



A FARM HOME in Erin Township on the third line backs in the bright sunlight. Cattle browses on the thick green grass while the Eramosa River reflects a blue sky laced with fluffy clouds. (Staff Photo)

Free Press

Farm Page

Heavy rains help lawns

By H.J. Stanley

Lawns are much better than normal for this season of year because of the frequent rains. However, the rain has also increased the number of weeds in lawns. Because these weeds are still growing rapidly, it is possible to control them with 2,4-D, and other Mecoprop or Fenoprop. 2,4-D alone will control Dandelions, Plantain and Lamb's quarters, but the other herbicides are required to control weeds such as Creeping Charlie and Chickweed.

As the weather gets warmer and drier the height of cutting your lawn should be gradually increased to the two inch level. Many brown unsightly lawns are a direct result of clipping too low. This permits the sun to shine on the roots, and causes the grass to dry out.

Now is an excellent time to apply a second application of fertilizer. 10-10-10 can be used at the rate of 10 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft.

A green, weed-free lawn adds greatly to the appearance of your home.

Do not hit your brakes

GRAVEL ROADS

If you're driving on a country road and suddenly, come to the end of the pavement, or hit a patch of rough gravel, or a "washboard", don't apply the brake! Sudden braking may cause your car to fishtail or swerve. The best thing is to let up on the accelerator, allowing the engine to slow the car and concentrate on your steering. But above all -- don't hit those brakes!

Hazards of rural life today machinery should be locked

By Jim Jenkins

The following is a parable. It is fiction, but in every day rural life similar cases are too common.

John X was up early this morning. He finished his chores in record time, had his breakfast and was ready to start in the fields at 8:30. The reason for such hurry -- well, John had 15 acres of hay ready to bale as soon as it would "go," and another eight acres to cut before then. He hoped to have all of the crop in the barn by Friday evening, and the family could leave on

Saturday for their twice postponed trip to the East Coast.

John had the light across "down" in no time, and at 11:00 a.m. he jumped onto the big diesel which was attached to the baler. John turned the key -- nothing. On close examination of the machine he noticed that the 12 volt battery was gone, and there was no sign of it anywhere. His fate was certain -- it had been stolen during the night.

The O.P.P. was called and the following observations and conclusions were made: The tractor or was near the road -- 200 yards

from the house. The theft probably occurred between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. The make of the battery was recorded, but there was no other identification of it. It was also noted that a set of socket wrenches were missing from the tractor. From these clues the police had to make an investigation. There was a slim chance that the battery and tools could be found, but if they were found -- how could John X prove they were his? John's financial loss was as follows: stolen battery \$15.00; replacement battery \$15.00; stolen wrenches \$20.00; replacement wrenches \$20.00; Total loss -- \$70.00.

This loss might not have existed if John had moved his machinery to a less vulnerable place on his farm the night before. It would have taken time but it would have saved money, plus the three hours he lost during the investigation and in finding a replacement battery.

The O.P.P. officer recommended that John put a dab of paint on the new battery and retain a sample of the paint in his workshop. This will serve as identification if a battery is found. The same procedure could be followed with the wrenches, or John could have his name stamped on them.

As we said -- this is a fictitious story. But it has happened, and is going to continue to happen as long as tractors and machinery are left in places where they are an open invitation to theft and vandalism.

Batteries are only an example. Gasoline, V-Belts, tools, and other items of value may disappear. As more leisure time becomes available, wanton destruction of private property and vandalism which can only be described as pointless is becoming more apparent. There can be no sure cure for these losses, but keeping items in the areas close to the farm home dissuades several of our low overhead merchants, and childish funseekers.

These losses can be insured against, and a farmer should at least look into this insurance if he does not already carry it -- but prevention is always better than the cure.

Beef producers hold meeting

by H. J. Stanley

The Post-Halton Beef Improvement Association will hold their Twelfth Meeting this year in Halton County. On Thursday, July 25, at 7:30 p.m., beef producers and friends will meet at the Aberfoyle Farms of Mr. Roford Gardhouse on the Fourth Line just north of Milton.

Following a tour of the fields and buildings there will be classes to judge weights of animals in cullage, and a speech by Dr. Norman McArthur, a veterinarian with the Canada Department of Agriculture. A panel discussion will then be held on the beef industry, followed by musical selections by Gail Brown, who has won many awards for playing the harp in Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Scotland.

A beef lunch will conclude the evening. Everyone interested in the beef cattle industry is cordially invited.

4-H leadership week to be held in Guelph

By Jim Jenkins

Mr. Ralph E. Cudmore, President of the Canadian Council on 4-H Clubs, will be one of the guests at the 4-H Leadership Week annual banquet, which will be held July 18 at the University of Guelph.

Mr. Cudmore is General Manager of Tractor and Equipment Operations, Ford Motor Company of Canada, Oakville. All but two of the counties and districts in Ontario will be represented at the 4-H Leadership Week program, which will be presented July 15 to July 19. The 52 boys attending the program are all between 16 and 20 years old.

The program is designed to increase the leadership abilities of the boys, and to give them an opportunity to receive guidance from experts in various professions in a careers symposium.

Everything from tours of most of the agricultural departments of the Ontario Agricultural College, to instructions on how to barbecue a steak will be covered in the program. Delegates will be interviewed during the week to select those who will represent Ontario in various national and international 4-H activities. These include the National 4-H Conference, the 1969 Inter-Professional 4-H Exchange, the 1969

American Youth Foundation Leadership Training Camp, the 1968 Chicago 4-H Congress, and the 1969 Washington 4-H Conference.

Doug Gardhouse, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roford Gardhouse of R.R. 5, Milton, will be representing Halton County at the Conference. Doug has completed 17 4-H clubs and this year he is a member of the Halton 4-H Beef Calf Club, and a member of the Halton 4-H Conservation Club, and the Halton 4-H Sheep Club. He also held executive positions in the previous clubs, and is a noted 4-H judge and livestock showman. He was named the champion Beef Showman in Halton County in 1967.

Miss Lois Hunter, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hunter, of R.R. 1 Burlington, is one of two 4-H girls in Ontario being interviewed at Guelph for the 4-H Awards. Lois has also completed 17 4-H clubs, finishing 1st in five. This year she is President of the Halton 4-H Sheep Club and Vice-president of the Halton 4-H Holstein Calf Club. She is also a noted 4-H Livestock and Seed Judge, and a champion 4-H dairy calf showman. In 1967 Lois was President of the Palermo Junior Institute and is still very active in Junior Farmers.

National Farm Safety Week

Predicting 2,200 deaths per year

Farming continues to rank the third most hazardous occupation in Canada -- only mining and the construction industry have higher accident rates.

If the present trend continues, one member out of every fourth farm family will be involved in an accident in the next 12 months. Of the more than 100,000 accidents yearly, approximately 30,000 will result in injury and 2,200 in deaths.

Farm safety week is being observed across Canada July 21 to 27 as a time to focus attention on the many accident hazards found on the farm and in the rural community.

The National Safety League of Canada and the Canadian Highway Safety Council, in sponsoring this farm safety campaign, suggest positive steps be taken during this week as a start towards safer living on the farm and in the rural community.

HOME

Neat orderly farm houses are safer, more pleasant homes. Have a place for everything; keep everything in its place when not in use. Practice safety while doing housework, caring for the family, during periods of relaxation and home recreation.

Check appliances, electrical wiring, power tools, etc. for defects. Look over heating systems, chimneys, stoves, portable heaters, to reduce fire hazards. Clear out clutter and rubbish that could cause falls and fires. Work up a home fire escape plan. Take extra care to protect small children and elderly persons.

FARM AND HOME CHEMICALS

Chemicals are widely used in agriculture; chemical household and drug products are found in every farm home. Always read labels, use as directed, take necessary precautions in usage. Keep in original containers and store in suitable places well beyond the reach or access of small children.

Never transfer potentially harmful materials to unmarked food and drink containers. Poisonous materials should be locked up. Dispose of empty containers and unused portions promptly.

FALLS

Good planning reduces the need to rush, means more work done with fewer mishaps. Repair or replace broken unsafe ladders. When a ladder is needed, get one -- don't use makeshifts. Provide handrails and good lighting for stairways and steps. Pick up tripping hazards from around

house, stairs, porch, yard, walkways, out-buildings. Clean mud, grease, snow, etc. from boots before climbing ladders or on machinery, buildings, trees, and other high places.



Repair defective floors. Skid-proof small rugs. Put up handholds at bathtub.

RURAL HIGHWAY

Courtesy is a key to traffic safety. Always practice basic rules of safe driving. Adjust speed to road conditions. Obey all traffic signs. Be especially alert at railroad crossings and unmarked rural intersections. Install and use seatbelts. Be careful when entering roads from farm driveways, field exits. Signal well ahead before turning into farm entrances or onto secondary roads from highways. Remove weeds, high crops, trees and shrubs at farm entrances and rural intersections so you can see and be seen while driving.

FARM MACHINERY

Properly maintain equipment. Keep guards and safety devices in place. Stop machines before

unclogging, adjusting or servicing. Keep children off and away from working machines. Have fire extinguisher and first aid kit on tractors and other self-propelled machines.

Avoid tractor upsets; slow down when turning and on rough or muddy ground; watch for hidden hazards; be cautious on slopes or near ditches; when pulling with chain or cable, hitch only to drawbar set low; keep loads within tractor's capability; shift down on grades. Equip tractors with overturn protection -- protective frames or crush-resistant cabs. Check lighting and use SMV emblems for safer travel on the roads.

RECREATION

Take safety seriously -- everywhere -- all the time. Be careful around bodies of water both large and small. Teach youngsters how to swim. Observe rules of boating safety. Safeguard farm ponds to protect small children. Handle and store guns and ammunition properly. Include safety in farm vacation plans, on camping trips and when hunting or fishing. Drive safely to and from recreation places.

Take time to care. Be "safety conscious." Be alert to and aware of ordinary hazards of daily life, but also be prepared for the unexpected.

Accidents cost time and money, suffering and sometimes, life, but they need not happen and can be prevented. The individual has a responsibility to act safely to avoid harm to himself and others.

Acton 4-H Calf Club meet at S. G. Bennett's

The fourth meeting of the Acton 4-H Calf Club was held on Monday, July 8, at the farm of S. G. Bennett.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Keith Aitken. Cathy Lasby read the minutes of the last meeting.

Mr. Bennett provided a class of yearling bulls for judging. Reasons were given by each of the members for selection.

Cathy Lasby gave a talk on "what I think the 4-H pledge means to me." She had given this in a competition at the 4-H 5th night in June.

Mr. Jenkins took the Senior members into the barn to conclude lessons for the night. Mr. Russell Murray was in charge of the juniors. Norma Leslie, on behalf of the Grain forage and 4-H Calf Clubs,

called on George McPhail to make a presentation of a smoker tray to assistant leader Russell Murray, who was married recently. Mr. Murray thanked them for remembering him.

The president closed the meeting. Peter Lynch thanked

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett for their hospitality.

The hostess served soft drinks and doughnuts to the members and friends. This is a meeting all members look forward to attending each year. Leah Leslie.

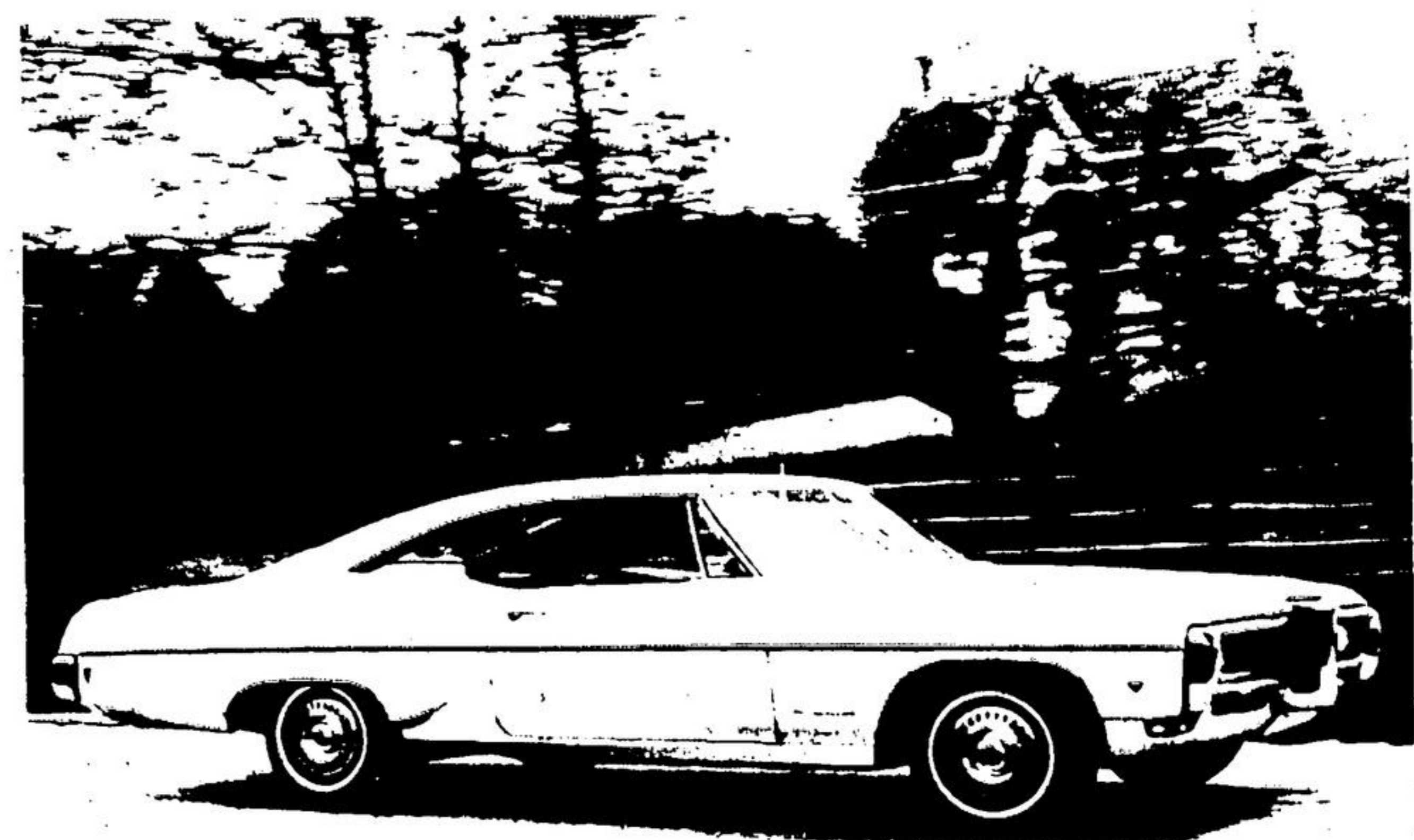
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