

Aggressive stand needed here

DEAR EDITOR:

Since your paper took up almost two pages to tell Milton how irate I was in Milton Council Chambers, I would like a chance once and for all to explain clearly to the taxpayers why I took such an aggressive stand in this matter.

Firstly, these homes are not designated pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act. However, a letter I received June 26 from the Town, stated, "Subsequent recommendations were made by Heritage Milton and approved by Milton council that the house be moved." That was the red brick house being moved to Bell Street.

I assume both houses were approved by Heritage Milton and Milton council. The Town stated that was "due to its intrinsic nature and desire to retain it in the historic downtown area."

The conflict of interest I spoke of was that in fact a member of Heritage Milton did get awarded the home for \$1, and the home was moved for more than \$29,000.

Now let's not lose sight of the fact that this was moved for a company that could in the long run renovate the home and make a profit. Why did the Town not ask this private company to pay back those moving costs? That was my issue.

Yes, the Town is paying to move the other home to Bell Street, but with a huge and dra-

matic difference that should be noted to the taxpayers. The Town owns the home and the Town owns the land. Paying for the cost of the move of this home doesn't in any way profit a private company.

I'm not contesting so much the move of that old home next door to my parents, but the reasoning of the move. For people who haven't seen this home, it's not in very good condition and it's being moved to a nice neighbourhood.

I say if the home isn't designated a heritage home, then why not just demolish it? In fact, who other than council and the heritage people are in favour of spending tax money to move this home?

As reported in The Champion, I asked Mayor Gord Krantz to sell me the home for \$1 and move it for free. That was said sarcastically, and for those who viewed it on COGECO 14, you will see I said that wouldn't be fair because everyone in Milton should be treated "fairly," and there should be no "discrimination."

I was trying to make a point here. If the Town could help one company make a profit, why not me or why not all the taxpayers of Milton? That's the reason I wish to retain counsel. I have already discussed this matter with a lawyer.

I wish to purchase the lot on Bell and Barton streets at fair

market value so the taxpayers won't be cheated. I oppose the home being moved because of the costs involved.

I also received from the Town of Milton Report No. ES-067-03, dated August 18, 2003, stating that for this lot to be sold as a building lot, all potential purchasers must be aware of certain work to be completed. "This work entails moving a 825 mm storm water sewer, providing a storm water easement to the Town and a water main easement to the Region."

I did point my finger at Jennifer Reynolds at the meeting. I hope finger pointing isn't against the law now. Yes it's rude, but I would rather The Champion have called me rude rather than irate.

It's easy to be rude when you have no respect for the persons you are addressing, and I guess that was obvious on my part.

I did call Krantz 'King Kahouna'. That's an old king from Hawaii, I believe, which wasn't reported in The Champion. I did tell him he looked like he spent too much time on the golf course with that tan he was sporting. I also told him it was a compliment.

I'm more passionate about justice, equality and discrimination than I am irate. This I want my fellow Miltonians to know.

LORA BRITAIN
MILTON

Starling issue needs to be dealt with

DEAR EDITOR:

I have an opposing view to Rod Gobby's concerning the bird and tree-banging issue.

The Euro starling roosts in your trees by night and flies by dawn to the open fields around Milton to feed on insect larvae during the day. Hundreds fly south while I depart for work in the early hours of the day. They return to your tree to be safe from predators.

I suggest that each homeowner with a serious Euro starling issue get a bird feeder — or two or three — and encourage cardinals, chickadees, chirping sparrows and the dreaded mourning doves to visit your feeder.

I have three feeders that I keep well stocked, and have attracted all the above-mentioned birds,

as well as American goldfinches. The key is to have an accipiter and small falcon population in the area.

I have no starlings, and yes I have coopers hawks and sharp shinned hawks hunting in and around my neighbourhood. American kestrels can control the population of the dreaded starlings as well.

The only good thing that has come from this poorly-planned expansion of the town is the water drainage system. The variety of birds has increased in the last year.

When was the last time you saw a trumpeter swan in Milton?

VICTOR IANNANDREA
MILTON

P.L. Robertson's Big Screw Company coming to Milton

'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.

April 1908

The Big Screw Company is now a certainty for Milton. The negotiations between the town council and the P.L. Robertson Manufacturing Co. Limited, of which mention was made in our last issue, have resulted in the decision of that company to permanently locate their factories in Milton.

...

Jacob Tuck on the west half of lot 8, Con 8 N.S. Trafalgar has sold his 100 acre farm to Jonathan Featherstone. Mr. Featherstone now owns 675 acres of land, all close to Drumquin. He has five sons and two daughters.

...

W.F. Dewar came home about a week ago after a long tour with the Kilties' band, which wound up in Mexico. He looks well and is well tanned by the Mexican sun. The Kilties' band is broken up and a new one organized, styled the Frazer Highlanders, of which Mr. Dewar is manager. They will set out on an extended tour next month.

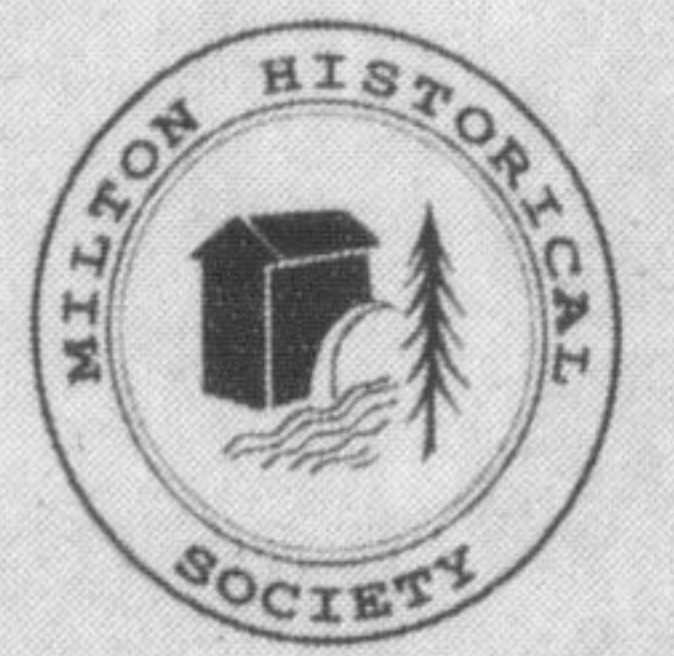
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The Y.M.C.U. has between seventy and eighty members. The following delegates will attend the older boys' convention at Brantford on Friday and Saturday: Elgin Ford, Stuart Jones, Albert Knapp, Chas. Jackson, S. Hannant, Wm. Brush and Frank McCannell. A weekly evening Bible class will be organized fairly soon.

...

Two years ago Andrew Carnegie agreed to give Milton a \$5,000 public library building on the usual terms, the municipal council to guarantee the annual expenditure of 10 per cent of that amount for maintenance. The council did not act at that time. Now, on account of the organization of the Y.M.C.U. and the prospect that it will be made a branch of the

Milton Time Capsules



Y.M.C.A., the scheme is being pushed again with the design of having a Y.M.C.A. gymnasium in the basement of the building. A meeting of prominent citizens was held at the Royal Templar's hall yesterday evening at which committees were appointed to select a site, etc. There is good reason to hope that the building will be erected during the coming summer. It may be found desirable to have it a little larger than at first proposed. It that case it is not expected that Mr. Carnegie will object to increase the amount of his grant.

...

On the evening of Good Friday the choir of the Methodist Church gave a sacred concert in the church, assisted by Miss Gertrude Hollinrake, soprano, and E.E. Yates, violin, of Milton and Major F.H. Deacon, baritone, of Toronto. A large share of the credit for the success of the concert is due to Miss Deacon, leader of the choir, and to Miss Lawrence, organist.

...

An acetylene gas lighting plant is being installed in the Bank of Hamilton this week. The tank is the latest and said to be absolutely safe, no explosion being possible.

...

Messrs. J.T. Hannant and E.J. Wilson have bought out the grocery business of Messrs P.M. McKay's Sons. Mr. McKay has been in business here about forty years and has been the senior merchant of the town since the retirement of Mr. Hollinrake. He and his family will remove to Toronto.

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Milton's population for 1908 is 1,624, a gain of 114.

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



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