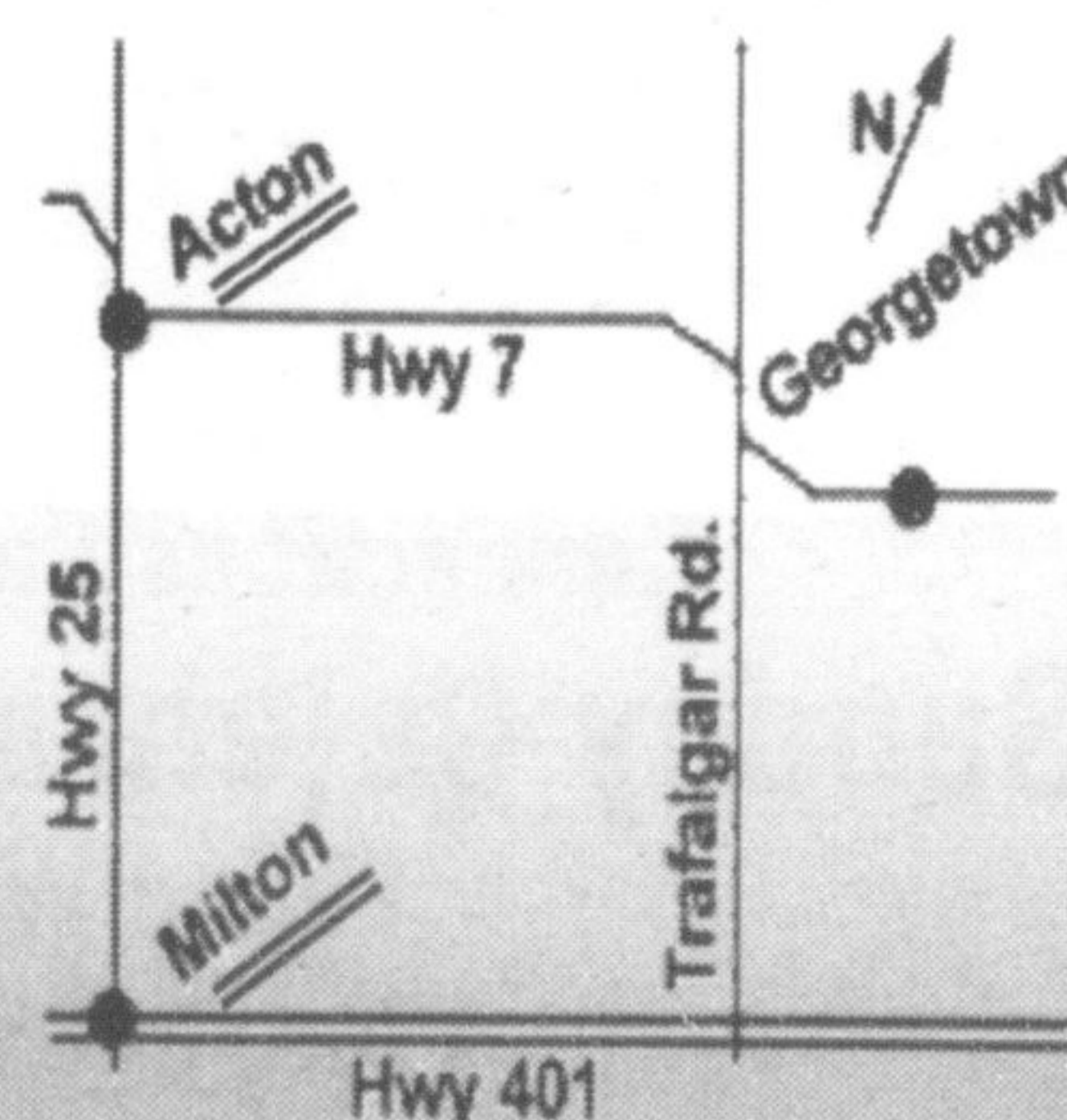
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