

Too long a wait on Thompson

DEAR EDITOR:

My sister often visits on Saturdays from Toronto by GO bus.

During these past many months, she figures it takes nearly as long to get from the Main Street GO station from Derry Road along Thompson Road as it does to travel from Union Station to Milton.

She now travels with a box lunch and change of clothes, because you just never know.

Recently I took Nipissing Road to Thompson in the hopes of making a right-hand turn to go south. I faced a steady stream of cars, seemingly hitched bumper to bumper, and, after doing my nails and a crossword puzzle, decided I might as well turn and go back.

Just then a nice young man in a black pick-up truck stopped and let in me and the fellow behind me. Thank you.

Can you imagine attempting a left-hand turn to go up

Thompson? Mission impossible. Goodness knows what would happen if an emergency vehicle had to get through.

I read of the anticipated growth to the year 2031, and also that construction on Thompson was progressing "as scheduled." Does that mean Thompson will be completed to accommodate this growth, or will we be in the same pickle then? A four-lane thoroughfare should have been in place when this grand scheme was hatched, but that would have involved logic and planning ahead.

We have four forms of government — municipal, regional, provincial and federal. My question is how many layers of tax dollars does it take to destroy a town?

It would seem collectively they dictate what will be done with our land, care little of water issues, wildlife and the effect massive growth has on the environment — including vegeta-

tion, and ultimately the very air we breathe.

Furthermore, the additional facilities required to accommodate increased population of this magnitude, and especially the tremendous burden placed on our little hospital, doesn't seem to enter the picture.

Regulated growth is expected, but what's happening to Milton — and the Niagara Escarpment in particular — borders on catastrophic.

Several years back we were fortunate to have Rose Harrison — no relation to yours truly — as a council member. She worked hard for her constituents. I know, for we often had phone calls for her in error. She said "Wait until the big pipe comes through, this town will be bursting at the seams."

I think even Rose would be shocked to see the aftermath.

**ELIZABETH HARRISON
CAMPBELLVILLE**

Story on MP's meeting just rhetoric

DEAR EDITOR:

This letter is in response to the story in the March 4 *Champion* about Garth Turner's Town Hall meeting.

I see that our MP was compelled to outline the Liberal childcare plans during his meeting. According to Turner, this Liberal \$5 billion childcare plan would open up 600 new childcare spots for low-income earners in Halton.

I can only assume that Turner was talking about the Liberal plans that were promised during the last 2006 election. What he forgot to say was that these same plans were also promised by the Liberals during the 2004, 2000, 1997, and 1993 elections, and that even though the Liberals achieved three straight majority governments in 1993, 1997 and 2000, none of these Liberal promises were ever honoured.

I'm disappointed that the *Champion* would

print such obvious rhetoric, and not remind readers of the chronic hypocrisy within Turner's statements and the failure of the Liberals to fulfill even minimum obligations to Canadian families.

Turner won't fool me with his fantasy-filled talk, and I can only conclude based on facts and history that the Liberals have no intention to do anything about childcare except talk about it.

Personally, I don't think the Conservative program is perfect. I think that high-income earners should be dropped from the program and lower-income earners could then get more, but at least it is something.

Why, I'd ask the Liberals, was Harper, with his minority government, able to do more for Canadian children than the Liberals did with their majority governments and massive surpluses?

**F. SHAW
MILTON**

Proper crosswalks needed in downtown core

DEAR EDITOR:

Of all the stupid signs out there, this town takes the cake.

Why do pedestrians have to yield to traffic on Main Street? Does this mean if a driver speeds up and hits the pedestrian the pedestrian is at fault?

A car has brakes for quick action, but a pedestrian can only jump straight up or in front of the opposite lane of traffic.

An old man or lady with parcels or a bum leg could wait until hell freezes over to cross the road, or be forced to take a

dangerous chance crossing.

Get with it, Milton. Stop the killer cars with proper crosswalks, like all sensible municipalities.

**WALTER TRAFFORD
HESLOP ROAD**

Farmers meet in effort to recoup their losses from bank's demise

'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of the Champion and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

May 1911

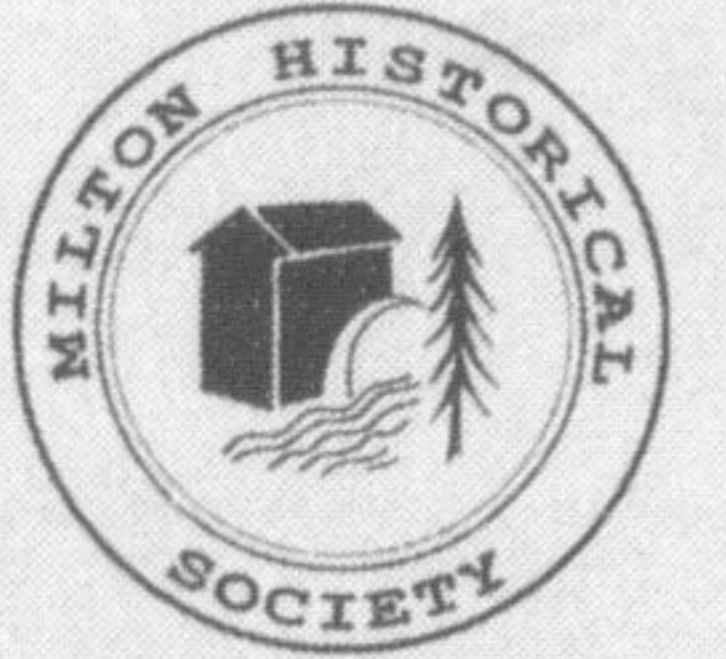
Farmers Bank victims met at the court house on Tuesday, enough of them to nearly fill the court room. Most of them were Halton men, but there were a good many from other counties who held proxies for others. The Halton directors were present. Dr. R.K. Anderson was chairman. Wm. Laidlaw, K.C. addressed the meeting. He said he did not agree with the statement in the Toronto Globe that the Farmers Bank shareholders were partners and if they escaped the double liability would be in for trouble just as serious.

In reply to a query whether the depositors would be legally entitled to collect their losses from the persons deemed responsible for the chartering of the bank, Mr. Laidlaw said that if it could be established that the certificate authorizing the bank to transact a banking business was wrongfully issued by the Treasury Board, and that certificate was the basis for securing deposits, he thought that the foundation existed for entering an action against the members of the Treasury Board, but not against the country.

It was stated that a call would be made on the shareholders who had been paid dividends to refund the sums that they thus received. Mr. Laidlaw advised them not to resist such a demand, for the dividends were illegally declared. David Henderson, M.P., spoke. He expressed his sympathy for the shareholders. He had not bought Farmers Bank stock. He had not the money to spare, but he would pay the share of the expense of contesting the case that went with the holding of \$1,000 in stock.

The meeting agreed to dispute the claim for double liability and contribute three per cent of amount of shares on account of the expenses of the litigation and pay a further two

Milton Time Capsules



per cent. A committee consisting of Dr. R.K. Anderson and Messrs J. Irving, J.F. Ford and Frank Greenlees was appointed.

The 20th Halton Rifles' three representatives left on Monday for England and the coronation. They are: Sgt. Major Robinson, base line; Sgt. McLaren, No. 4 Co., Campbellville and Sergt. Ward, No. 8 Co. Norval. All these are men are of particularly good physique and choice samples of the Canadian manhood.

The annual meeting of the Milton district of Hamilton conference is being held in the Methodist school-room, Burlington today. The business of the year will be under consideration, and an important discussion will take place regarding the question of the union of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches.

The members of the lawn tennis club practice in Victoria Park and it is understood that the team for this season is fairly strong. There is no sign of any other summer sport here. The baseball club has not been reorganized. There has been no reorganization either in Georgetown or Acton and that means difficulty in arranging for matches.

On Saturday the part of Brown Street running through the court house square was anointed with crude petroleum. Sheriff Webster superintended and assisted at the work. The roadway is rather aromatic, but that will pass off and the dust is laid for some time to come.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.

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