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The Canadian Champion

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Lovatts get a chance

Milton councillors have finally passed a bylaw allowing the legal operation of a group home for five troubled youths in Milton.

The big question to be answered by councillors in settling this problem was the number of children to be allowed in the facility.

Group home space is in short supply throughout the province because of the absurd funding arrangements of the provincial government, and because of this many children are passing through the system to a future of prison sentences and ever-increasing problems.

There is little doubt that homes such as those operated by the Lovatt family can help with such problems and it is to the credit of councillors they have finally reached a form of peace between the residents of the area and the group home operators.

Ron Coupland, head of the Halton Children's Aid Society is on record as stating the Lovatts have been able to take in and control the youngster with serious problems, those who cannot be

adequately served by other agencies.

Coming from someone in the know like Mr. Coupland, it is not only a compliment, but a statement reflecting deep respect for the work that the Lovatts have done with these youngsters.

The young people served by the Lovatts are the bottom line losers in the fight between social service workers and the money men of the provincial government.

It takes courage and compassion to work with these youngsters a fact that anyone who has been in contact with the family court can understand only too readily.

The Champion applauds council for its action and for forgetting that the Lovatts do not have child care degrees or other wall decorations; for remembering that they are doing an all but thankless job.

If not for the services they provide, these young people would be back on the streets heading for an early and tragic end.

It was time the Lovatts were allowed to get on with their job.

Rural-urban show

Predominantly rural in character, but growing urbanized over the past 20 years, the 129th version of Milton Fall Fair is just around the corner. The three-day fair occupies Milton Fair Grounds Friday to Sunday, Sept. 25 to 27, and offers fun, competition and entertainment for fair-goers of all ages.

Milton is fortunate the annual fair program has been adapted to suit the needs of the community it serves. Fairs were once for the farmers to meet, show off their cattle and produce, and compete for prizes. The current fair offers the urban people a chance to get involved and presents a good mix between rural and urban participation.

To many, the fair is a sign of autumn as corn, apples, pumpkins and other crops come into season just in time for competitions at the fair. For others, it's a reunion time with old friends not

seen for the past year. The traditional harvest time is a great time for a fair, a final wrap-up to the summer of activities and a final fling before winter sets in.

At Milton Fair, you can see an entire community working together to show off the best the area has to offer. It's a good reflection of the community.

The first fall fair in Ontario was held at Niagara-on-the-Lake in 1792. Many others, like Milton's, were founded in the mid-1850s when towns were incorporated as centres of agricultural production.

Then, as now, the fair was a chance for urban and rural people to mingle and learn from each other. We're looking forward to the fall fair 1981 for it retains just enough tradition, while introducing just enough new features, to make it a worthwhile visit for everyone, regardless of their background.

Commenting Briefly

Paving problems

Recently a dissatisfied homeowner called The Champion, asking where he could go to get some action against an unscrupulous driveway paving firm from Brampton. The firm was well paid for a supposedly good job, but after a few weeks the paving job turned out to be less than promised. Now the firm refuses to answer phone calls and letters, and the homeowner is worried. We steered him to the Better Business Bureau, which advises you check out the credentials of any paving firm, get references from satisfied customers, get a contract in writing, and withhold a portion of the fee to cover any future problems.

It's the old story, let the buyer beware.

A good showing

Elaine White, Milton Fair's Queen for 1980-81, recently made a good showing when she represented our fair at the CNE Queen of the Fairs competition. Elaine was the first Milton entrant to ever be included in the top 15 group, with over 100 entrants from across Ontario. Congratulations. Now Elaine has won a second title, Halton's Queen of the Furrow. We're looking for another good showing at the International Plowing Match where she'll vie for Ontario Queen of the Furrow honors.

Not Catholics

Officials of the Roman Catholic Church advise a group of canvassers seeking funds in a door to door blitz in area towns, are not connected with the RC church.

NEWS ITEM: MILTOWNE FESTIVAL OF COUNTRIES THIS SATURDAY.



Viewpoint Day care is no frill

with STEVE ARNOLD



Day care is becoming today the same type of political football that welfare was several years ago.

On the pro side of the argument are those who claim that providing services for the adequate care of children during certain periods of the day has untold benefits for the mothers, and very frequently, for the children as well.

Those on the con side contend that children are born through an act of choice and become, on birth, the sole responsibility of the parents.

Later this month officials of Halton Region will be holding a series of public meetings throughout the area to collect final comments on the day care study that was carried out several months ago.

Among other conclusions, the study authors feel the requirement for day care services in the region is going to climb by as much as 40 per cent in the next few years and Halton simply isn't prepared to meet that demand.

Of course one way of avoiding the costs that will be associated with that increased demand is to adopt the attitude of those who oppose the provision of

service in the first place.

There are several faults with that argument, however.

In the first place, single parents cannot work to support themselves and their children if they are denied adequate care for the children during working hours.

After a certain age, of course, the Halton Board of Education fills part of the function, but it is a simple fact that school hours do not always coincide with plant hours.

It takes no great mental effort to realize that a lack of some form of temporary care facility leaves us open to the problems of youths wandering about the town with time on their hands, or of parents who are forced to stay at home and survive on the subsistence income provided by the welfare department.

Figures provided by the authors of the day care study suggest that for every two dollars spent on that service, three dollars can be deducted from the welfare rolls, for a net saving of one dollar.

A relatively simple fact of business—you have to spend money to make money. On the human side, there are strong arguments in favor of the provision of

day care services.

"It must be terrible," commented Councillor Anne Mulvale, chairman of the regional council subcommittee which is looking into the day care question, "to sit in a subsidized house with three kids and to see nothing before you but a tunnel with no way of getting out unless someone dies and leaves you an inheritance."

What could be accomplished with those lives that are being wasted on the scrap heap of human neglect? How many people in this town alone are merely existing because the demands of economics will not permit them to live to their fullest potential?

Yes, pregnancy can be a matter of choice today for most people—but not for all.

People, by their very natures, will continue to make mistakes.

As a society we should take whatever steps are necessary to help such people recover their lives and contribute to life to their fullest potential.

The provision of day care service is one of the ways in which this worthwhile goal can be accomplished.

Collective Column

Some things don't change. About 2,000 years ago the Roman philosopher Cicero set down what he considered to be the six basic mistakes of mankind:

1. The delusion that personal gain is made by crushing others.
2. The tendency to worry about things before they happen.
3. Insisting that a thing is impossible because we cannot do it ourselves.
4. Refusing to set aside any and all trivial preferences and prejudices.
5. Neglecting the development and refinement of the mind—not acquiring the habit of reading and thinking.
6. Attempting to compel the other person to believe and live as we do.

CRAZY POTATOS

Fred Johnson, who operates the garden at Halton Centennial Manor, wonders what happened to his Idaho potatoes this summer. After the recent rains, he had to "muck" them out of the mud and discovered the potatoes had gone crazy underground.

The spuds were growing every which way, with bumps and extensions all over them (see photo).

"Must be that hard old Milton clay," mused Fred as he showed The Champion a couple of big baskets full of wierd-shaped oddities.

FULL HOUSE

Scouting is alive and well — actually bursting at the seams in Milton these days. Jim Strain reports all the groups

are pretty well filled right now, and registrations haven't even opened yet. Potential joiners are asked to phone Registration Secretary Bonita Cann at 878-6017 and get their names on a waiting list for if and when openings turn up.

Scouting is short parent leaders, short of halls to house the regular meetings, and short of organizations sponsoring groups. But the interest is



FRED AND HIS SPUDS

still there, with over 600 now enrolled and perhaps another 100 or so anxious to join. It speaks well for the Scouting movement there is such interest; unfortunately without more leaders, halls and sponsors the program will suffer and some will have to be left out.

PICK MORE DAISIES

If I had my life to live over, I'd dare to make more mistakes next time. I'd relax. I'd limber up. I would be sillier than I've been this trip. I would take fewer things seriously, take more chances, take more trips.

I'd climb more mountains, and swim more rivers. I would eat more ice-cream and less beans. I would perhaps have more actual troubles, but I'd have fewer imaginary ones.

You see, I'm one of those people who lived seriously, sanely, hour after hour, day after day. Oh, I've had my moments, and if I had to do it over again, I'd have more of them.

In fact, I'd try to have nothing else, just moments, one after the other, instead of living so many years and ahead of each day. I've been one of those persons who never goes anywhere without a thermometer, hot water bottle, a rain coat and a parachute.

If I had to do it again, I would travel this trip. If I had my life to live over, I would start going barefoot earlier in Spring.

And stay that way until Fall. I would go to more dances. I would ride merry-go-rounds.

I would pick more daisies.
—Author Unknown

Pages of the Past

One year ago

From the September 17, 1980 issue
A new one-year contract was ratified by Halton's Elementary Teachers' Association (HETA) and the board of education last Thursday. For the first time elementary teachers' salaries will be raised above the \$30,490 ceiling. Top wage for a teacher is \$32,490, which is up from \$29,999 in the old contract.

For some it was like going home and for others it was a trip to a distant part of the world; a glimpse of quite another life. It was the second annual Festival of Countries in Milton Saturday and despite steady rains people tramped from one pavilion to the next and in many cases waited in lines to get in.

With municipal nomination day one away, it appears Don Gordon may be unopposed for mayor of Milton. Mr. Gordon confirmed he will run again, and if elected he is automatically a member of Milton council, Halton Regional Council, and ex-officio at committee meetings.

It was a cool, cloudy afternoon with a hint of more rain to come, but if the weather was bleak, it did nothing to dampen the spirits of over 60 staunch Terry Fox supporters who turned out to run for him at Milton District High School. They all had a common goal—to help as much as possible towards raising money for Terry Fox.

20 years ago

From the September 14, 1961 issue
Restrictions on the sale of lots from a farm, as well as the new master plan, came under fire last week when 100 North Burlington citizens gathered at Kilbride to plan protest action. Fred Walker called the planning board "high handed" in limiting land separations to two every five years.

Nassagaweya Township has two light horse-drawn road graders for sale. They haven't been used for 30 years.

Milton and Campbellville phone listings are no longer separate, they are intermingled in the new phone books issued this week.

Both local ball teams are involved in protests. Campbellville for the first time in 12 years of play has launched an appeal that a Simcoe victory should be overturned, owing to a very late call by an umpire. The Red Sox are protesting an allegedly illegal player on the Tillsonburg team.

The average family in Halton spends \$734 a year on food, a survey shows.

The official opening ceremony at the \$1,000,000 addition to Halton Centennial Manor will be held next week with the Hon. Louis P. Ceclie, Minister of Welfare, snipping the red ribbon. Besides the 110-bed accommodation which opened in 1952, a staff house has been added. The present expansion includes a 52-bed care wing, a 40-bed special care wing and a 20-bed addition to the normal care wing.

50 years ago

From the September 17, 1931 issue
Leslie Bros., Acton, won second prize for Percheron stallion, foal of 1931 at Toronto Exhibition. Hugh Rodney of Milton won sixth in the two animal class, progeny of mare.

Another of Milton's business men has adopted the cash system, and others are to follow. It is the only system these days. Pay cash and be happy.

J.B. Mackenzie and Son, contractors, Georgetown, who were recently awarded the contract for building an addition to the armories here, have commenced operations.

In Police Magistrate J.R. Elliott's Court here on Saturday, two Milton boys were found guilty of stealing fruit from John Hardy's fruit farm, on the mountain, near Milton, and were fined \$1 and costs, which his worship hoped would serve as a warning to others.

T.H. Moorehead, of Moorehead and Filman Ltd., prominent theatrical promoters, and an old Milton boy, has been named as one of ten directors of the Community Theatres of Canada Ltd., and Exhibitors Co-operative of Canada, which now have amalgamated with Oscar Hanson as general manager. The new group is starting with a membership of 60 theatres. It has five directors from Exhibitors Co-operative and five from Community Theatres.

75 years ago

From the September 20, 1906 issue
A horse was stolen near Toronto last week and it was supposed that it was in the possession of a party of gypsies who had been camping near Bronte and had left for parts unknown. Chief Constable Bradley was put on the trail of the gypsies. He followed it to Beamsville, where he found them, but they did not have the horse, nor was there any evidence they might have had it.

The young married women of Knox Church will give a social in the school-room on Thursday evening next Sept. 27. A good program and refreshments will serve to make this a pleasant reunion after the vacation season. All are welcome.

W. H. Moore of Milton and Mr. Ruddle, of Galt, have exchanged their barber-shops. The deal took effect on Monday. Mr. Ruddle is now in Mr. Moore's old stand and will no doubt retain all his trade. Mr. Moore will no doubt be missed in Milton, particularly in musical circles.

The annual Harvest Home Festival will be held in St. George's Church, Lovville, on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 8 o'clock. Rural Dean Belt and J. T. Hannant returned home yesterday from their fishing and shooting trip to Crow Lake, near Havelock, and the other members of the party will come today.