

Established 1881

# The Canadian Champion

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## New voices needed

The people have spoken. Actually, 6,221 did the speaking in Monday's municipal election. That's the total number of people who voted. All told, 31.47 per cent of those eligible exercised their franchise.

While many voters believe no one person can make a difference, ask Bob Moreau. He lost by 70 votes. All he needed to have done was somehow entice some of the 10,000 who didn't vote to come out. Or, you can ask Mary Long. She did get out her vote and now enjoys the same rights and privileges as all councillors.

The turnout is being considered good, given the distractions. For the first time since 1978, voter participation actually increased from the previous election. Milton lacked many races for key spots and the whole event was overshadowed by a dramatic federal election. Many observers predicted a turnout in the 25 per cent range. They were wrong, and it looks good on them.

The town council make-up looks interesting. Bruce Attenborough will be a welcomed addition. Mary Long promises to keep things lively and Barry Lee's large plurality should indicate to other councillors that he speaks for more of his ward than anyone else does for theirs.

They have some mighty big shoes to fill. With the retirements of long-time councillors Rose Harrison and Don McMillan, who were both dedicated and popular in their respective areas, a void does exist on council. There's an onus on the rookies and some of the newer members to fill that gap.

We were pleased to see Brad Clements returned to his post as regional councillor for Ward 2. A tireless representative, Mr. Clements does his homework at Halton region and the town. His challenger, Gus Goutouski, is familiar with the machinations of municipal politics but we would hate to lose as hard a worker as Mr. Clements.

We're sure even some winners are wondering what they did wrong. For example, Bill Harrison has been the Ward 2 school trustee for five years. Milton doesn't have any pressing school problems, such as those which confront Oakville, and yet he narrowly defeated Jennifer Willoughby with 56 per cent of the vote.

However, election month isn't over yet. What started with George Bush's sweep in the American presidential elections (don't for a second think that election won't affect us), and continued Monday night, concludes next Monday with the federal election.

This election is pivotal to the country. Unlike many others fought in the past 30 years, this time there is a genuine fundamental difference between the parties. Whatever the three realistically possible scenarios — a Liberal majority, a Progressive Conservative majority, or a minority — there will be major long-term affects.

First, there's free trade. Read up on it. There's lot of literature on the subject and the daily newspapers have been filled to overflowing with stories and comments.

Secondly, there's credibility. While this is more a gut feeling than anything else, are any of the political parties really telling the truth?

Thirdly, there's local representation. Will the winner remember his or her electorate?

It's rather ironic that Remembrance Day came three days before the municipal elections and 10 days prior to the federal election. Those brave Canadians died so that we, their descendants, could live freely and chose our destiny.

Let's make an informed choice on Monday. And then let's use our knowledge to set a course of action.

## Looking Back



Heather Eccles and Barbara Moore sit on Santa's knee after Milton's 1987 Santa Claus Parade. The jolly fellow greeted children at the arena after the parade where they received well-stuffed stockings. More than 2,000 stock-

ings were distributed by Santa with the help of firefighters and Legion members. The 1988 parade is set for 2 p.m. this Sunday.

## Pages of the Past

### One Year Ago

From the November 25, 1987 issue  
 • More than 10,000 people lined the streets of Milton Sunday afternoon eagerly awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus. The white bearded fellow in red made a grand entrance behind one of the biggest Santa Claus parades in the town's history. The weather was perfect, sunny, but crisp enough to put everybody in a Christmas frame of mind.

• If everyone who pledged sticks by their word, the Rotary Club Skate-A-Thon on Saturday will have raised more than \$12,500. The bulk of that money will go toward the Milton District Hospital equipment fund, and handicapped children in town. Some money will go to the Milton Minor Hockey Association.

• Halton Centennial Manor's Christmas Express Bazaar on Friday was a big success. "Although the amount of money raised won't be tallied until next week, it was a good day," said Anne Fraser, coordinator of services at the Manor. "There were a lot of people out."

• Thrifty Car Rental and Tom's Auto Service were entered sometime late Thursday and police report cash was stolen. Entrance was gained through smashed panels in the rear bay doors of the business. Police say a break-in at an auto dealer early the next morning was likely related to the other two break and enters.

### 20 Years Ago

From the November 27, 1968 issue  
 • A proposal for a 134-acre subdivision which would almost double Milton's present population, will be presented to Milton Planning Board at the board's regular meeting. Toronto firms will seek rezoning of the industrial-zoned William Johnson property at the Highway 25 and 401 intersection on Milton's northern boundary.

• Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs, will visit Halton County Council about mid-December to discuss regional government. MPP Jim Snow told members of the North Halton Urban Board during the group's annual meeting.

• The grant to Halton Regional Conservation Authority to help buy the Crawford Lake property near Campbellville works out at \$116,500. Halton East MPP James Snow reports.

• Milton's only election this year features a two-man race for the one Milton, Esquimes and Nassagaweya seat on the new Halton County Roman Catholic Separate School board. Angelo Tonelli and Jim Langedyk, both members of the Holy Rosary Separate School board in Milton are contestants.

### 50 Years Ago

From the November 24, 1938 issue  
 • At the meeting on Friday night the Milton Rifle Club was divided into two teams, the reds and the blues. There was keen rivalry and several possibilities were made. The blues won by half a point, the score being reds 96 and blues 96½.

• Already advertisers are telling us that Christmas is only four weeks away and warning prospective customers to make their purchases early. The thrifty will do so. Others should follow their examples, both in their own and the shopkeeper's interest.

• On Friday of last week, about 100 students from the local high schools were guests of the director of the Winter Fair and enjoyed a very interesting and instructive afternoon at the Fair.

• Dr. Marshall M. Gowland, son of the late Dr. M.E. Gowland of Milton, is now in London, England, to do post-graduate work in medicine and will be there for over a year.

## Pud

