



FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

Municipal Officers and Farm Leaders Study Weed Menace

"Why didn't 2-4-D kill Wild Carrot on our township roads in 1953?" was the keynote of the special meeting sponsored by Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association on Friday afternoon last, in the Court House, Milton. The meeting was opened by president Fred Nurse of the Soil and Crop Improvement Ass'n. That the members of Halton's Municipal Councils as well as many farm leaders are prominent in the meeting was indicated by the presence of the following township and county officials:

Esqueping Township—Reeve Wilfred Bird, Councillors Geo. Currie and J. S. Wilson, and Road Superintendent, Wm. Townsend.

Trafalgar Township—Reeve E. F. Ford; Deputy-Reeve Robt. Marshall, and Councillor Ernest Henderson.

Nelson Township—Reeve Geo. Brenholtz; and Councillor Leonard Coulson.

Nassagaweya Township—Reeve A. R. Service.

County of Halton—Warden J. J. Stewart, and County Engineer Roy Smith.

Following a report from a representative of each municipality, a panel chaired by Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitlock and composed of Prof. C. Waywell, of the Botany Department, Ontario Agricultural College; A. R. Stewart, Director of the Crops Seeds and Weeds Branch, Toronto; Wilfred Nickels, County Weed Inspector for Kent County; Kenneth McNaught, formerly district Weed Inspector for the Ontario Department of Agriculture and now with Green Cross Chemicals; Jas. Neale of Niagara Brand Spray Co.; took on the job of trying to find the answer to Halton's problem.

While a fund of valuable information was presented by the panel members, we were nevertheless somewhat disappointed for the greater part of the afternoon, in not getting a specific answer to Halton's failure to get a kill on Wild Carrot. However, as prominent farmers in the audience began to take part in the discussion and revealed they personally had had no trouble in killing Wild Carrot with 2-4-D on their own farms, nor where they sprayed through their own fence onto the road allowance, we began to see a little light. After listening to the discussion, we got the idea, that in some cases at least, spraying was not commenced early enough. The experts were agreed that to be effective 2-4-D should be applied when the Wild Carrot is growing rapidly—while growth conditions vary in different years, that would appear to indicate late May or early June.

The second possible solution, may be that due to the type of nozzle or pressure, the spray was broken down into too fine a mist and in a season such as we had in June 1953 the green foliage did not receive sufficient material to do a killing job. Mr. Nickels who has many years experience both as a custom weed sprayer as well as County Weed Inspector, reported to us that you must wet the plant to the point where the spray solution is about ready to run off. In their experience a 500 gal. tank will normally cover one side of the road for five miles. Mr. Nickels is also of the opinion that soft water from a stream should be used with the 2-4-D rather than hard water.

Farm Weeds or Roadside Weeds—Which?

County Engineer Roy Smith was inclined to question the wisdom of attempting to control roadside weeds when just inside the road fence many operators were not

doing very much about attempting Nickels pointed out, however, that to control weeds on their own farms. County Weed Inspector if a job is to be done on the farms, the road authorities must set an example. With this contention, the majority of those present were in agreement.

Are We Penny Wise in Halton?

Those in attendance were surprised to learn that in the County of Kent, the county weed inspector has an eleven month's job. True, Mr. Nickels operates a 50-acre farm, but we gathered from him, that normally he spends about twenty days a month on his job as County Weed Inspector.

Doesn't Wait for Complaints

"I know where the dirty fields are and at this time of year I get around to see the operators and advise them to put in a crop like corn which can be sprayed, in fields which are very dirty. They then know when I come back and their field or fields are dirty, that they can look for trouble."

"My farmers in Kent are asking for help, and appreciate any guidance I can give them—consequently we have little trouble in enforcing the Weed Control Act."

Township Inspectors Too?

Kent County has ten townships, and with the exception of one township, the other nine have anywhere from one to three Township Weed Inspectors. Mr. Nickels assured us there was no overlapping or duplication of effort. The district weed inspector, the county weed inspector, and the township inspector's work as a team. That Kent County is getting results is borne out by the 1952 Seed Drill Survey. In that year, of the 14 Western Ontario counties participating in the Seed Drill Survey, Kent stood at the top, with 62% No. 1 seed, and 14.5% rejected samples.

In the same year, Halton's seed drill survey revealed 54% No. 1 seed, and 25.8% rejected seed. This incidentally was considerably better showing for Halton than in 1951.

Halton Farmers Breaking Law

As we look over the "For Sale" ads in our county weeklies—we note some of our farm operators advertising seed grain and small seeds without government grade and control certificate number. What they are offering may be excellent clean seed—on the other hand it may be one of the reasons and farm operators so doing, are liable for prosecution. It is quite likely that those guilty of this practice are not aware of the legislation in question—hence the reason for this tip. With all the good grain shown at the 1954 Seed Fair at Milton, all backed by government grade, there isn't much excuse for not knowing what you are sowing this spring. The margin between No. 1 seed oats, with bags, and treated, at \$1.40 per bushel, against unknown seed even at \$1.00 per bushel, represents around 65 or 70 cents an acre. That surely is a small investment when one considers the cost of plowing, tillage, fertilizer, harvesting, and taxes. It may well mean the difference between a good crop and a poor one. And lastly, how can we hope to clean up our fields and farms if we sow weed seeds? Halton farm organizations are demanding a more rigid enforcement of Ontario's Weed Control Act. The members of the 1954 County Council Committee on Agriculture are out to see that a better job is done, so we expect to see some progress this summer.

Watson Reveals 20% Ontario Cows Bred Artificially

W. P. Watson, Livestock Commissioner for Ontario, when speaking on Tuesday of last week at the Annual Meeting of the Maple Cattle Breeders' Association, revealed that in 1953 the eight licensed units in Ontario, had bred 234,611

cows. In addition non-licensed units and syndicates had bred another 60,000 cows at least, which means that just under 300,000 cows were bred artificially in Ontario last year. This, stated Mr. Watson represents slightly less than 20% of the total cow population.

Mr. Watson further revealed that this compares very favorably with any state in the union or any other country in the world, other than Denmark, where approximately 40% of their cow population is bred artificially. At the annual meeting of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, secretary-manager Clemons stated that close to 50% of the 1953 registrations in Holstein breed, come the Hereford, of artificial breeding. Next to the the Holstein breed were the result from the standpoint of the number of cows bred to Hereford bulls. In third position is the Shorthorn, followed by the Jersey and Ayrshire.

Research Programme With Sires

Mr. Watson also dealt briefly with the research programme under way at the Ontario Agricultural College. Here with the aid of International Business Machines, the sires ability to transmit type and production is being revealed. While the project has not been under way long enough to enable Prof. Geo. E. Rathby and Dr. Clare Rennie, who are in charge of the programme, to issue very much conclusive data, Mr. Watson stated sufficient had been done to prove that it isn't necessarily the most publicized herd sires which are doing the best job.

Cattle Marketing Up

To date, stated Mr. Watson, cattle marketings are up 16% over the same period a year ago, and we can expect higher marketings throughout 1954. In view of the relationship between market cattle and grade dairy cows, we should not look or anticipate higher prices for dairy cattle in 1954. This year to date we are consuming and storing over 30,000 cattle per week—in brief we are consuming more beef today than at any time in our history.

Increase in Telephones Here Reflects Overall Progress of Bell Co. in 1954

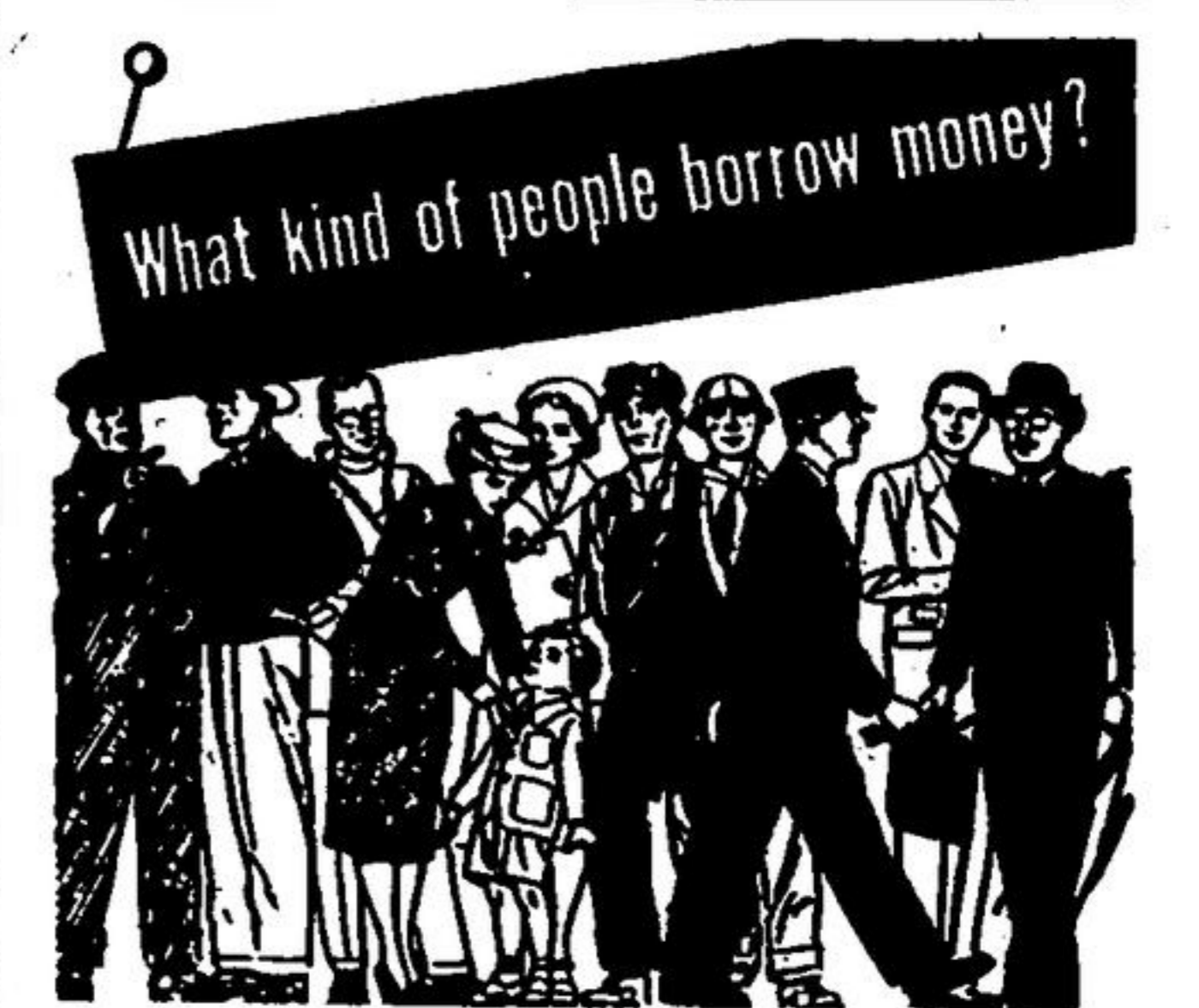
With more customers, more shareholders and more employees than ever before in its history, the Bell Telephone Company of Canada enjoyed "a state of vigorous good health" during 1953, according to the company's 74th annual report issued February 25.

A total of \$93,938,298 in wages and salaries was paid to Bell employees in Ontario and Quebec last year. At the end of 1953 the company employed 31,502 people—19,917 women and 11,585 men.

The number of shareholders increased during 1953 to 115,789, a record for any Canadian company. Most shareholders—98 per cent.—reside in Canada and 91 per cent. live in Ontario and Quebec. The majority of individual shareholders are women.

The construction of new facilities during the year was the most extensive in the company's history and a record of 151,333 telephones were added, bringing the total number in service to 2,127,486. More than half the orders for telephones were met promptly and those remaining unfilled were further reduced to 52,862 from 58,354.

Commenting on this aspect of the report, C. S. Keith, Bell manager for this region, said 69 tele-



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The mounting ease of Pontiac's "extra" features is the wonder of the low-priced field. Here you find feather-light steps, effortless steering, clutchless relaxation during all driving—and many more of the thrilling features you'd normally only expect to enjoy on higher-priced cars.

Unmatched for Distinctive Styling

One glance tells you that Pontiac's styling places it in a class by itself. It's beautiful to be seen in—luxurious to ride in. And in the rainbow array of exquisite color harmonies you'll find the gorgeous hues to exactly suit your taste. Even the appointments bespeak thoroughbred styling.

Unsurpassed for Choice of Models

Thirty-one brilliantly new models in six great series, each excitingly different, to give you a wonderful freedom to pick-and-choose. In the breathtaking Pontiac line, there's a car to please the most exacting driver. And each model carries the prestige of being the very best of its type, anywhere.

Unexcelled for Trouble-Free Driving

You enjoy an exclusive sense of confidence when you own a Pontiac—the car with the most widely-known reputation for forthright dependability. Pontiac is built to last more years and more miles—as happy owners have proved over and over again. Dependability is one of the greatest factors in Pontiac's outstanding value.

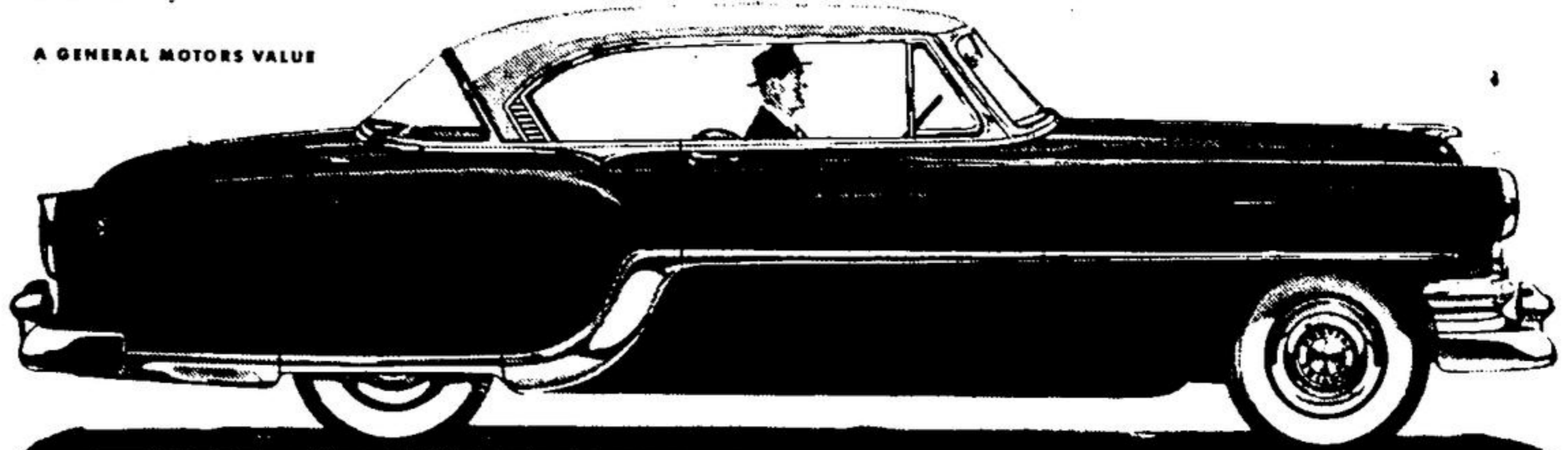
Unrivaled for Economical Operation

Only Pontiac is built to such exact power-to-weight ratios—ratios that mean every drop of fuel has a definite job to do. Therefore, Pontiac engines use less fuel to give you flashing get-aways, economical cruising speeds, and safe passing speeds—saving you money with every mile you travel.

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Pontiac gives you the greatest dollar return for your new car investment. The initial cost is well down in the low-priced field, and the running costs are wonderfully low. Then at trade-in time, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the offers you'll receive. You'll find you've travelled, in greater comfort, further per dollar than ever before.

A GENERAL MOTORS VALUE



Illustrated: Pontiac Laurentian Sport Coupe

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