

The Energy Savers

Little goes a long way *by Richard Charles*

Most people will agree that cars take a large slice of our incomes, but are not so ready to admit that many of us pick the wrong cars and often use them wastefully. Meanwhile, everything from rising prices to dwindling fuel supplies, from congested roads and parking areas to traffic accidents and air pollution is plainly telling us to ease up. Which means to drive less often, less fast and less fancily.

To a society brought up on the legend of the Stutz Bearcat and the Open Road, the notion that motoring today is no longer so free and easy comes as a slap in the face. It's a bit like the knight of 500 years ago discovering that the glory of putting on armour and galloping to the rescue of fair damsels had suddenly lost its appeal now that he ran the risk of being blown off his horse by the new-fangled cannon.

We have no choice, it seems, but to learn some tricks that can help us to travel in fair comfort while being aware of the needle on the world's gas gauge, which unfortunately is creeping toward "Empty". The first trick is to pick the right car.

Two kinds of energy go into a new car - the energy used in producing the steel and other materials, and making the parts and putting them together, and then the energy to make it run. That's not counting the energy needed for maintenance, new tires and repairs, and for providing roads and traffic control systems, and finally for towing the old heap to the dump.

When you set out to buy a new car, you look for the deal that suits you best, of course. But remember, a good deal goes beyond finding "a honey of a car", bargaining hard for it, doing well with your trade-in and paying on the easiest terms available. It also means asking: What kind of car do I need? What will it cost to run? How long will it last me? If you can get the answers right, you will save yourself a lot of money in the long run and (may heaven bless you) you will be helping to beat the energy shortage.

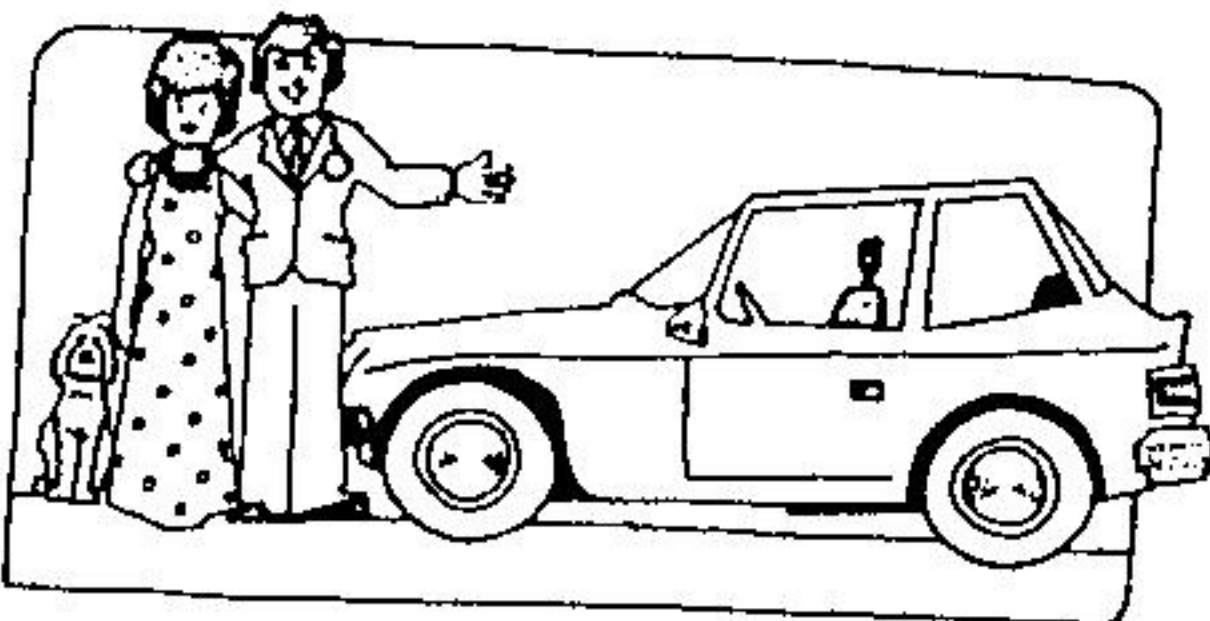
If you are in the market for a new car, a good way to begin is with a list of current models that shows their fuel

consumption. The Office of Energy Conservation, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources in conjunction with Transport Canada publishes such a list with over 250 makes and models ranging from a low consumption of 53 miles per gallon (85 kpg) to a high of 14 mpg (22 kpg). These are divided into three classes: 51 good fuel savers giving better than 33 mpg (53 kpg), 74 reasonable savers at 24 (38 kpg) to 32 mpg (51 kpg), and 127 that make the fuel problem worse by giving less than 24 mpg (38 kpg).

This list of cars and other information on buying, driving and maintaining them is in *The Car Mileage Book*. Just write to Box 3500, Station C, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 4G1 for your copy.

A useful rule of thumb to apply is, of course, that little cars usually go farther on a gallon of gas than bigger ones, but size is not the whole story, especially as the smallest cars don't meet every need. A car's fuel consumption also depends on the weight, size and efficiency of its engine, the efficiency of its transmission and drive train, its shape (streamlining), its stability on the road, and the extra equipment on it (such as power windows and air conditioners).

Fuel consumption will vary too with your driving habits, how well you maintain your car, and the weather and other driving conditions. So your miles-per-gallon (or kilometers-per-gallon) may not quite match the published figures, but the more economical performers will continue to serve you best.



Ontario's Workplace

How does a group of employees get a union to represent them? In Ontario, this can happen when an employer voluntarily recognizes the union in an agreement granting the union exclusive bargaining rights for the employees covered in the agreement. The more common route is followed by obtaining a Certificate from the Ontario Labour Relations Board granting the union right to represent the defined group of employees.

In Ontario, almost all labour laws are administered by the Ontario Labour Relations Board, not by the courts. This independent tribunal interprets and enforces the Labour Relations Act.

The Board is composed of representatives of labour and management together with a number of neutral chairmen. The Board operates like a court in many ways. It holds hearings; witnesses give evidence under oath; and the Board's decisions are legally binding.

How does a union get certified by the OLRB? Put simply, it must show that the majority of the workers they wish to represent desire their representation. When a union applies for certification and proves to the Board that its officers, constitution and by-laws are acceptable to the employees it wishes to represent, it is certified.

Then, and only then, does it receive the exclusive right to bargain for all employers in the bargaining unit whether they are members of the union or not. The union also has gained the right to demand that the employer bargain in good faith, making every reasonable effort, to reach a collective agreement.

That's it, in a nutshell. In reality, however, this is usually a long, and at times, frustrating procedure for all parties. The OLRB must be assured that all conditions for certification are met and the employees truly desire the representation.

A helpful guide to the Ontario Labour Relations Act is available on request from:

Ontario Labour Relations Board
400 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1T7
(416) 965-4151



Ontario
Ministry of
Labour

400 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1T7
(416) 965-4151

GORDON B. DAWE

REAL ESTATE BROKER



25 MILL STREET EAST
ACTON, ONTARIO
L7J 1H1
(519) 853-3790



2 HOMES \$62,900.00

This property offers great potential to the shrewd purchaser. One side of this home has a rental income of \$375.00/month which would pay more than half of your mortgage. To a qualified buyer your mortgage could be only \$200 per month. This is a main location that also has commercial potential.



EXECUTIVE HOME

Nestled in a wooded lot, .82 acres of privacy. Long ranch bungalow, 4 large bedrooms, huge master bedroom, dressing room, 5 piece ensuite, sunken tub and walkout to 40' x 20' pool. A few of the extras are sauna, stone floor to ceiling fireplace, 4 walkouts, central air, vacuum and intercom, workshop, storage room, laundry area and double car garage. Please phone for more particular and private showing.



PANORAMIC VIEW

Situated on a hill top view of the refreshing surrounding countryside. 10 acres of excellent land close to town. 3 huge bedrooms, large dining room and living room, 2 stone fireplaces, spiral staircase, 6' wide halls, 17' wide balcony on upper floor. Lower level has extra rooms for bedrooms, gamesroom etc. Paved drive. Barn 35' x 40'. Many more extras. Must be seen \$149,900.00.



3 BEDROOMS \$49,900.00

Large lot with mature trees. Close to schools. Recently renovated and offers a lot of amenities. Try \$4,000.00 down.



BUNGALOW PLUS 10 ACRES

Three bedroom bungalow. Living room with fireplace and recreation room with brick fireplace. Separate dining room, modern kitchen. 10 spacious acres with open fields and mixed woods. \$89,900.00.



EDEN MILLS

Custom built 3 bedroom bungalow, cosy living room with brick fireplace, large kitchen and walkout to 16' x 20' deck. Large country lot in this charming village. This home must be seen in order to realize the quality and special features. \$69,900.00



4 BEDROOMS

2 storey four bedroom home. Private back yard. Beautifully decorated and broadloomed. Attached single garage and paved drive. Basement strapped and ready to panel. \$58,900.00.

TOWNHOUSE \$275. PER MONTH

Cheaper than rent and only \$1,800.00 down to the qualified purchaser. Take advantage of this new mortgage plan. 3 bedrooms, walkout to private yard, finished recreation room, 2 washrooms.

12 ACRES \$45,000.00

Wood building lot with ponds close to Acton. 766 feet frontage.

1/2 ACRE

In a quiet village close to Acton sits this quaint 2 bedroom bungalow on a spacious lot. A home easily maintained with low heating and taxes. \$49,900.00.

COMMERCIAL

1000 sq. ft. of main floor commercial space - spacious 3 bedroom apartment above - large lot 33 x 94. Positively one of the most prime commercial centres in town.

GEORGETOWN SPECIAL

This 3 bedroom Georgetown bungalow is set on a large lot with mature trees. Excellent location for Toronto Commuters. \$59,900.00.

INDUSTRIAL LOTS

1 acre with show front on 24 Hwy. Excellent location. 2 acres of industrial land. Call for details.