

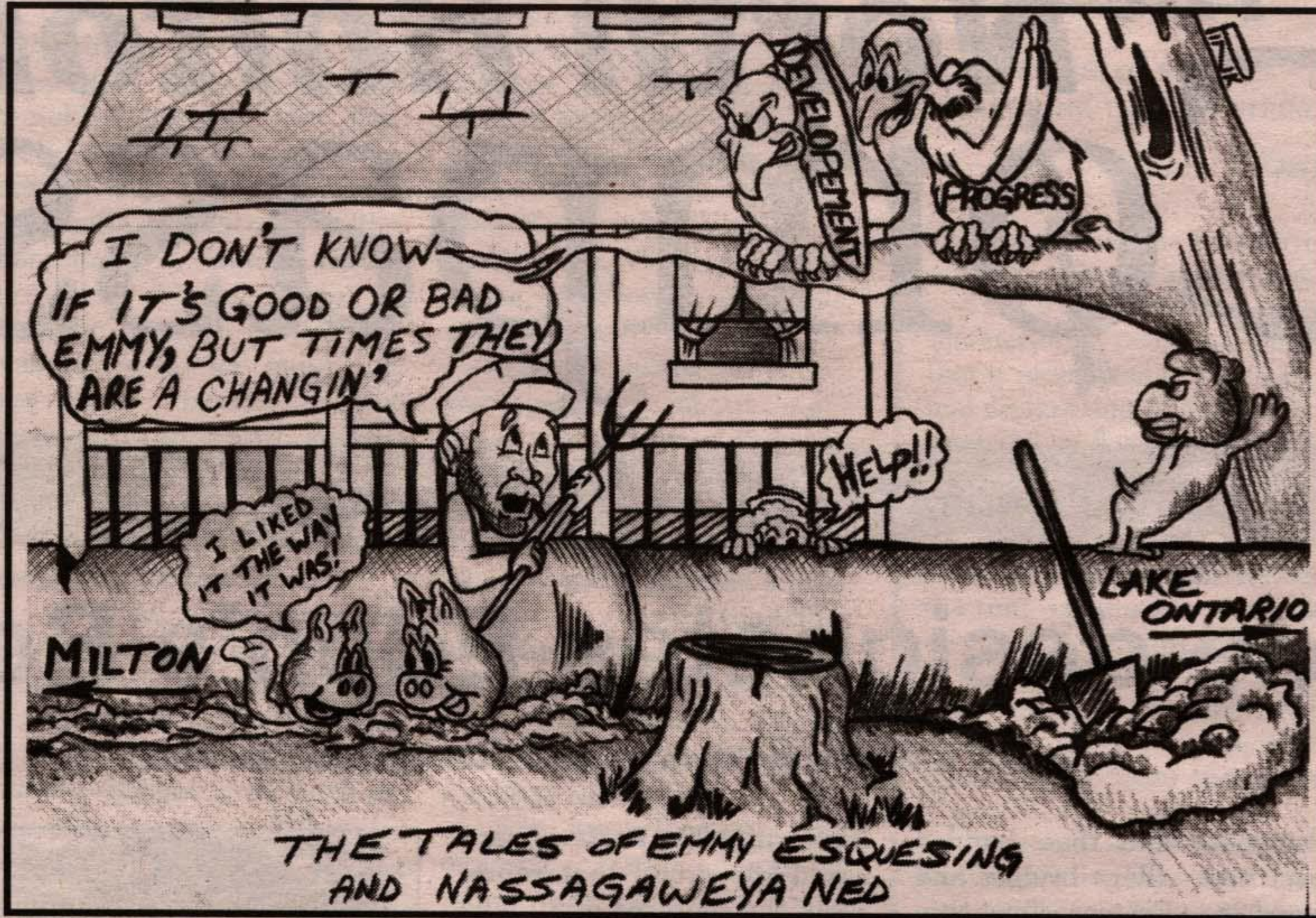
# Brass Tacks – Editorial

For many rural residents of Halton, the Town of Milton's plans to add 50,000 to its population by the year 2010 must feel like a bucket of icy Lake Ontario water thrown in their face.

Although it may have been expected, it still opens your eyes to the reality of eventually being swallowed up by the Greater Toronto Area. Living beside Milton will soon become like living beside a baby elephant. The bigger it gets, the more demands it will make on its country neighbors.

With the recent announcement of the Halton Urban Structure Plan, Baby GTA is now more than just a twinkle in Daddy Progress' eye. Safely conceived in Mama Development's womb, he is sustained by the HUSP initiative that will ship water to Milton from Lake Ontario. Like a giant umbilical cord, the Big Pipe will facilitate expansion of the existing town as Junior GTA dreams sweet dreams of 2500 sq. ft. homes on lots with 30 foot frontage.

Once the first basement is dug and the baby officially born, the more land and services his parents will seek to feed their hungry child. Fortunately, the Town of Milton and other municipal governments within the Region of Halton generally use a cautious approach to development and stick to their Official Plans. The 50,000 new people under the present proposals on the table will not likely have a severe impact on rural areas to the north of Milton. The projects waiting final approval from the Region are south of the 401.



However, when what was traditionally known as the Hornby area in Esquesing is now called the "401 Industrial Corridor", rural residents have a right to be concerned. When this current development phase is drawing to a close, the biggest challenge Milton Councillors of the time will face will be not giving in to the parent's of Baby GTA and their increasing pressure to allow more growth than currently slated.

Rural residents of Halton not wanting to live in Mississauga West in the future will do well to pay close attention during municipal elections in the years ahead.

On a different note, I'd like to thank all the people that helped my wife Margaret and I get the first issue of our little kitchen table newspaper to press. Without the

Compass' contributors – none that could ever be accused of being in this for the money – and our first-issue advertisers that supported my pie-in-the-sky concept, this rural newspaper would have remained just a dream.

To say the least, it's been quite the ride since January and a huge learning curve for this amateur publisher! What looks wonderful on the computer screen doesn't always transfer to print. We worked long into the nights before our first scheduled print date and finally stopped with what we thought was an error-free publication. And in the cold light of day as the paper rolled off the press, we discovered it wasn't. As the Compass' editor, I apologize for the mistakes in the first issue. We'll get better.

To our readers that called

and first commented on how much they liked the spirit of the paper and then gently pointed out some of the errors, I remain grateful. Publishing your first newspaper leaves one's self-esteem very brittle.

On a brighter note, because of the paper, I had the honour of visiting the Cabin, home of Mary Elizabeth and Canon James Maxwell in Norval. She fed me strong coffee and freshmade scones smothered in homemade jam and said nice things about what I'm trying to accomplish.

Mary will no doubt be embarrassed by the attention she's getting in this issue, with a book review, a profile and her letter to the editor published. However, kindred spirits such as she richly deserve the recognition. And the way to a man's heart will always remains his stomach.

## Blue Springs Soapbox - Compass Correspondence

I am intrigued with your "kitchen table" effort, The North Halton Compass. More good ideas start there than anywhere else in a house.

I am also glad to see the original and distinctive name "Esquesing" used to locate the area.

In your first editorial you say you are going to try and keep the "ads" in the background – that will be difficult, but what a treat to have a local paper you can read!

You have a wealth of material to draw from in

Nassagaweya, Esquesing and nudging into Wellington County. Every life, every sideroad, every nook and cranny has been carved out of the bush and stories are there for the writing.

I thought you might enjoy my book "To Walk a Country Mile," hammered out on our kitchen table on a second hand 1930's model Remington typewriter, a state-of-the-art model seventy years ago. I am sure certain chapters will catch your interest such as the one on J.W.L. Forster, pio-

neer portrait painter, born in a log cabin on the 10th Line of Esquesing.

No doubt you will be swamped with material, your "Compass" will touch a chord in many homes, and people will be turning out grandmother's trunks to share the fun with neighbors near and far.

Good luck to you – and thank you.

Mary E. Maxwell  
The Cabin  
Norval, Ontario

On behalf of the Limehouse Women's Institute, we wish to say "thank you" for publishing the ad for our "Taste of Maple" pancake breakfast.

I am glad to report it was a wonderful success and therefore we are all pleased and will donate all proceeds to the renovation of the Limehouse Memorial Hall.

We enjoy your newspaper and find lots of local coverage. We wish you continued success with your endeavors.

Yours truly,  
Jean Anderson, Secretary,  
Limehouse Women's Institute

## The North Halton Compass

Reach then a soaring quill, that I may write  
As with a Jacob's staff to take a height  
CLEVELAND

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"He who has lost confidence can lose nothing more."

BOISTE

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