

Our Readers Write

Unlimited praise for program for youths with special needs

Dear Editor:

Our son Philip thoroughly enjoyed his summer holiday as a participant in the Town of Milton's Young Adults Unlimited Program. The program allowed him to take part in many activities that teenagers enjoy with their friends. The staff was very enthusiastic, considerate and creative. They planned a diversified and interesting program that resulted in an exciting summer for the young adults. Highlights of the summer program included:

- attending a Blue Jays game at the SkyDome
 - a visit to Niagara Falls
 - overnight camping at Kelso
 - dinner at a restaurant followed by a movie
 - barbecue lunches
 - a three day excursion to Collingwood
 - horseback riding
- Our sincere thanks to all of the staff for a job well done.

Bev & Don Leslie
Appleby Line, Milton, Ont.

Chisholm, White vie for Halton seat

Sat. Dec. 12 1857, Milton West - About 10 o'clock this morning the "Yeomanry" of Halton began to pour into the town from all quarters of the townships for the nomination meeting.

There were at least 1,000 present for the nomination which began at half past 12 at the platform which had been erected for the occasion in front of the Court House.

Returning Officer and Sheriff Levi Wilson called for nominations to represent Halton in the sixth Legislature of the Province of Canada. Sheriff Wilson is serving as the first Sheriff of Halton since it was separated from Wentworth County.

George K. Chisholm of Oakville has represented Halton during the past term. He defeated John White of Milton in the election during the summer of 1854. It was suggested at the time that the designation of Milton as the County Town, had been used against White in the campaign in other communities.

In response to the call for nominations, John Dempsey proposed George K. Chisholm. Thompson Smith seconded the nomination and spoke glowingly of Mr. Chisholm and concluded with an attack on Mr. White by accusing him of circulating lies through the columns of the Halton Journal newspaper. He suggested he should be booted from the hustings. Mr. Smith then retired and the crowd gave him a volley of groans and hisses in his retreat to the corner of the hustings.

The Returning Officer then called upon the Electors, asking them if they had another person to propose. John McNaughton, of Esquensing, responded by nominating John White as a fit and proper person to represent the electors of Halton in the ensuing election. He spoke of the extravagance of the Executive, the aid for the Grand Trunk Railway, and the size of the public debt.

Andrew Gage of Nelson seconded Mr. White's nomination stressing his confidence in his integrity and the calibre of his previous service.

Mr. Chisholm was called on to speak but suggested White should go first so he would have an opportunity to reply. The Returning Officer said he felt since Chisholm was nominated first he should speak first.



Moments in History

with JIM DILLS

"It appears I am to justify my policy and defend myself from the Halton Journal slanders and lies," Chisholm began. He spoke of his work on settlement of the Clergy Reserves question, tariffs, salary increases, the Militia Bill and other current issues. He maintained it is not too much to provide 1,000 pounds a year for a Cabinet minister living in Toronto.

Mr. White came forward and claimed Mr. Chisholm had occupied the electors attention so long in his rambling and unmeaning harangue he begged their attention for a short space to prove the statements in the Halton Journal are not only true but there is a darker catalogue of his doings during the time he was their Representative.

He spoke of the increasing provincial debt, the Militia Bill, the Grand Trunk subsidy and quoted the position of Mr. Chisholm as recorded in the Journals of Debate on the location of the government buildings, the Separate School question and his absences from the Legislature.

As the sun was low in the sky the Returning Officer called for a show of hands for Mr. Chisholm and a few were held up. Then he called for a show of hands in favour of Mr. White and it was evident Mr. White had a considerable majority. Mr. Chisholm, from the back portion of the platform, standing on a table, called out divide. Mr. White then gave a signal with his hand when the great mass of those present divided in his favour. The Returning Officer declared a majority in favour of Mr. White and a tremendous cheer burst from the vast assemblage.

Voting will be by December 22.
□ Twenty-fourth in a series of facts, sometimes sprinkled with imagination to reflect Milton's past. Research assistance by Jack Charlton and Alex Cooke. (Copyright Jim Dills 1989)



Photos by JOHN WARREN

A bountiful harvest

As part of the annual Harvest Festival, the Ontario Agricultural Museum held its first-ever Farmer's Market Sunday. Local farmers offered visitors a wide variety of produce. Deanna Finlayson of Andrews Scenic Acres (above) was busy selling corn while John Gray and 9-year-old Peter Whittington operated the apple peeling machine in the Gambrel Barn.



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