Memory Lane

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EXPLORE THE PAST OF DOWNTOWN HAMILTON

Hamilton Times Newspaper

Hamilton once featured three daily newspapers resulting in decades of rivalry between the Times, the Herald and The Spectator. The Hamilton Times was founded in 1858 as the voice of the local Liberal Party. In the late 1880s, a large, red brick building was constructed specifically to house The Times at 36 King William Street (now the locations of Absinthe bar). The massive building, enhanced with galvanized iron cornice work, was opened with an elaborate and expensive ball.

The 1870 city directory tells us that the Times had a daily circulation of four thousand copies with circulation extending to every village and hamlet in the western peninsula of Ontario. The equipment of the Times including types, presses and furniture all embraced the latest styles and improvements. A large new double cylinder press had been added recently to meet the demands of the large circulation.

Gore Coffee Tavern was located next door at 13 Hughson St. N. offering meals at all hours with tea, coffee, cocoa and more at low prices.

The newspaper went out of business in 1920, the first of the three papers in the city to close, and the building was demolished in 1931.

