

FARM NEWS

Pick Halton Inter-County Team Champions at Royal Winter Fair

The 1956 Inter-County Livestock Judging "Champs" are from the little county of Halton. Held at the Royal Winter Fair on Thursday of last week, this event open to county teams of three young men under 20 years of age, constitutes the major livestock judging classic held annually in Ontario.

This is the first time since the inauguration of the inter-county judging event at the opening Royal, back in 1922, that a Halton team has won the top place and thereby the Jeffrey Bull Memorial Trophy. Who was on the team? Why, Lyman Coulter and George Greenleaf of Campbellville, and Bill Robinson of Oakville and their coach Art Bennett, Associate "Ag Rep."

This is a terrific win and the much credit cannot be extended to the three young men and their coach on this major achievement. Incidentally, they constitute the youngest team from Halton to ever enter this senior Junior Farmer event—two 17-year-olds and an 18-year-old. In the competition, which included teams from Carleton on the east to Huron on the west, the competitors judged and gave oral reasons on ten classes of livestock: Short-horns, Aberdeen Angus,

Herefords, Ayrshires, Holsteins, Jerseys, Yorkshire Gilt, Yorkshire sows, dressed carcasses and Hampshire sheep.

Aside from winning the Jeffrey Bull Memorial trophy and monetary prizes, all three young men won cash awards. Incidentally, George Greenleaf (one of Halton's debating champions of 1956) was the second high competitor of the day, with a score of 907 out of a possible 1000.

In extending congratulations to the team members and their coach, we would be remiss if we overlooked the contribution to the achievement made by the livestock breeders of Halton. We are referring not only to those breeders at whose farms the young men received coaching this fall, but also to many other breeders in Halton on whose livestock our 4-H club members and Junior Farmers have annually had the privilege of working.

Few counties, if any, can boast of better quality livestock in practically all of the major breeds. Now for the top six awards: Holton, Carleton, Victoria Feed, Wellington, Durham.

Farm Investment In Marketing Discussed by Halton's Forums

Will Soon Pass \$52,000 Gift

TRAFALGAR—Trafalgar township will make a grant of \$52,000 to the proposed new hospital. It will constitute the township's share towards expenses as set out by a committee for Halton hospitals.

A by-law authorizing Trafalgar's donation will be read at the November 19 meeting of council.

"Should farmers invest in marketing?" was the subject discussed on National Farm Radio Forum Monday evening, November 5.

All forum groups in Halton agreed that there is room for considerable improvement in the marketing of farm produce. Some groups mentioned different commodities that show too wide a spread between price received by producer and the price the consumer pays.

The second question was "Would investment by farmers help and if so, how should it be done?" The majority of the groups felt if farmers had money invested, it would help as they would take more interest in marketing their produce. One group thought with so much money invested in equipment, it should not be necessary to invest in and support farm markets.

Most of the groups recommended investment in local co-operatives, where efforts were divided on this suggestion.

Now Three Girls In Boys' League

OAKVILLE—The saying that troubles come in threes is too true, take it from recreation director Jack Ross. His first "trouble" came in the form of a 10 year old girl with a broken nose and a year to play hockey in the boys' minor league. This week two more skinned hockey players turned up.

Jo Fairbairn, the Ashby Road girl with the broken nose, has been joined by two other girl hockey players, both also age 10, Angela Smallman, of 289 Rebecca St. and Sally Folland, of 302 Lakeshore Road West.

"They're playing in our new Acton league," said the levy director, "and so far are holding their own." All atoms are under 10 years old.

Halton Holstein In Winning Get At International

Four daughters of Lonelme Texal Higheroff won the top award in the Holstein get of sire class for Romanale Farms at the 1956 International Dairy Show recently held in Chicago.

In the November issue of the Holstein-Friesian Journal, a picture of the four cows appears on the cover page. It will be of interest to Halton folk generally to learn that one of the four daughters of old Higheroff which made up this winning get, was bred and raised to maturity in Halton. The cow in question is Kneland Farm Annabelle, bred by Johnstone Newlands of Hornby.

It will be recalled that Annabelle was shown at the 1954 C.N.E. by Harold Cooper, formerly of Palermo. On that occasion she was second prize aged cow, reserve grand champion, best sired cow in the Holstein show and a member of Halton's second prize cow herd. At the International, Annabelle was second to the grand champion of the show in a class of 50 aged cows. To quote Judge Swartz, "The greatest cow class I have ever judged."

Annabelle's sire, Higheroff, a son of Lonelme Texal Fayne, formerly stood for service in the stud of the Maple Cattle Breeders' Association. Incidentally, another daughter of Higheroff, topped the recent consignment sale of the Maple Cattle breeders at \$750 for Morley Watson of Burlington.

Time to Look Ahead, Plan Farm For Changing Agriculture Outlook

Now that the Presidential election is over in the United States, perhaps conditions on this continent will return to a more normal trend.

It is generally realized that conditions in the U.S. have a very definite bearing on the economic pattern here in Canada. It is therefore of interest to note that leading U.S. agricultural economists make the following forecast for that country in 1957: (1) Farm labor supply will become smaller and more costly; (2) Farm credit will get tighter; U.S. farm operators will need a sound, well-planned operation to get loans; (3) Farm income from livestock is in the improvement stage. Big splurge in meat production is past.

Milk is steady. Eggs are having a shake-out and prospects for next fall are looking up. (4) Farm land values will continue to edge up with cheaper types of land making the biggest gain. In short, these factors do not point to a fast return to big profits, but they do indicate that the farm economy is on a broader and sounder base.

Whether or not there will be a repeat performance of the early 1956 land buying spree, no one knows. Rumor would have it that in some cases, options are being allowed to lapse and in other cases, tentative purchasers are asking for an extension of time on the closing date.

From a layman's viewpoint it is difficult to understand what is going to be done in the immediate future with all of the farm land in Halton which has been purchased or optioned. The prices reported preclude such land remaining in agriculture.

The most unfortunate aspect, as we see it, is that the speculative activity of 1955-56 has put the asking price of farm land in Halton to a point where it makes it impossible for bona fide farmers who would like to increase the size of their farm acreage, to carry out their plans. It also virtually makes it impossible for the great majority of our potential good young farm operators to establish themselves in this county.

Certainly the speculative real estate activity in Halton in 1956 has definitely had a reaction on farming incentive. While unfortunate, it was only to be expected. Personally, we can't help but think there is still going to be a lot of farming done in Halton for some years to come.

If we are correct in that assumption, what plans should we make for 1957? Here we are in an area where industrial activity creates strong competition for labor. The alternative would appear to be increased mechanization. But can we justify that increased investment in farm machinery on the majority of Halton farms? Perhaps the alternative is increased use of custom equipment or a greater application in the principal of co-operative ownership or use of farm machinery. Can we increase our output or volume of business on our existing acreage? Is there any way of combatting or meeting the price squeeze in which we find ourselves?

Frankly, we do not profess to have all the answers, but first and foremost, we think, the leaders of the Federation of Agriculture and the Farmers' Union should make an even greater effort to get together. We all know what happens in a divided household—in short, in our humble opinion, there is no place for two such organizations in the field of agriculture. Secondly (some would say firstly), our changing economy demands more attention in the field of farm management.

Annual Bazaar Held By Friendly Circle

The United Church Sunday School room was well filled with shoppers on Saturday afternoon when the Friendly Circle held its annual bazaar and tea. Well patronized were the baking, cookie and remnant tables. A specialty of the touch-and-take table was a group of gifts especially for children. Items on sale at the miscellaneous table included cushions, aprons, knitted articles, crib quilts, skirts and novelties.

Chrysanthemums decorated the tea tables, where dainty sandwiches and cakes were served.

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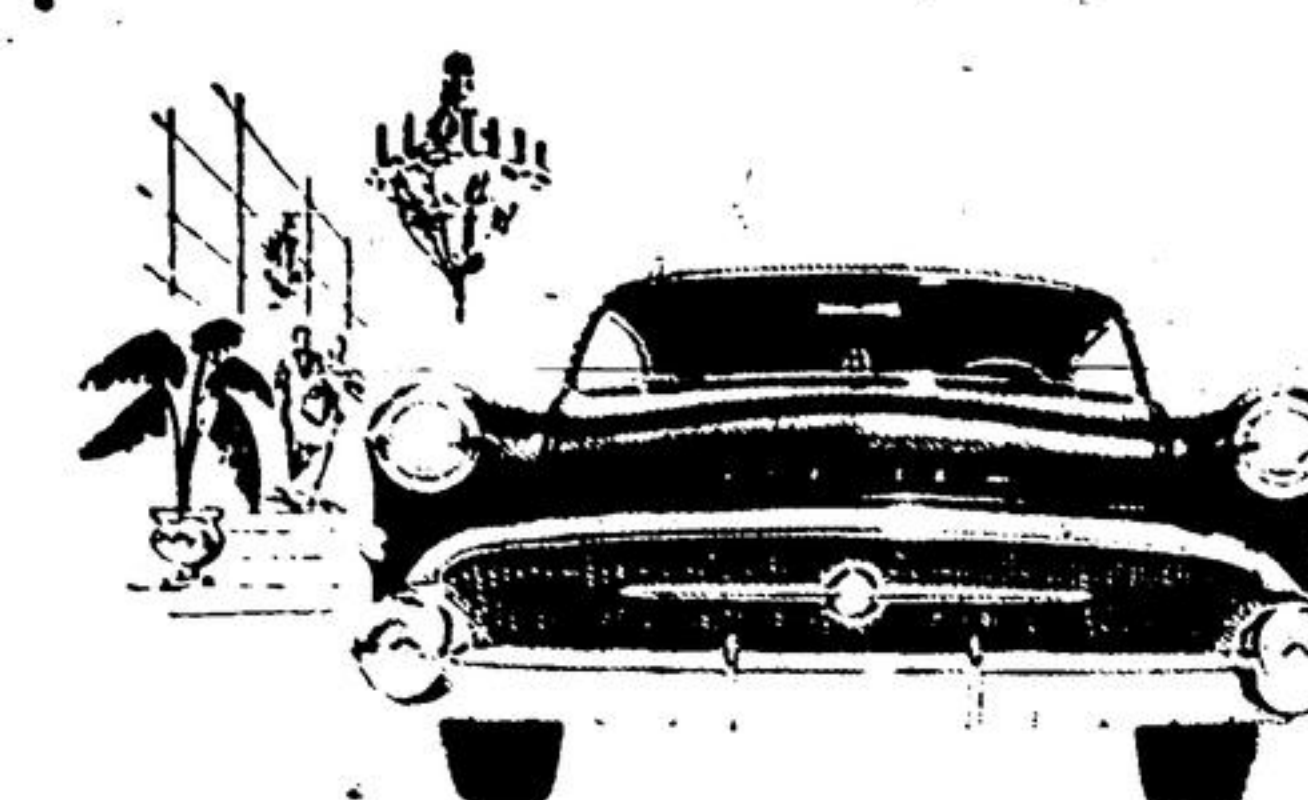
IRON CURTAIN CRASHER



We confess a sneaking respect for one resourceful gentleman who fooled the Comies—albeit by morally dubious means. Seems he would load his hollow aluminum artificial leg with candy, coffee and nylon in West Berlin, then whisk over the border into East Berlin in his motorized wheel chair. He made a nest profit—until the border guards ultimately caught up with him.

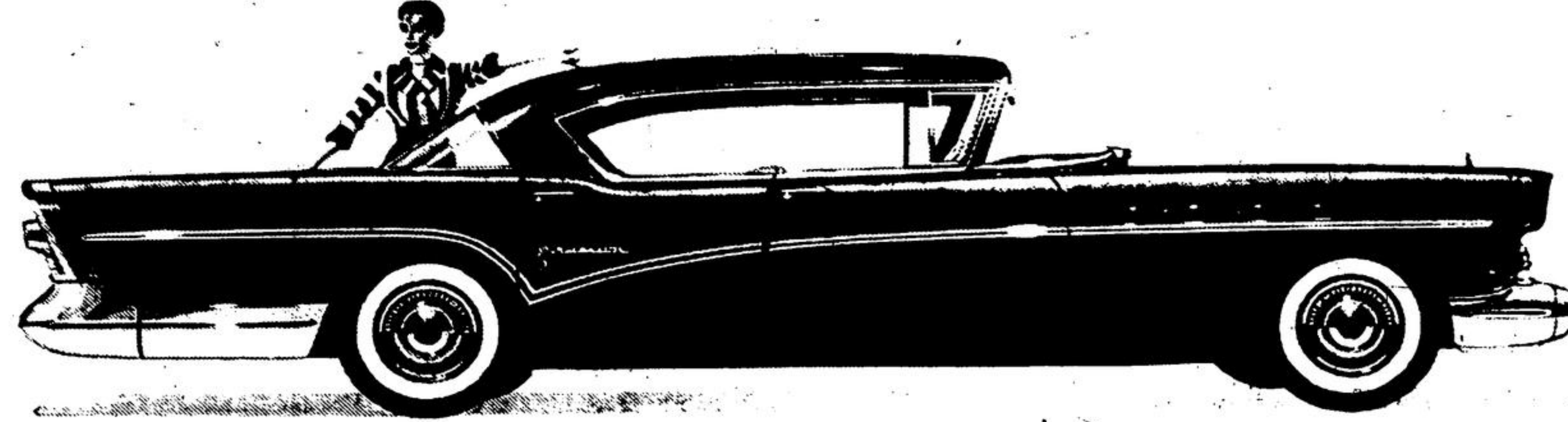
More and more businesses—from artificial limbs to shipbuilding—similarly find aluminum a valuable aid to sales and profits. Further major expansion of Alcan's smelters in both Quebec and B.C. is aimed to satisfy the continued increasing demand for the light metal.

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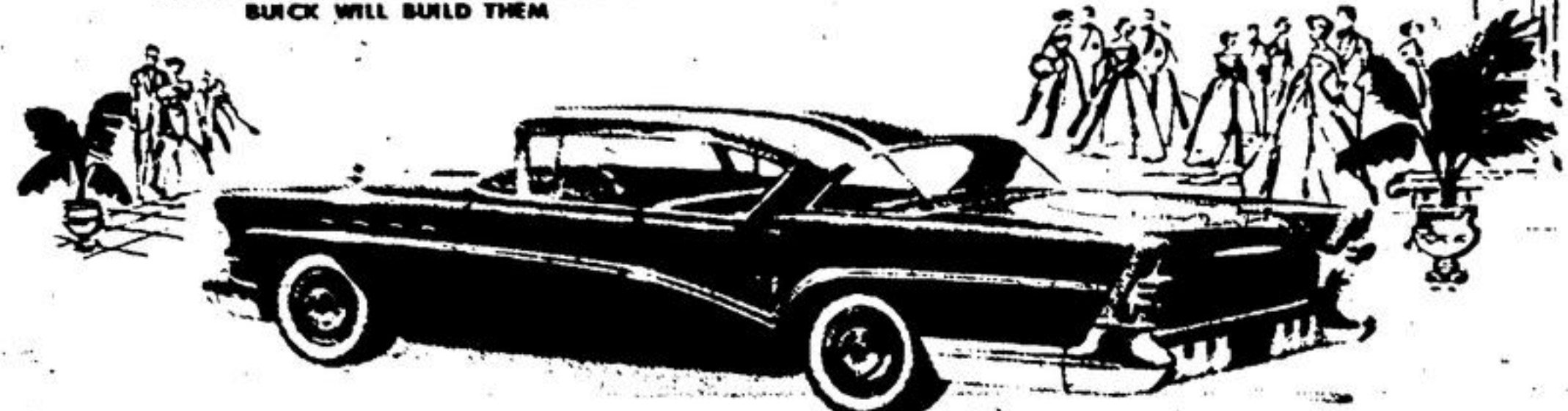
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