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The Canadian Champion

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News Item: Ontario Municipal Board rules Milton Council must rezone Site F lands for use as regional dump



It's the principle

Viewpoint

with JIM ROBINSON

Pages of the Past

One year ago

From the August 6, 1980 issue
An in-camera meeting lasting more than three hours has resulted in Halton Region asking for consulting firms to submit proposals on a staff management study no later than Aug. 29. Regional Personnel Director Dennis Camm has been ordered by the region's own Management Study Team to send terms of reference to upwards of eight management analysis firms. These terms of reference, hammered out in last Wednesday's in-camera session, were sent Friday. Mr. Reid has stated there is no truth to statements regarding his leaving.

They marched. They danced. They played. They sang. And more than anything, they had a good time. The Firefighters Association of Ontario Annual Convention brought together more than 3,000 firefighters from all parts of Ontario, who left the troubles of firefighting back home and spent a weekend enjoying life at the Milton Fair grounds.

An impasse in the latest round of talks between Rockwell International and the United Auto Workers Union representing over 600 striking plant workers in Milton and Chatham has prompted the company to slash its original offer. The measures outlined in the new company offer call for several severe steps. There will be no wage increase in the first year nor cost of living adjustment improvement in the first two years of the three-year agreement. Fringe benefit improvements will be frozen for the entire duration of the contract and will include the elimination of all paid personal holidays and the elimination of guaranteed fund for senior employees laid off.

20 years ago

From the August 3, 1961 issue
Private swimming pools are using too much water, and Councillor Robert Reid wonders if there should be restrictions on the amount that can be used for pools. He claimed one pool owner in his neighborhood refills his pool every day with 500 gallons of water.

A creeping fungus that rots the core of Canada's lordly elm tree is devastating the landscape through vast sections of southern Ontario. Dutch Elm disease, an affliction as incurable as cancer, is cutting down about a million elm trees a year.

There is not much chance of Highway 401 through Halton County getting any fancy restaurants or gasoline stations, according to Ontario Premier Leslie Frost. He said he doesn't favor eateries or gas stops on either 400 or 401.

Opening in mid-August with a nine hole golf course, large swimming pool and club house facilities, the new Halton Country Club on Sixth Line was unveiled this week by owner Boris Trifonoff. The \$150,000 project has been under development for the past year on a 350-acre site Mr. Trifonoff bought seven years ago.

Rockwood, population 900, is expected to become Ontario's 157th incorporated village. A hearing will be held this Friday.

Orville G. McDowell, BA, Inspector of Public Schools, has joined R. F. Bornhold in the Halton inspectorate.

The Ontario firemen's convention will be held in Oakville this weekend, with Milton firemen and the Milton Girls Pipe Band in attendance.

50 years ago

From the August 6, 1931 issue
Miss Laura Gunby of Tansley, has been appointed teacher of the public school at Omagh, and will commence her duties in September.

Fisherman claim that the Sixteen creek is providing plenty of sport and good fishing these days—rock bass, perch and eels being plentiful at the harbor mouth.

Last Friday evening a young lad from London, who is visiting friends in Acton, appropriated a .32 revolver from the home of a farmer in this vicinity and came to town with the weapon. He brandished the gun about and endeavored to scare some of the young ladies in town. Chief McPherson found the young bravado and took him into custody. He was transferred to Milton and came up for trial before Magistrate McIlveen Monday. He was allowed off on suspended sentence.

At the Milton Golf Club's course on Saturday, L. Servos, at the fifth hole, a 125-yard drive, and the distinction of making a hole-in-one. He was playing with Charlie Wilson, of Toronto. Jack Mackenzie was the first to make a hole-in-one on this course, about three weeks ago. Who'll be next?

After being shut down for some time for repairs to machinery, the Trafalgar Rubber Co. is now operating its factory on the Dundas Highway.

Judging by the number of city salesmen operating in the rural sections these days, business must be hard to procure in the city.

75 years ago

From the Aug. 9 1906 issue
Last week the Burlington Gazette reported two accidents through horses being scared by automobiles. In one case Charles Aylwin's milk wagon was upset and contents spilled, and in the other, a horse belonging to Taylor Bros. was struck by the machine. Its leg was broken and it was shot. The automobilist settled for it. The Gazette says that many auto drivers are exceeding the speed limit while passing through the village.
On Friday the 20th Regt. band paid a visit to Campbellville on the invitation of Major Beattie. It was the occasion of the home coming of Major Beattie's son and his bride and the reception was a very cordial one.

Terry Fox Park

Milton council members are to be congratulated for the decision they made to name a new road or a park in memory of Terry Fox.

First suggested here in The Champion, the idea of naming a major roadway after the symbol of the fight to beat cancer is perhaps not as good as the one the members of council came up with.

It was suggested there are two or three parks planned in the near future and it might be applicable to name one after Terry Fox.

If this great Canadian's name is

to be used, we would prefer a park as opposed to a road simply because more people will come to the park and remember Terry Fox's contribution than the number of people driving down a street.

Should this newspaper have any influence, we would urge Milton councillors to set aside Terry Fox Park, make it big, and make it beautiful because Terry had a big heart and what he did for us all can only be described as beautiful.

Tow away vandals

Councillor Jim Watson made a rather interesting suggestion which might, if implemented, go a long way to curbing vandalism right across the region.

Milton, among other member municipalities, is plagued with vandalism at conservation areas and public parks. Why the troglodytes seem to pick the tranquil places set aside for the enjoyment of all is as obscure as the knowledge of who they are.

But Mr. Watson has pointed out Crawford Lake, and HRCA-governed conservation area, is the scene of some particularly stupid acts. The boardwalk has been burned and recently a security guard was held against his will by a group of thugs.

Mr. Watson said the police should be given the right to simply tow away cars left at the sides of entrances and roadways to the conservation area. He said if the cars get hauled off and the jerks

have to pay, the number of people ripping up parks at night will soon diminish.

Perhaps draconian, the idea still has merit.

And it isn't just at Crawford Lake where there has been a problem. Ask parks director Larry Arbic what has happened to Milton parks and he will just moan. And the phenomenon is not limited to Milton.

The HRCA is to consider asking Halton's four municipalities to give HRCA employees the power to act as bylaw enforcement officers. With such power they can ticket and give summons to appear in court.

While the Watson-HRCA approach does nothing to save private property, it certainly is a step in the right direction with regard to public property and we would hope some form of enactment can be found.

The party's over

It was inevitable but unfortunate, the close, working arrangement between the Town of Milton and the Tremaine-Britania Citizens Group would come to an end over 246 acres of land now officially rezoned as a garbage dump.

It was inevitable because anyone even slightly detached from the front line of battle could see Halton Region would get its way sooner or later in having the lands near Tremaine and Britannia Rds. changed from an agricultural zoning to a sanitary landfill zoning with all the inherent environmental problems.

Philosobits

By Edith Sharpe

Let us not forget that a good deal of our "prosperous appearance" is due to driving around in a financed car and living in a mortgaged home.

"Snobbery" is the pride of those who are not sure of their position, or of themselves!

Being popular must be very exhausting.

I've saved enough money to pay my income tax; now all I need is to borrow some to live on!

There is one consolation about both life and taxes. When you finish one, you're through with the other.

It is unfortunate because the town and the citizens' group are basically of the same mind when it comes to the need to find a better site for a garbage dump, particularly when that better site is ready and waiting in Burlington.

Nevertheless, the threat of removal from public office and associated severe penalties gave members of Milton council no option July 27 but to pass Bylaws 61-61 and 62-81 and comply with an OMB order of more than a year ago.

The result is the citizens' group sees no other option but to oppose the bylaws in the Supreme Court of Ontario. The sincerity to push on with or without Milton is evidenced by the fact the group has already got Oct. 14 set as the court date.

As the issue is now before the court, speculation of what will happen and what result must now not be discussed. Suffice it to say, however, the rupture of relations between the town and the group is sad to witness.

It is known the group and its solicitor plan to meet in private with the town and its solicitor.

At that point it can only be hoped some type of common ground can be found so the former partners are not working at cross purposes and are united in the need to stop Site F.

Out in the rural part of Milton sits a house trailer.

Nothing unusual in that except it is perched on top of an about-to-be-closed gasoline station.

And it has sparked a normally mild-mannered councillor, Jim Watson, to get downright furious.

In fact, after two years of being associated with Milton Council, I have never seen anyone fight so hard over one issue with the exception of OHC housing and Site F.

What's all the commotion?
The lease of the person operating the gasoline station is being terminated at the end of the summer and the lands are going to be tendered out by the owner, the Town of Milton, to someone else for a permissible purpose.

That is not the problem. The problem is the trailer.

It sits on the roof and how it got up there has yet to be explained. But it is being used as a residence by the man renting the property.

Trailers, despite construction methods and materials, are not light, and the town staff wants to take the trailer down and tender it out for sale.

It is known the trailer has caused extensive damage to the structure of the roof of the gas station building below and

it cannot be repaired adequately while it still support the trailer.

While almost everyone seems to be in agreement to sell off the trailer and use the \$5,000 to \$6,000 to fix the roof of the building, Jim Watson, and I've got to hand it to him, has really sunk his teeth into the trailer and he's not about to let it go without a fight.

Jim suggested keeping the trailer as a residence on the roof but the staff says the roof might collapse one of these days. Jim says fix the roof then the staff said a contractor has stated it can never be repaired while the trailer remains.

Jim says take the trailer down and put it on the property as a residence. He quotes the serious need for rental accommodation in Milton and feels they, as councillors, should not be terminating one more chance for someone to find a place to live.

Staff says the idea is great but it would mean hooking up some form of new septic system and that would probably be turned down by the Health Department and a host of boards and commissions.

Jim says he is not going to just let the trailer be sold and he is going to take a look himself. He says if he can find no other option, then he will give up the fight and let the trailer be tendered off.

Collective Column

BETTER THAN LAST

It was with some tongue-in-cheek that Councillor Bill Johnson was able to tell his regional colleagues of a major improvement at Halton Region.

Last year it was noted that of 38 municipalities in Ontario, Halton was dead last in terms of the quality of its road system.

"I am proud to tell you today we are not last anymore... we are third from the bottom," said Bill.

FIND THE SPILLWAY

Milton's mill pond has a scenic spillway, near the intersection of Martin and Mill Sts., where the pond water flows down a steep ramp into the Sixteen Mile Creek. Trouble is, nobody can see it.

The spillway was placed where it is, to be seen from the heavily travelled intersection. But the trees have grown bushy, and it's hard to spot the spillway when you drive past.

Maybe it's time someone went in with an axe and cleared away some tree branches, so this local asset can be seen.

BRING 'EM BACK

The problem with street dances is that people sometimes get carried away—and so does town property.

Milton's new Public Works Director John Matthews told councillors that he is starting to be concerned with the practice of authorizing street dances.

"The problem is, your worship, that we will supply barricades, and sometimes we don't get them all back," he said.

Mr. Matthews said he would like to see people start putting down deposits on the barricades.

GRAY POWER

When the residents of the Bruce St. apartments get riled up, no one, not even the Milton council tries to get in their way.

A mass meeting was held recently in the apartments to protest the closing and locking of the fire exits which the seniors use as an entrance.

They really got upset when they thought it was the Milton Council and Fire Department which ordered the doors locked, and to those councillors at the meeting, the message certainly came through loud and clear.

It has since been found out the fire department didn't order the doors locked but Halton Housing Authority brass.

When the letter and petition of protest came to council recently, the members quickly passed a motion to get those doors unlocked and leave 'em that way.

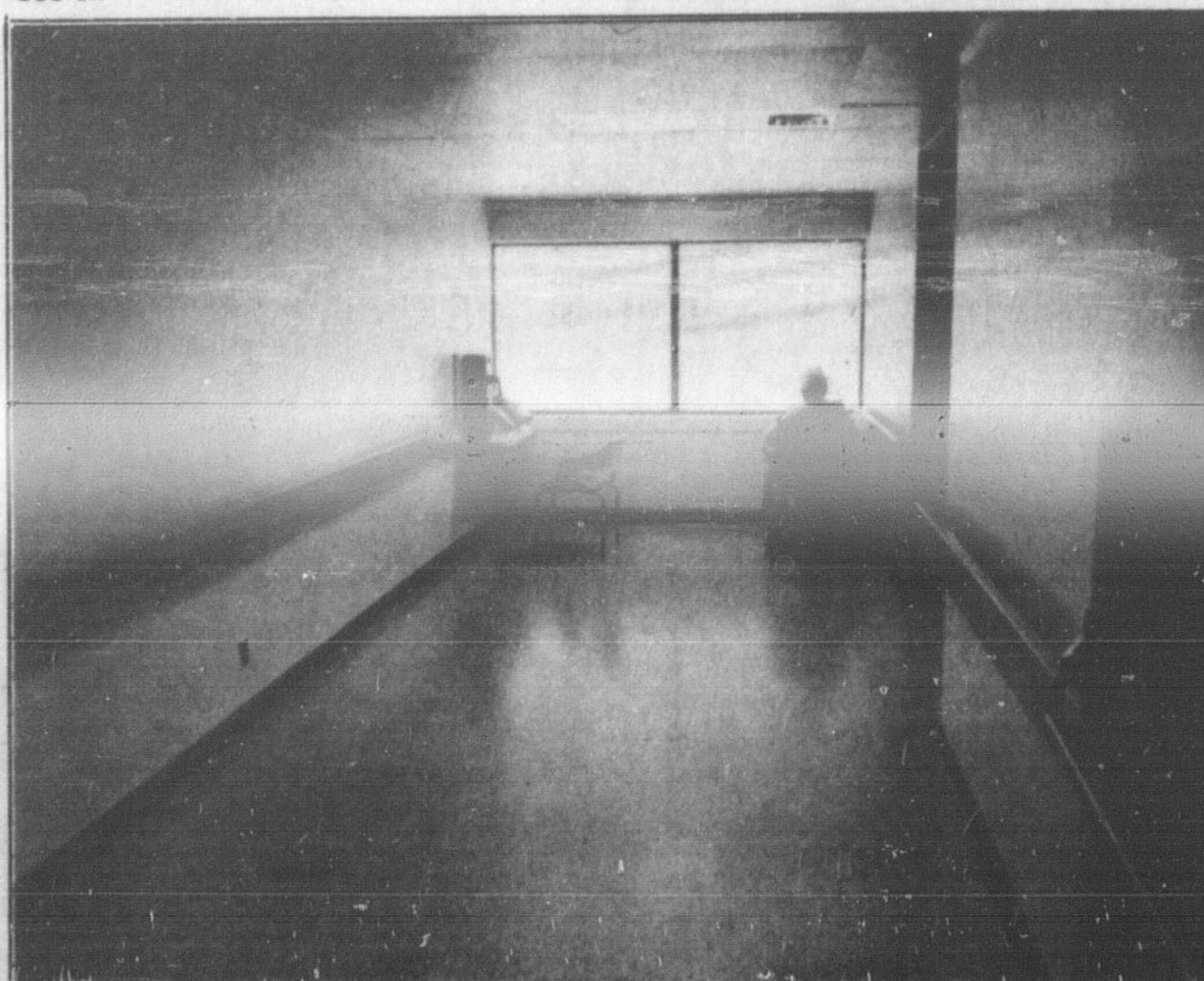
MYSTERY THRESHER

Anyone attending the first annual Summer Farm Festival at Sherwood Hume's farm on the Fourth Line just north of No. 5 Sideroad this weekend is going to be in for a real treat.

Mr. Hume is promising to restart a tradition which goes back to the early days of Milton.

He is going to have a mystery person take over the threshing machine and conduct the entire demonstration on Sunday.

We can't tell you who it is, but he is exceptionally well known in the Halton Region area, and all his family and ancestors have been known for their threshing ability except for our mystery person—who has yet to try his hand at the threshing machine.



"SOME DAYS, IT'S VERY LONELY HERE"
Photostudy by Roy Downs, Milton Champion