

ReadersWrite

Email your letters to editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

These types of letters only escalate tension between motorists, cyclists

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to comment on Stan Thomson's August 5 letter entitled 'Cyclists not obeying rules of road.'

Writing and publishing these types of letters doesn't serve any purpose beyond escalating a 'them-against-us' atmosphere, which seems to be increasing.

Are there cyclists who don't respect the Highway Traffic Act? Definitely. Are there motorized vehicle drivers who don't respect the rules of the road? You bet.

I believe the *Champion* could better serve its readership by writing short, educational pieces about how automobiles and cyclists could improve their co-existence on the road. These articles should be informative for both sides.

There seems to be a miscon-

ception among many drivers that cyclists must ride single file at all times. Nowhere in the Highway Traffic Act does it say this. Single-file riding should be done out of courtesy to drivers where there's traffic in both directions, so as to not hinder traffic flow.

Many drivers seem to have the urge to stay within the yellow line when passing a cyclist. Why not pass a cyclist the way one would pass a car, a motorcycle or any other vehicle? Change lanes.

A cyclist is to ride as far to the right as is practicable and a distance of a half-metre from the edge of the road is generally acceptable.

In many parts of the world and in some parts of the United States, there's a four-foot law that says a driver must allow a space of at least four feet when

passing a bicycle.

Adding the four feet (1.2 m) to the half-metre requires passing cars to move over and encroach onto the oncoming lane. A car should therefore only pass a cyclist when it's safe to do so, regardless of whether or not the cyclist rides single or double file.

I'm a driver and a cyclist — like most cyclists are — and I ride for recreational purposes about 6,000 km/year. It's my experience that, with few exceptions, drivers and cyclists respect one another.

Those who don't need to be educated with the facts and for that purpose a local newspaper such as the *Champion* could play a leading role.

JOACHIM WULFERS
MILTON

Veterinarian's compassion and support in time of need very much appreciated

DEAR EDITOR:

Throughout the years, I've had many furry family members and have been to numerous vets before moving to Milton.

Since moving to Milton nine years ago, I've been seeing Dr. Debbie Hawkins, Dr. Sue Hornemann and all the wonderful staff at Hawkins Animal Hospital. They have taken care of three of our dogs and seven of our cats with great care and compassion.

Recently, I pleaded to Hawkins Animal Hospital for help on behalf of the Etobicoke Humane Society (EHS), where I have volunteered for more than a decade. We had recently taken in more than 40 cats and our cages were overflowing.

Would Hawkins Animal Hospital be able to

keep a couple of cats for two weeks until we freed up some cage space?

Without hesitation, Dr. Hawkins and her staff did. For over four weeks now they've boarded them free of charge, providing food, water, shelter, litter and care — refusing to take a penny from us and allowing these cats to stay as long as required.

I just want to thank them sincerely for once again demonstrating their sincere love of animals, no matter which municipality they are from, and for being there for the EHS and for these mistreated cats.

I'm so grateful that we have entrusted our pets to not only great veterinarians, but true animal lovers.

KIRSTEN BLAIN
MILTON

Robertson soldiers of Milton learn their brother killed on battlefield

'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.

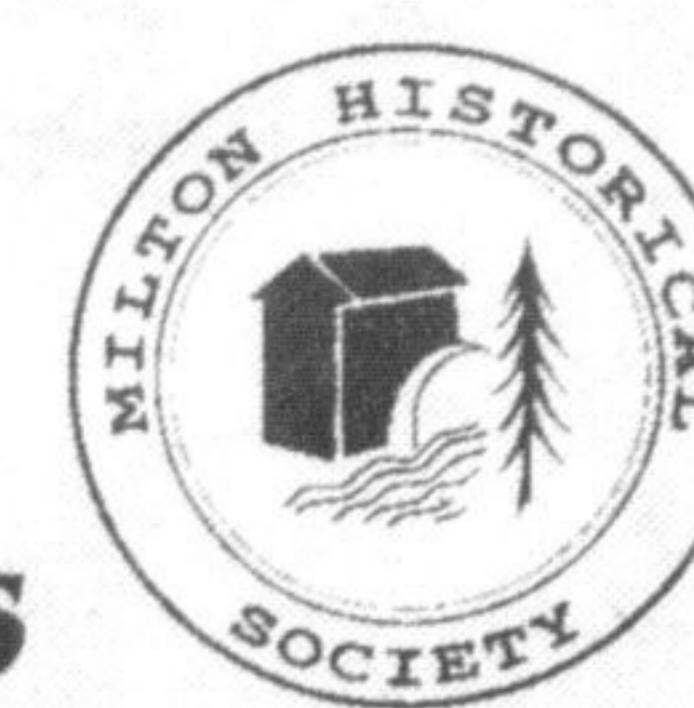
March 1916

Last Sat. D.S. Robertson received a cable from Capt. D.E. Robertson, No. 2 Field Ambulance in France, that their brother Lieut James Ernest Robertson of 27th Batt. was killed on Thursday. He was born on the home- stead near Milton before the family moved to Toronto during his childhood. He received his B.A. from Toronto University, studied law, was called to the bar and went to Winnipeg where he practiced until the death of his eldest brother, Alexander in 1911, when he returned to Toronto and lived there with his mother and two sisters until Mrs. Robertson's death in 1913 after which he returned to Winnipeg. He had not been connected with the militia before the outbreak of war but last year responded to his call to duty and joined 90th Reg. Winnipeg Rifles for a commission and left in August in command of a draft of men for his corps at the front. He entered the trenches for the first time Dec. 16. While he was in Toronto he was a frequent visitor to Milton. The Misses Robertson came to Milton last Saturday evening.

Sam McDowell of Campbellville heard last week from his son, Pte. D. McDowell, of the 42nd Batt. who was reported wounded some time ago. He was back again in the trenches. His wound was slight. A shrapnel bullet hit him in his side. He had been only two weeks in hospital in France.

During the Silver anniversary services of the Methodist Church (St. Paul's) a presentation of beautiful

Milton
Time
Capsules



oak pulpit and three pulpit chairs "especially designed and constructed to conform to the architecture of the building" were given by Major F.H. Deacon in memory of his parents. The mortgage was burned in a ceremony involving some trustees from 25 years ago.

The Women's War Auxiliary to 164th Batt. in Milton is now fully organized and prepared for work. The officers are: Hon. Pres. Mrs. Domville; Pres. Mrs. Fred Martin; 1st Vice Pres. Mrs. Gorham 2nd; Vic Pres. Miss Ruddy; Secretary Miss Bessie Murray; Treasurer Miss Bowes; Committee Mrs. McCready, Miss Bews, Mrs. Dice, Miss Elliott, Mrs. F. Dewar, Miss Ruddy, Mrs. R.K. Anderson, Mrs. Ptolemy, Mrs. McMaster, Miss Wharton, Miss Blain, Miss Little, Miss Field, Mrs. Barnett, Miss Cooke.

On Monday the man arrested on suspicion of (spying) trying to get into the P.L. Robertson Co. works two weeks ago appeared on remand before Police Magistrate Dice who had received information from Ottawa that the prisoner had been convicted, under different aliases, of four minor offences, assault, stealing a ride on a train and two of vagrancy. The P.M. remarked that so many names were confusing. The prisoner caused amusement by saying, "I find it so myself. It is better to stick to one's own name." He was convicted of vagrancy and jailed for 30 days.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.

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