



## HOW MANY MINUTES PER GALLON?

Of course, you **don't** have to make gasoline yourself. But you **do** have to work at your job to make the money to buy gasoline. And today you don't have to work nearly as long as you did in 1939, or even 1946.



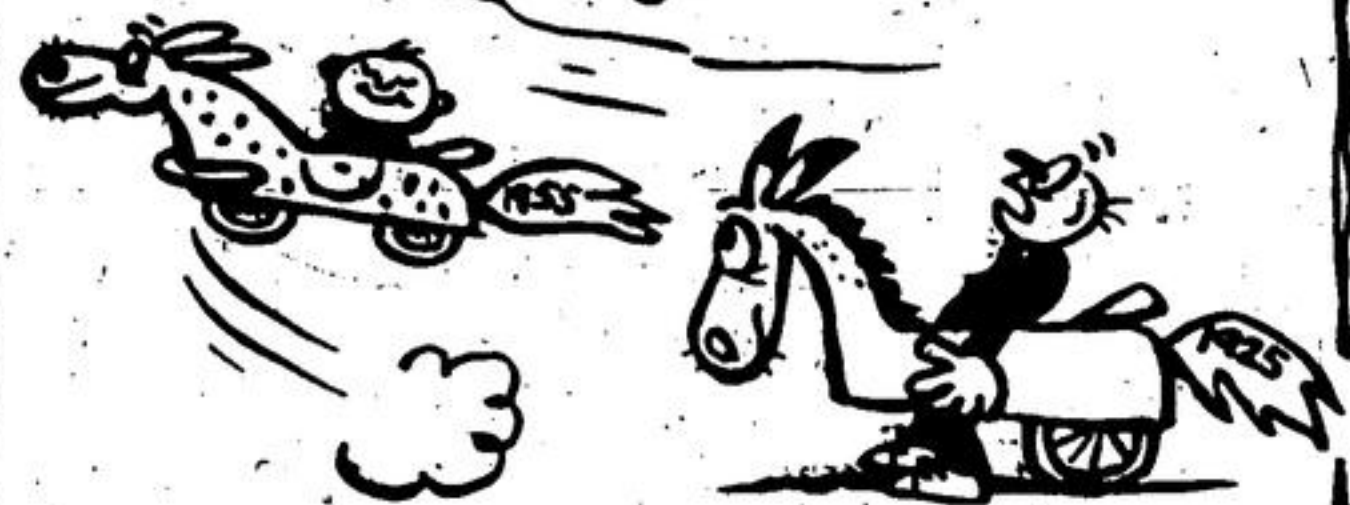
Back in 1939, the average Canadian had to work **33 minutes** to earn enough to buy a gallon of gasoline.



Seven years later, in 1946, the same Canadian had to work **29 minutes** to earn enough to buy a gallon of gasoline.



Today he has to work only **17 minutes**—about half as long as in 1939—to buy a gallon of gasoline.



(It's much **better** gasoline, too. Two gallons of today's gasoline does the work of three gallons made in the 20's.)



IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED

BY GWEN CLARKE

The community now called "Milton Heights" is about three miles from Milton and was originally known locally as Smokey Hollow. However, the people began to object to this sobriquet and so it was changed to Terra Cotta. Even then the village folk were not altogether satisfied although none could offer a more suitable name as a substitute.

Then came the Rev. George McQuillan, rector of Grace Church, Milton, and All Saints Church, Terra Cotta. According to an account given by one of the older parishioners Mr. McQuillan looked thoughtfully about him to the escarpment that forms a background to the village and to the town of Milton in the distance, and he suggested to the people that the community be given the name of "Milton Heights." And it was thus that the name came into being.

The village is on the border-line between two townships—Essex and Nassagaweya, and owed its early settlement to a large saw-mill that once operated on the banks of the Sixteen Mile Creek which flows through the village.

This sawmill was unique in one respect—the way in which the logs reached the mill. A long chute had been built in the form of a V-shaped trough which extended from high up on the Mountain to the mill below. Logs felled on top of the Mountain, were drawn through the bush by ox-team to the head of the chute, unloaded and started on their way, propelled downward by their own weight.

When the slide was built a big stump was left at the foot of the chute to break the fall of the logs. But the stump flew apart like matchwood with the impact of the first load of logs. The logs went in all directions, with more logs sliding off the chute to add to their number until they finally blocked their own progress.

So far as we have been able to gather the mill was first owned by John MacGregor, whose head sawyer was David Scott, grandson of the first settler in Nassagaweya. He was generally known—but not respectfully—as "Clubfoot Dave" and was a particularly popular character in the neighborhood, and

**Robt. R. Hamilton  
Fred A. Hoffman**

OPTOMETRISTS

(Formerly E. P. Head)

PHONE GUELPH 1924

58 St. George's Square

## Hilton's Pages of the Past

# Milton Heights Once Called Smokey Hollow, Then Terra Cotta, Had Sawmill, Brick Plant

many of his stories and exploits have been handed down to the present generation.

### Fishermen's Paradise

The mill at another time was owned by a Mr. Hutton, who employed quite a number of men. Part of the old dam is still visible back of the Town Line on the Nassagaweya side. When the mill finally went out of business the Sixteen at that point was soon swarming with trout and for awhile became a fisherman's paradise.

At one time a number of Indians lived in and around Smokey Hollow, earning a living by trapping and making baskets and wicker cradles.

The first religious services at Terra Cotta were Mission services held in Hamilton's barn on the cross-roads. The services were first organized by the Rev. Canon W. J. Mackenzie, rector of Grace Church, Milton. The barn is still there, on the Esquering corner of the Town Line, opposite the general store.

The Anglican Church of All Saints was built soon after the turn of the century, largely due to the inspiration and untiring energy of the late Arthur J. Transon and his twin brothers-in-law James and William Hamilton.

The Roman Catholic Church is a comparatively new building and was built after a number of Italian immigrants settled in the district.

Unlucky With Fires  
Milton Heights has been particularly unfortunate in regard to fires and accidents. The first school was destroyed by fire some years ago; then last winter the comparatively new, two-story school was also destroyed by fire.

There have been many other changes in the village. There used to be a greater number of workmen's cottages than there are now and at one time there was a second general store at the far end of the village owned by Italian-born Ernie Grespan.

There is still a post office at the Heights but when it was first opened we have not been able to discover, but we do know that John Appleyard was the first postmaster and also kept a general store. Years ago, mail was delivered twice a day, along the route of the C.P.R. running back of the village. Delivery was achieved by the conductor holding out the mailbox which the postmaster caught by means of a "catch-pole". The post office was moved several times and was sometimes in Esquering and sometimes in Nassagaweya, according to which side of the Town Line the postmaster was living.

For many years the chief industry



TUG OF WAR TEAM from Lewis plant is shown in this reproduction of an old photograph. Charles Lewis senior is shown second from the left in the middle row. The old Milton Heights plant was known for its fancy brickwork, much of which is still to be found in Halton county old homes.

at Terra Cotta has been brick-making. Most people are familiar with the present widely known plants, the Milton Brick Company and the Interprovincial Brick Company, but older residents remember when there was yet another brick yard, partly owned by Lewis Brothers.

Charles and Edward Lewis were expert craftsmen and had come to Canada from England. They are said to have turned out an excellent product and specialized in fancy and decorative brickwork. Many samples of Lewis ceramics can still be found in and around Milton and Milton Heights.

To mention just a few—at All Saints Church at the Heights there is a beautiful cross moulded from terra cotta clay; at the Farlow home on Martin Street, a unique fireplace and mantelshelf, in a scroll and floral pattern, built by Mr. John Maxted of Milton from Lewis fancy brick. And on a kitchen wall at Milton Heights the head of a negro boy, in dark brown clay, which is also a Lewis product.

In fact wherever fancy brickwork is found in Halton county one can be almost certain it came originally from the Lewis brick-yards.

Natural Gas Well  
Incidentally at the home where we saw the statuette of the negro boy we discovered there had once been a natural gas well, 1900 feet deep, drilled by Messrs. Pyke and Stubble. It gave light to the house and power for the gas range, and

washing machine. Then by some mischance water seeped into the well and the gas was no longer any good for domestic use.

Perhaps the clay, the gas from out of the earth, and the water that came rushing down the mountain, may have given many an old-timer the notion "there was gold in them thar hills." Or at least its equivalent—who knows?

The Lewis plant was known as the Toronto Pressed Brick and Terra Cotta works. The buildings were owned by a Mr. Smith of Toronto and the machinery was the joint property of Smith and the Lewis Brothers. In 1906 a serious fire of unknown origin broke out at the plant. The force pump could not be used as it was in the midst of the flames. The only way to combat the fire was by means of a bucket brigade. By this means the fire was confined to the engine and press house.

Even so all the valuable brick-making machinery was either destroyed or irreparably damaged—and the insurance by no means covered the loss. This was the second fire within a year, the first was caused by sparks from a passing train which ignited a great pile of lumber held for storage.

50 Out of Work  
There were about 50 hands employed at the Lewis plant who were seriously affected by the subsequent lack of employment following the second fire. The plant was later re-

built, more machinery installed and operations resumed, but eventually the owners sold out to the Milton Pressed Brick Company. The old plant was finally demolished about 1935. A number of workmen's houses and the fine homes of the Lewis brothers also disappeared with the passing of time.

Other names familiar to the Smokey Hollow-Terra Cotta district were Peddie, Kippen, Richardson, Cargill, Pollock, Bradley—and possibly others. Bob Bradley succeeded John Appleyard as postmaster and storekeeper but later moved to Hamilton and served as a street-car operator.

With the two large brickyards still in operation there is no lack of employment in the prosperous little community now known as Milton Heights.

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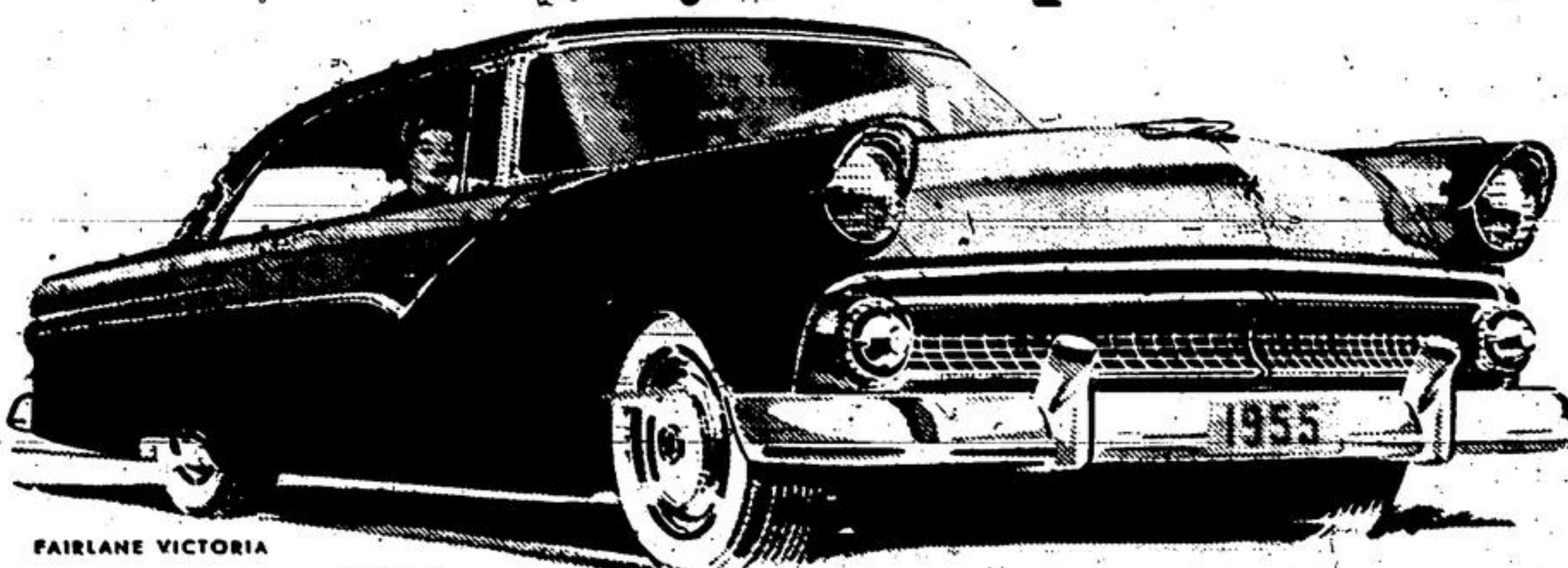
### EXTRA SPARKLE

To give that extra sparkle to mirrors and windows after washing and wiping dry, dub the surface with crumpled tissue paper.

### Cheap Forms

Cheap forms for the cement foundations for fence or porch supports can be obtained at the hardware store. Just a few lengths of stove pipe, sunk in the ground and filled with cement save all the trouble of making box forms.

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