

# Halton goes mobile:

In 1923, a Herald ad reported that a local gas station was installing new pumps, even though gas prices were dropping!

There's one thing people forget about antique cars.

One upon a time people drove them. On roads worse than Halton's sideroads. Before there were licensed mechanics eager for business at every intersection. Even before there were street lights or drive-in movies or CB radios.

Yes, those relics of metallic paint and shimmering chrome we "oh and ah" over at antique car shows were once modes of transportation. And troublesome. Henry Ford's invention (not unlike many of the new models on the market today) was an experiment.

According to an article published in the August, 1923 edition of the Herald, "a good many fatal motor accidents were caused by the stalling of motor vehicles on steep hills."

No mechanical reasons were reported for these accidents, however the Herald observed, "Especially this is the case when the driver of the car is of a nervous strain."

As we ever was to, "you — the emergency brake when the clutch is engaged so the car cannot back up in low gear." Remember that the next time you are feeling anxious while driving up a mountain in your antique rattle-seat, black-painted, crank-er-up Edson.

Or you may end up in the obituaries.

That's really how people felt about early cars. Many were afraid of riding in them just as some people today fear flying. The "four-wheel phobia" of the era was illustrated in a joke which appeared in the Herald August 8, 1923: "Ford's New Speedometer... when the car is travelling 30 mph it shows a green light, at 40 mph it shows a red light, at 50 it plays 'Nearer my God to Thee'."

Horseback riding was definitely safer. True, animals have minds of their own, but how can one reckon what a car is thinking? Picture Main Street, Georgetown, or Mill Street, Acton, in the 1920's. Houses and shops overlooked a street bustling with pedestrians, horses, bikes, carriages and cars. That was the transition period in the history of transportation.

As this excerpt from the Herald in June 1923, explains, confusion resulted when ye olde fashioned cowboy and his steed shared the street with a new fangled jalopy owner. "It is related that the average motorist hasn't time to pick flowers, he must be on the go. He has he time to pick up licks, but we noticed he occasionally does and wasted a lot of time identifying them."

That same year, an ad appeared in the Herald classified, under the heading



"Jitneying." Do you know what that is? Taxi driving. As early as 1923, Haltonites were

smart enough to capitalize on Ford's motorized miracle machine.

Reads the rest of the ad, "Five passenger car, pleasure driving done, ball parks, picnics, etc. Ask for price to Acton, Brampton and other towns. N. Synder phone 171W."

We wonder now long it would take to travel from Georgetown to Acton by car way back then and what the operation costs probably. Today when the gallon meter on a gas pump seems to be turning slower and slower while the dollar meter gets rolling faster and faster, motorists yearn nostalgically for May 16, 1923 when the Herald reported, "J. N. O'Neill and Son replaced their old gas supply pump with a brand new up-to-date one notwithstanding

the fact that GAS IS GETTING CHEAPER."

Now that's history! For sale in the same edition was a Ford Coupe for \$300... less than some of today's insurance policies. Yet there were no "extra features": If you want "air", "mags", and a bit of "vroom, vroom", (ugh) you've got to pay the price.

### Save Heat

When cooking, match the size of pots to the range units. Heat is wasted when the pot is smaller than the unit.

### Shop....

**DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN**

where

- SELECTION
- SERVICE
- VALUE

are hard to beat

★  
Plenty of Bargains!

★  
Plenty of Free Parking

# WE MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY

WITH OUR 'PIONEER DAYS' SPECIALS!



UP TO

# 50% OFF

SUMMER CLOTHING — FOR MEN, LADIES, & CHILDREN

## STEOMANS

MAIN ST. DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN



# PIONEER DAYS

IS HERE IN DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN JUNE 18th, 19th, & 20th

WITH ALL THE EXCITEMENT TAKE TIME OUT TO ENJOY OUR

**HOT COFFEE!**

Small 10¢

Large 25¢



From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

THURS., FRI., SAT.

## JOES TUCK SHOP

55 MAIN ST. S.

DOWNTOWN G'TOWN 877-3301

Fun, music, dancing, great food . . . .

it's all here during

# PIONEER DAYS

You can relax outside in our "BEER GARDEN"

OPEN THURS. 12-12:00 pm, FRI. 12-1:00 am, Sat. 12-1:00 am

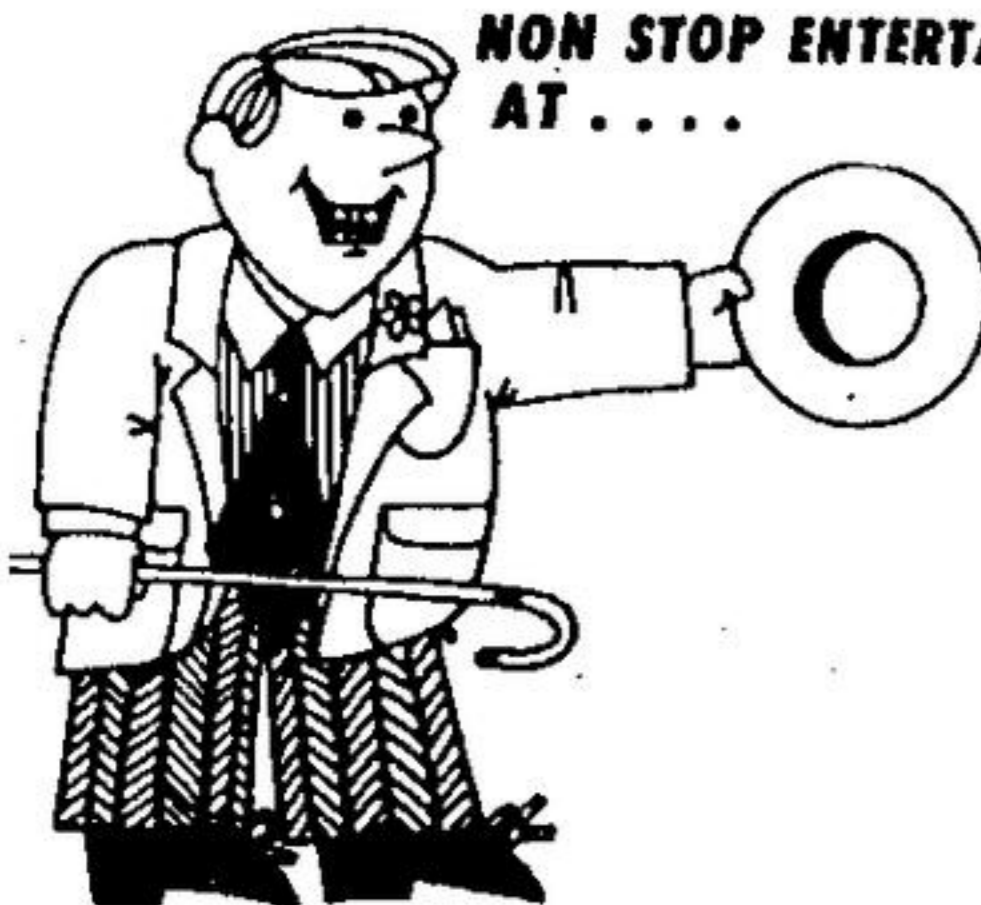
AND ENJOY THE MUSIC OF "THE DOLLY VARDEN REVUE"

OR

INSIDE, YOU CAN BE ENTERTAINED BY "GENERATION GAP"

THURS., FRI., SAT.,

NON STOP ENTERTAINMENT AT . . . .



the McGibbon Hotel

79 MAIN ST. SOUTH DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN 877-3388

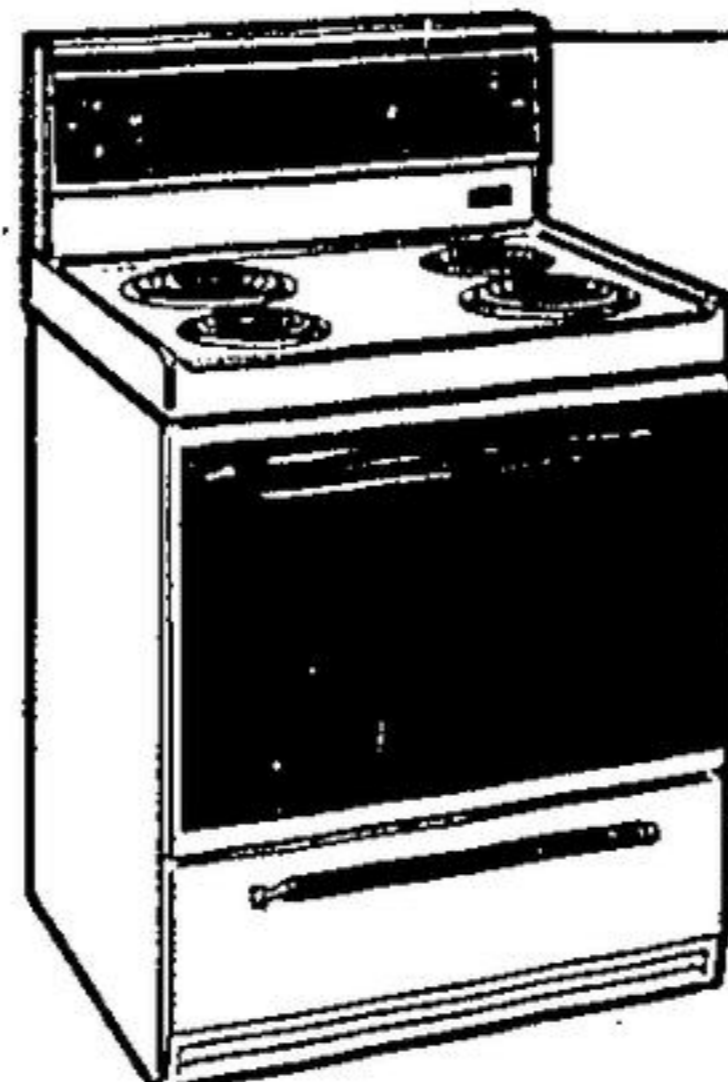


# PIONEER DAYS

Values from WIGO TV

## Inqlis

Everything you'd expect and then some .....



**RANGES 15% OFF**

OUR REGULAR PRICES

REFRIGERATORS

**20% OFF**

OUR REGULAR PRICES



PLUS....

No Sales Tax 'til June 30th

**WIGO TV**  
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES  
40 MAIN ST. SOUTH DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN 877-3376

Recommended by Canadian Consumer Reports to be the most energy efficient.

Open Thurs. & Fri. night til 9 p.m.

