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## Being cautious

Recommendations passed at Regional council Wednesday regarding Acton's Ontario Municipal Board hearing reveal the region is taking a cautious approach to the agreements required by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Ministry of Environment and Energy to allow development to proceed.

While Acton is desperately in need of growth, the Region must proceed carefully, taking the approach it

Even in good times it would be irresponsible for any level of government to commit to anything without knowing the final cost to the taxpayer. But in these times it would be obscene for the region to sign a blank cheque to cover the costs of improvements to Acton's sewage treatment plant without having all the information, and to put region staff and councillors at risk of being fined or thrown in jail if the fish in Black Creek are harmed as a result of development.

The cost of fighting those charges could also fall on

the shoulders of Halton taxpayers.

Regional council members were also prudent to instruct their legal staff to investigate whether the provisions and standards of fish habitat protection are being applied equally across Canada.

With all the reports of raw sewage being dumped into lakes and oceans across the country it is hard to believe that development in Acton, small compared to some, can be such a major concern.

Let's hope things can be resolved quickly. The future of a small community may hang in the balance.

### Act before tragedy occurs

Dear Editor:

Today, (Tuesday August 17), a loaded aggregate truck lays on its side at the intersection of the 17th Sideroad and the Fourth Line. Luckily (as far as I know), no innocent third party was involved.

When is this madness of these trucks on these two roads going to end? Just this last few days, I personally have:

1) Reported a number of trucks for speeding (one I "clocked" at over 120 km/h. double the speed limit);

2) Reported a truck who sat a few feet from my rear bumper, then blasted me with his horn and shook his fist at me because he had to slow down slightly as I made a

## Letters

### to the Editor

legal left turn off 17th Sideroad;

3) Reported a number of trucks for being on these two roads after the 6 p.m. limitation (the last truck one day was spotted at 7:41 p.m. entering the Fourth Line from the 22nd Sideroad from the direction of Limehouse);

4) Had a meeting with Seargent Pat Martin of Halton Regional Police, who is involved in a local citizens' group looking at problems such as this;

5) Had a number of conversations with my fellow residents on these two roads, who seem to be as

fed up as I am with aggregate trucks.

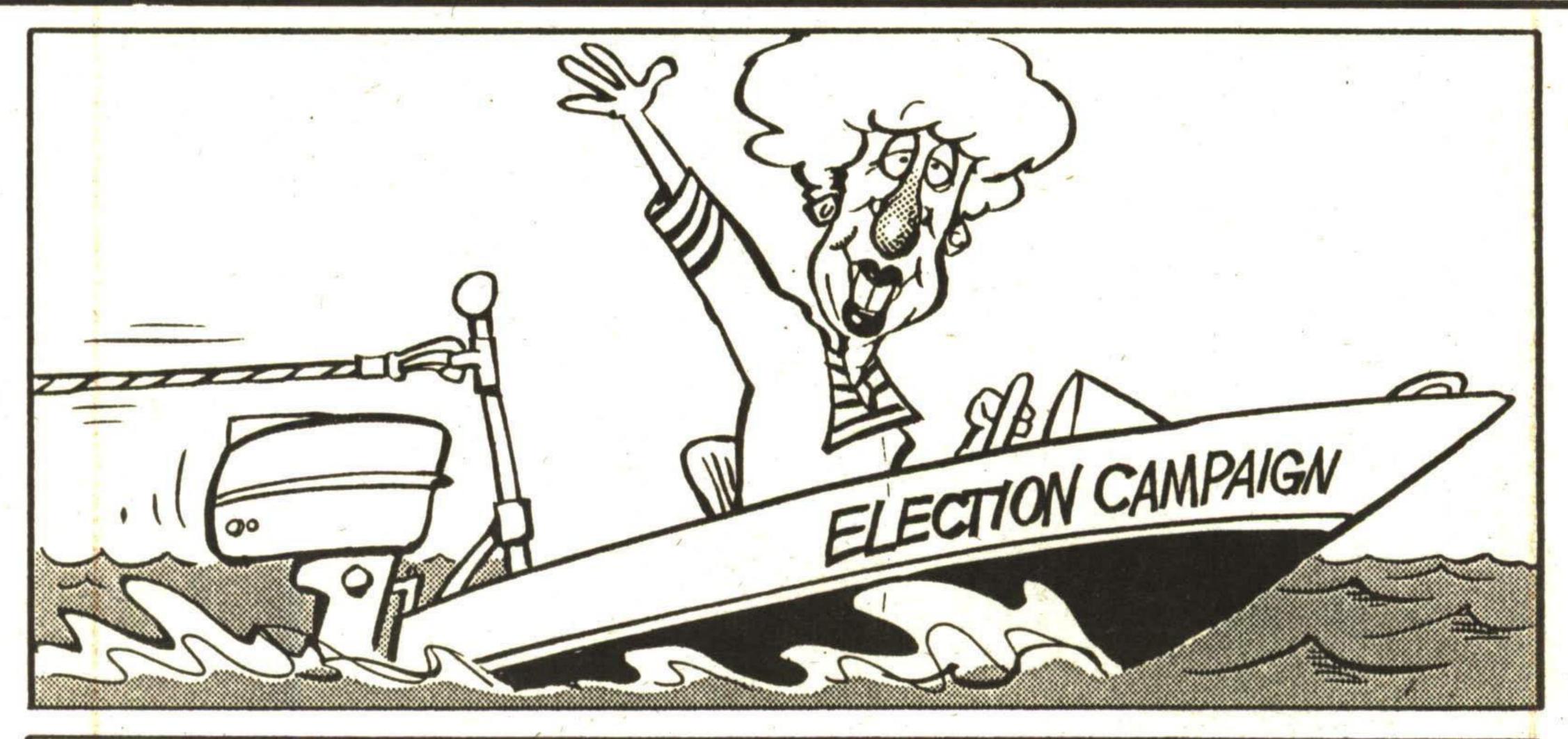
Many of us remember a few years back a couple of incidents involving aggregate trucks hitting school buses - again, miraculously, noone was injured.

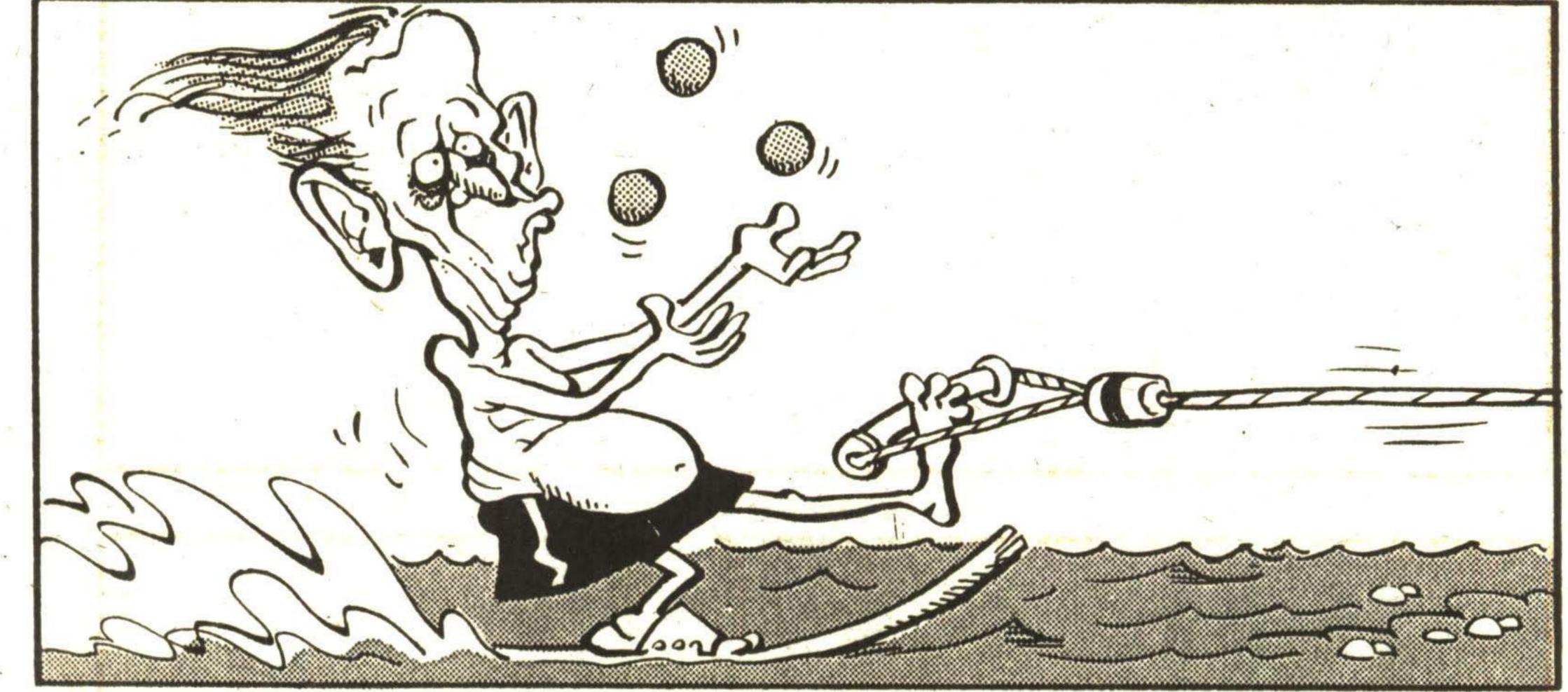
Every weekday (and sometimes Saturdays too), we are woken up at well before 6 a.m. as the first trucks come thundering through at speeds that would earn them a ticket on the 401. We are violated with noise, dust and danger.

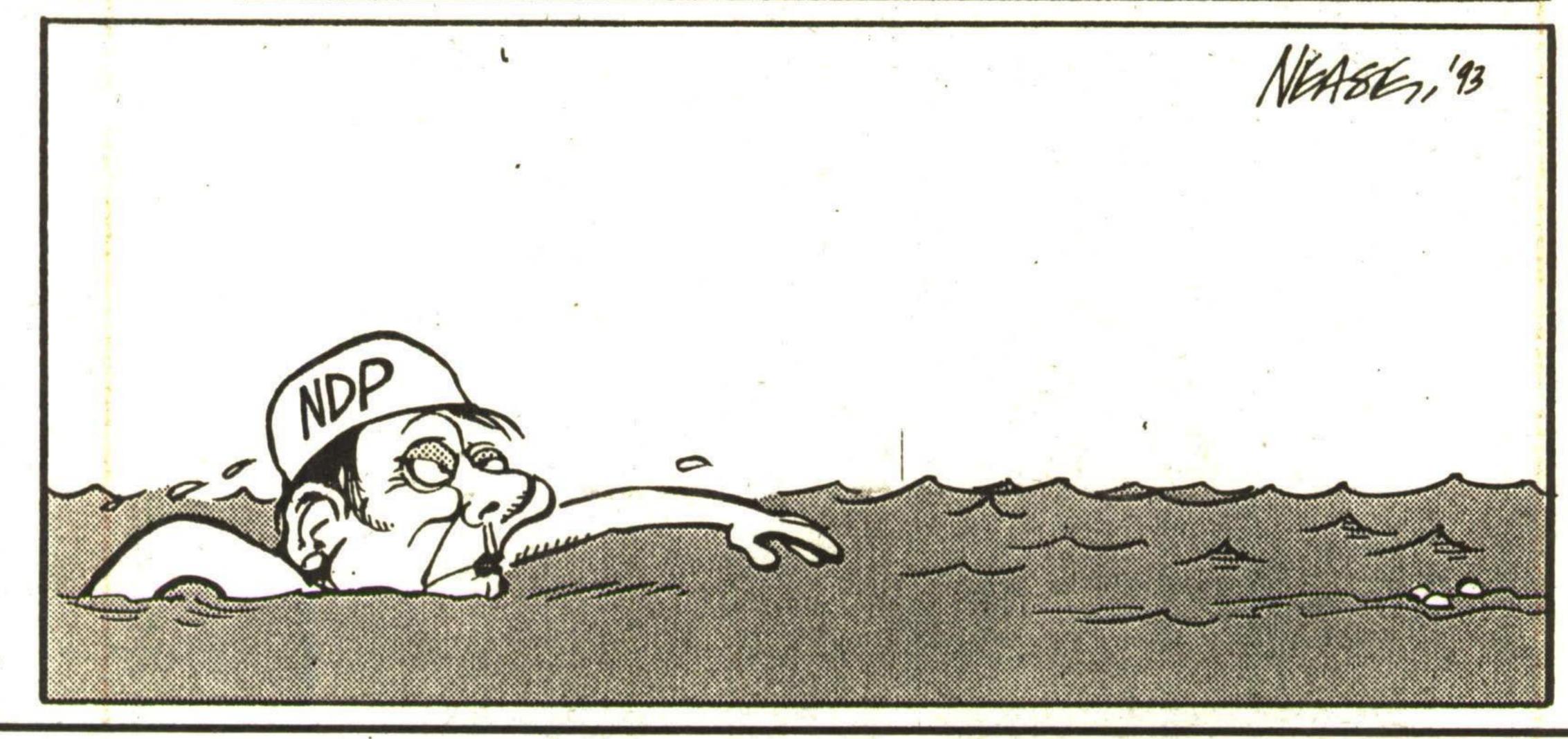
It is time that sanity prevailed, and the Town of Halton Hills put its citizens first.

These trucks should not be on these two primarily residential roads! Sooner or later an accident will occur involving the death or serious injury of an innocent third party.

Yours very truly J. Frewen-Lord







### Slap on a little mascara, wear red and grab those votes!

In the August 13 issue of The Toronto Star, I read a small piece about the National Women's Liberal Commission issuing a guide book for female wannabe candidates in the obviously-coming-but-not-yet-announced federal election.

The book was entitled, Walk, Knock and Talk.

Cute title, isn't it?

I guess the book ruffled a few feathers in the Liberal female ranks and lots of feathers outside of the party, making women feel a little miffed by the insinuation they weren't really of knowing how to present themselves to Mr. and Mrs. Public Voter.

Living in a home with five women, the revelation of the existence of such a guide book really

hit home with me.

Whoever wrote this book was a brave soul indeed; I wouldn't for a moment consider trying to

advise women on the best appearance to be seen in the public eye.

That's treading on awfully thin ice at the best of times.

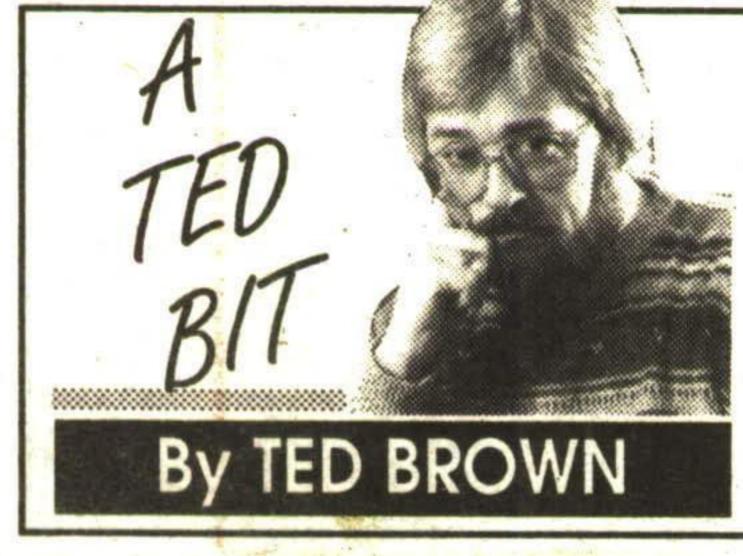
My wife agrees. And for that matter, so does my eldest daughter, asking why the guide is written expressly for 'female' candidates. Instead, it could have been written for all candidates.

After all, they point out, many male candidates could certainly use a few tips on grooming, presentation and image.

I agree.

A few of the more, dare I say it, ludicrous suggestions in the guide were quoted in the newspaper article, and I had to admit, if were a woman, I would be annoyed as well.

For example, the guide reports "research has concluded that large-eyed people 'look' intelligent," so it goes on to suggest women candidates should be



advised to wear mascara and trade in their eyeglasses for contact lenses if possible.

Does that mean those candidates will look more intelligent? I think not.

If that were the case, maybe some of the male candidates should slap on a little mascara as well to ah,... er .. give their eyes a little lift and garner a few more votes from those voters who will cast a ballot because the candidate 'looks' a little more intelligent, whether they are or not.

The guide also suggests certain types of shoes, and even has the audacity to advise women candidates to carry extra pantyhose in the car, just in case.....

Any candidate, male or female, shouldn't need to be told to, in essence, be prepared.

Color coordination of the candidate's wardrobe is also covered in the guide, suggesting "orange says friendliness, brown dependability and red assertiveness."

Does that mean to project a friendly, assertive yet dependable image, the would-be candidate should wear all three colors at once?

And I wonder if the guide took into consideration whether or not the candidate was to appear in a newspaper where most of the photos are in black and white.

Give me a break.

Over the years, I've watched several capable women take their

place in the public forum, be it municipal, provincial or federal politics.

As far as I'm concerned, this guide does more harm to the influx of female candidates in the political arena, destroying their credibility before even having a chance to speak about issues.

Today's women need not be taken by the hand and prompted with reams of useless information to face their male counterparts

on the ballot. Instead, they should be allowed to face their opponents on a level playing field, with the same privileges and handicaps, the same hecklers and placard-toting demonstrators, for the same

wages and the same perks. I think it's high time someone pointed out to the National Women's Liberal Commission that we're in the 90's and time they caught up.