



Jack Layman, a perennial at the Pioneer Days, shows how his steam engine works during last year's Pioneer Days. The steam engines are one of the more popular exhibits at the annual weekend celebration. (Herald photo)

### Get steamed this weekend

Pioneer Days are always popular with youngsters and Jack Layman's model steam engines keep them enthralled.

The retired machinist makes the steam engines by himself. He began the hobby just before retiring from Chubb's Security in Brampton seven years ago.

Mr. Layman and his model steam engines have been at Pioneer Days since its inception.

The steam engines are table models of mill engines used in factories years ago he said.

The factories had boilers to produce steam to operate the engine. The engine would then turn the line shaft and the belts running from it to the machinery.

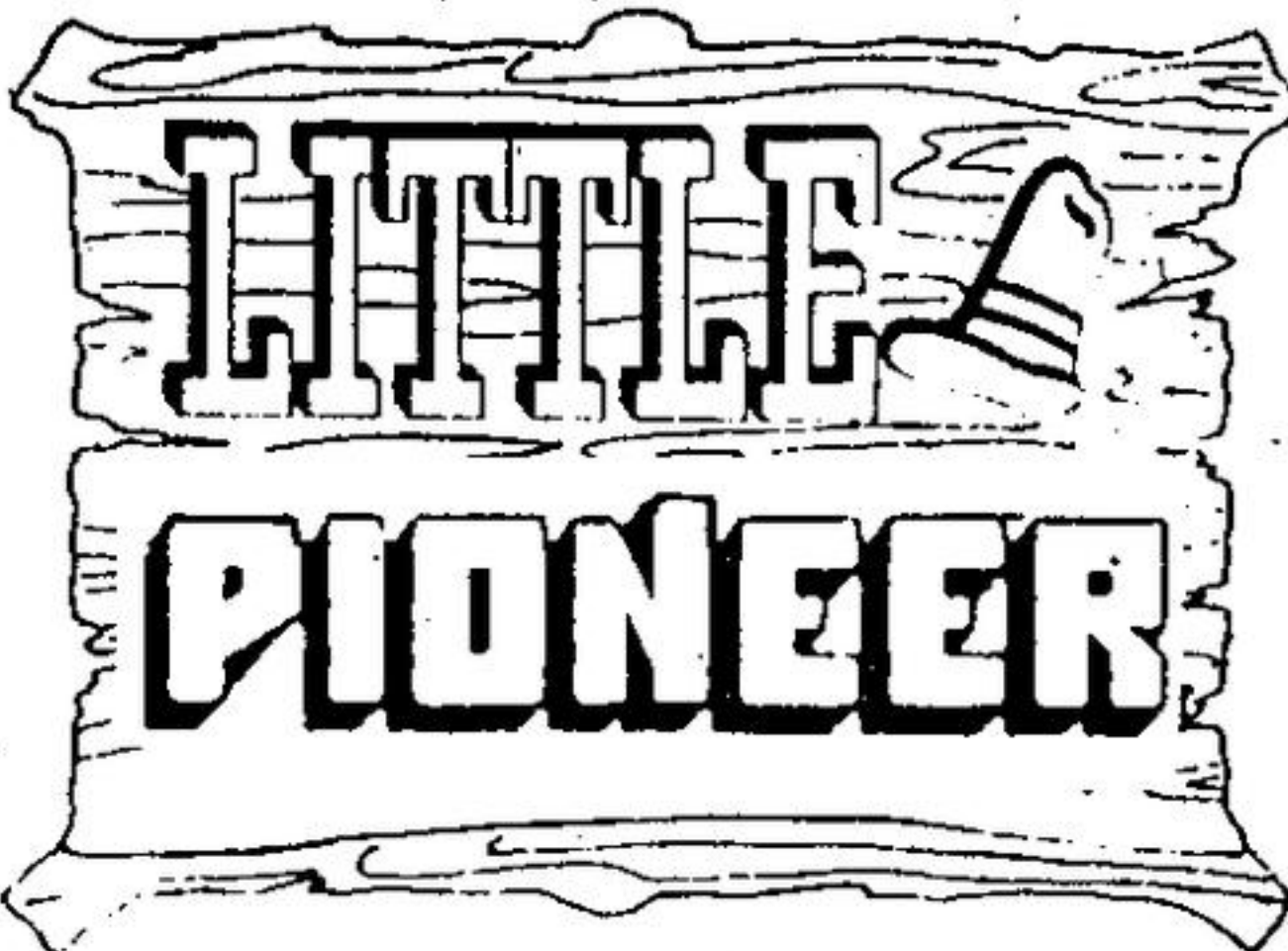
One of the steam engines Mr. Layman will demonstrate at Pioneer Days is the James Watt engine. It dates back to 1840. James Watt was a British instrument maker.

"A lot of people think Watt developed the steam engine, but they were using steam before he was born," said Mr. Layman. "He just improved upon it."

Down in Mr. Layman's basement are the lathe, drill press, small mill-machine and small shaper used to build these models.

"I do the machine-ing. It keeps me away from the television," he quipped.

Mr. and Mrs. Layman belong to the Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers Association and to similar organizations in the Niagara and Georgian Bay areas.



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