

# Our Readers Write

## Spoiled Quebec should be treated as an equal

(This letter was written to the Hon. Mr. David Peterson, Premier of Ontario. A copy was filed with The Champion for publication.)

Dear Mr. Peterson;

I write this letter to you out of total frustration and anger and helplessness. The issue is bilingualism, Quebec, Meech Lake, The Prime Minister Brian Who? for he shall only be remembered for splitting up our great nation.

Canada is a great nation, revered around the world for its humanistic compassionate attitudes welcoming immigrants from every country in the world and giving them an equal opportunity to exist in relative harmony without political oppression, religious persecution, and even allowing us third-, fourth-, and fifth-generation Canadians to still speak our native tongues.

As you are well aware, very few of us are native Canadians. This is not a bilingual country but thank goodness, a multilingual country. Unfortunately, many new immigrants struggle to learn English and French and communicate verbally quite well, but their ability to write perfect English that is not an embarrassment to them prevents them from sounding off as I am. This is a barrier, as constituency offices want written submissions.

Canada has been declared officially bilingual even though we are multilingual. However, Quebec refuses bilingualism and in fact makes it an offense to post signs in English.

Please Mr. Peterson, nine provinces have given in to one. Can't one be as equal as the other nine. At one time I would have argued that they were defeated militarily but I now realize that's narrow minded. I'm not against French nor do I believe many other people are. We are just fed up with having it forced down our throats like having Bell Canada operators speak French to us in a predominantly English province first, when English is outlawed in Quebec.

New immigrants come to Canada because it is a land of opportunity and it is multilingual. If they wanted to speak French they would have saved themselves a lot of time, money, and frustration and bought passage for France not Canada. They had and made the choice to come to Canada but in Quebec they have no choice.

Shouldn't the minority population of Quebec have the same rights as we entitle Francophones to? All other provinces have embraced bilingualism yet Quebec, its politicians, and probably not the average citizen, puts their province above the law. Is this not criminal? Is this not being a traitor?

As I've stated, they wanted or forced bilingualism on us but refuse to honour the same privileges.

Now we have Meech Lake. They want to be classified as a "distinct society." "Distinct" how? Their language is already guaranteed. No one is trying to change their customs. We all know what happened when Adolf Hitler created his distinct society of the human race. Is this where we are heading? What makes a French-speaking person distinct from you or I? Is it that he can't or won't speak English? You speak French and I can probably get by in it although I haven't had to use it since high school.

Are they distinct because they need to protect themselves from military oppression imposed by the rest of Canada? Are they distinct because they are forced to protect themselves from English-speaking terrorists from the other provinces?

Are they distinct because they have something that every other country in the world is trying to get and need special protection? Yes they are distinct. They are the one spoiled child in the family of Confederation.

They make or break political parties. Brian will do anything to please Quebec. With Free Trade and the G.S.T., he needs all the help he can

get. A prudent parent would put his foot down and ignore their temper tantrums. They are entitled to whatever the other provinces are but no more. Pierre Trudeau will tell you this.

Another great atrocity in the world has started crumbling very rapidly these past two weeks. This is the Berlin Wall. I write for the too many of us who are too apathetic to put pen to paper to voice their concerns but feel the same way that I do.

Canada and Canadians are equal. Allowing Meech Lake to proceed as Quebec wants shall mean your picture will hang forever along with Brian Mulroney and Robert Bourassa as the architect of the Quebec-Ontario and Quebec-Newfoundland wall and the death knell for confederation. Remove our endorsement and be pictured as a great statesman along with Mr. Wells, Filmon, Trudeau and the Fathers of Confederation.

This is an impassioned plea for you to reconsider this accord for the benefit of our children and our ancestors if they are to live in a free and unified Canada where all are equal under the law and Constitution.

I write this for myself and the silent majority who feel the same way but are unable or too apathetic to voice their concerns. Thank you.

Paul Saliba  
Derry Rd., Hornby

## Mayor thanks parade committee

Dear Editor;

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the Milton Santa Claus Parade Committee Members, namely: Paddy Townson, Cindy Farnell, Bob Bell, Sue McCormack, Frank Reeves, Barb O'Keefe, Josie Mason, Meg Barker, Shelagh Dobson, Wendy Ferguson, Mavis Rogers, Barbara Robb and Constable Larry Masson.

On behalf of Milton Council and the entire community, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude for your contribution to this year's Santa Claus Parade. I truly admired the committee's organizational abilities in arranging this community event.

I am sure the citizens of Milton share Council's enthusiasm on the success of the event, particularly the community and fund-raising efforts of the committee.

Congratulations and thank you for making this year's Santa Claus Parade a memorable day for all, particularly the little citizens of Milton.

Mayor G.A. Krantz

## Parents are great to football team

Dear Editor;

I felt it necessary to write to you concerning the deportment of the parents of our junior football Mustangs.

We have been so fortunate at our school to have the support of many adults who are not involved in the day-to-day operation of our school. They give their time and energy voluntarily. This is commendable, yet what strikes me as even more praiseworthy is that they give support, not to just their boys, but to all the players on the team.

As coaches, it is so important and heartwarming to know that parents are encouraging all our competitors, because we stress team concepts and responsibilities.

It is also most reassuring to say, that in my five years of coaching football at MDHS, I have never experienced interference or undermining by a parent. They have been a source of support and cohesion.

I thank and salute you — Mr. Brown, Mr. Pyle, Mrs. Kubenik, etc., etc. You help make athletics what it should be — the opportunity to share the competitive experience positively and productively.

P.S.: Matt Guiney, your articles were superb!

Keith Swarbrick  
Milton District High School  
football coach

OPEN SUNDAY  
10:30 - 4:00

The City Florist  
"For That Special Person"

CARNATIONS

8<sup>99</sup>  
1 DOZEN

GET A SECOND DOZEN  
FOR ONLY

3<sup>00</sup>

THURSDAY, NOV. 30TH - WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6TH



The City Florist

HOURS

Mon.-Wed.

9:30-6:00

Thurs. & Fri.

9:30-9:00

Sat. 9:30-6:00

Sunday 10:30-4:00

"Let Flowers Talk"

Carriage Square

15 Martin St.

Milton

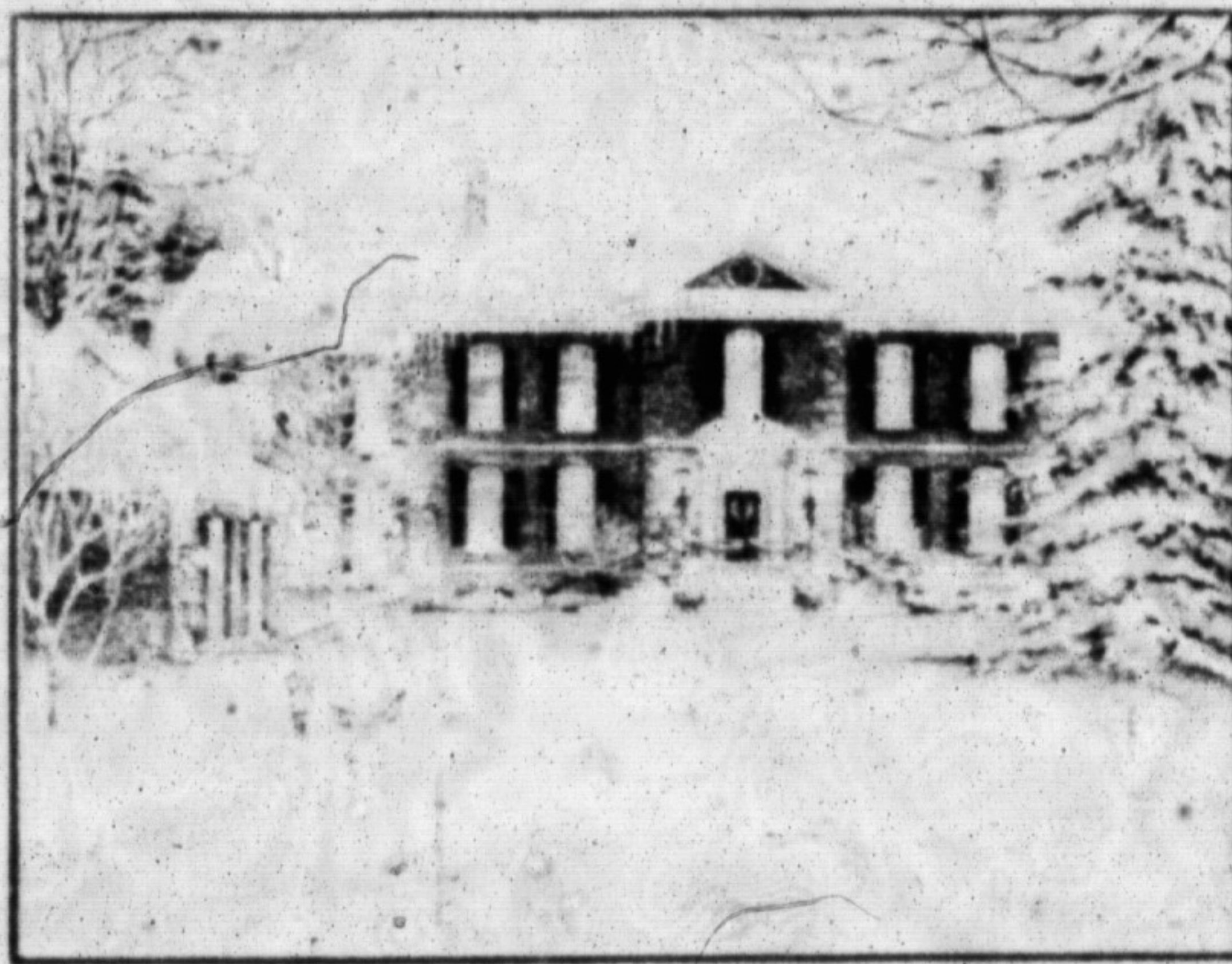
875-3128



A Special Christmas Commission Print

by

TRISHA ROMANCE



\$350

"The Ice Castle"

23-1/4 x 17-1/2  
Image Size

ALL too brief is the season that creates a cascade of perfect icicles from snow softened rooftops.

Oh, like crystal swords they are gathered together. Then, as the sun slips quickly behind the trees, all the light from the windows will take over, turning every blade of ice into a prism as brilliant as any chandelier inside.

However, just as nature created this momentary wonder, a change in weather will leave behind the fairytale memory... of the day when home became "The Ice Castle".

May this season be a time of warm childhood memories bringing to all a feeling of contentment and hope for the new year.

Now available to order at:

HARROP RESTAURANT  
and GALLERY

345 Steeles Avenue, Milton

878-8161

