

DUMPED FISH, CRATES; IDLE ACTS; QUARTEN LOAVES 1857 POSERS

Milton had its troubles in 1857—the year the town was first incorporated. It's likely that there had been some artificial curiosities, menageries or idle show acts around. And likely some honest citizens felt they were not getting their full quarter loaves of bread. And somebody or other had been encumbering bridges and lanes with fish and hogsheads and crates and empty barrels.

And there was a need for a chief constable.

Of prime town interest were these problems in 1857, when the first town council met under mayor George Brown with Peter McKay as clerk. It is from the by-laws passed by early councils that these early snags of pre-Confederation living were assumed.

The first by-law in Milton, passed almost 100 years ago, stated firmly that it would "not be lawful for any person or persons to exhibit any natural or artificial curiosity, any menagerie, electrical or circus representation or exhibition or any painting, animals or any idle show acts for gain or profit, without first having obtained a license for the same." The town clerk was to "grant a license and demand and receive a sum not exceeding five pounds." This section was later repealed.

The size and weight of bread was stated by Milton patriarchy in their third by-law. "Loaves shall be quarter loaves of four pounds and half quarter of two pounds. That the purchaser may demand that his bread be weighed at the time of delivery. Subject to a fine of five pounds and costs."

On August 10th of 1857, council—likely after restrained Victorian complaints—tried to be all-inclusive when they announced "no person shall encumber any bridge, street, lane or sidewalk with wagons, ploughs, harrows, wheelbarrows, wheels, grindstones, shingles, lath, brick, stove, firewood, fish, hogsheads, crates, empty barrels or any other article."

Sounds as though Milton were still quite rural in those days of ploughs and harrows lying in the summer dust on the streets. But still, growing, as home builders, struck by summer lethargy, just laid their shingles and brick on the sidewalk and had a siesta. But who would leave a stove or fish on a bridge, lane, road or sidewalk? Strange town pioneers, those!

Well, these by-laws were to be enforced. And Chief Constable Daniel Bowman was given the job at 20 pounds. John Bowes was to be given five pounds to act as collector and 10 shillings per day was to be the remuneration for auditors John Holgate and W. D. Lyon.

Elias Webster Dodge was the formidable name of the gentleman who was made inspector of streets and walks. W. P. Eager was named treasurer at 10 pounds.

Assessment? They had it early in town history—as early as by-law No. 11, which resolved "That there be collected . . . the sum of two pence and three-fourths of a penny in the pound on all rateable property assessed."

The clerk at an early meeting was instructed to prepare a list containing the names of all persons liable to perform statute labor together with the number of days each person is liable to labor. "Every person on the assessment roll under 50 pounds shall pay ten shillings in commutating of their statute labor."

The council—likely bearded and somberly yet neatly dressed, met in the hall over the merchant shop of "Alexander Murray, Esq., situate on the corner of Main and Charles St."

It was worth while to run to fires in those days, for council authorized in by-law 12 payment of 10 shillings to the first person to arrive with water at a fire, and five shillings to the second and to the "third and last, two shillings and six pence." (Wonder if anyone dawdled to get there last and claim the two and six?)

There was an engine company of 35 men, and a hook and ladder company of 20 men. The assistance of "any male inhabitant between the age of sixteen and sixty years to assist in conveying such engine or other apparatus" could be commanded.

There was a public market . . . under mayor W. D. Lyon, in 1865, a by-law found in the old records read, "the square bounded by Main, Martin, Mill and Commercial St. shall be a market square for the sale and purchase of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, hogs, poultry, etc. The first Thursday after the first Wednesday in each and every month shall be a public market day or fair from eight in the forenoon until one in the afternoon."

In 1877 lands were purchased from Mrs. John Martin for \$40, from Mrs. W. J. Robinson for \$600 and John Marshall for \$200 to widen Main Street.

In 1883 an exemption was granted Charles Knees from taxation on a

tannery for five years provided he employ 20 men.

A highlight by-law of 1887 was to "provide for the construction of waterworks for the town of Milton of \$20,000, from two springs". Debentures were issued for 30 years at 5 per cent. on the last assessment of \$356,954.

And this by-law brings the account right up to date, for many of the pipes—some of them wood—laid that year are still carrying water from the springs to Milton.

Chart Price Rise During Seven Years

Average prices received by farmers in Ontario on February 15th, 1952, with comparisons, have just been released by the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

While comparison of prices at November 15, 1951, December 15, 1951 and January 15, 1952, which were shown on the chart, can be estimated by farmers in the district, those of seven years ago show distinct changes.

The average price of wheat from 1935 to 1939 was 88.1 cents a bushel, and in February 15, 1952 \$2.16.7.

Following are some of the prices listed. After the commodity is the price at February 15, 1952, and in brackets is the average price between 1935 and 1939.

Oats, per bus., 91.2 (44.6); barley per bus. \$1.31.5 (58.3); Rye, per bus. \$1.65.3 (64.9); Flaxseed, per bus., \$4.23 (\$1.48); Buckwheat, per bus., \$1.35.9 (55.9); Potatoes, per cwt., \$4.73.2 (98.1); Turnips, per cwt. \$121.1.

Hay and Clover, per ton, loose, \$15.59 (\$9.08); Alfalfa, per ton loose, \$15.59 (\$9.08); Honey, per lb., 20.4 (9.8); Horses, per head, \$85.33 (\$112.57); Milk Cows, per head \$267.61 (\$44.37); Beef Cattle, per cwt., live weight, \$26.78 (\$4.68); Calves, per cwt., live weight, \$31.53 (\$7.16); Sheep, per cwt., live weight \$14.99 (\$3.26); Lambs, per cwt., live weight, \$28.93 (\$7.13); Hogs, per cwt., dressed, \$25.82.

Butterfat, per lb., 68.2 (25.9); Butter, per lb. 65.7 (25.7); Chickens, per lb., live weight, 30.4 (14.6); Chickens, per lb., dressed, 44.5; Turkeys, per lbs., live weight, 44.5; Turkeys, per lb. dressed, 58.7; Ducks, per lb. live weight, 35.8; Ducks, per lb. dressed, 47.5; Geese, per lb., live weight 37.1; Geese, per lb., dressed 47.7; Eggs, per dozen, 34.9 (21.3); Wool, per lb., unwashed, 78.3 (13.1).

Farm Ponds For Halton County

Another step in water conservation and fire prevention for the rural parts of Halton is the assistance now available to farmers of this county in the construction of ponds on their farm. Details of this work are given in another column and may be secured from the Agricultural Representative, Mr. White lock.

The primary purposes of such ponds are given as a supply of water for livestock or domestic purposes; provide water for fire protection; provide water for spraying or irrigation and to assist in control of soil erosion. The need for all of these purposes is evident to every farmer. Naturally it is a program that will take some years to accomplish.

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KILBRIDE

Young People See Slides On Jamaica

The Kilbride Young People's League met in the Sunday School room on Tuesday evening, with the president, Eleanor Cairns, in charge. The minutes and roll call were read by the secretary, Eileen Pegg.

Joan Watson read the Bible reading and Angello Faletta led in prayer. Hymns were sung with Marilyn Cairns as pianist.

Mr. Almack conducted an installation service. Rev. Lake from Lowville showed some very beautiful slides on "Jamaica."

After a game or two, all enjoyed a treat of cookies and orange, served by Antoinette Faletta and Marlene Papps.

The W.M.S. held their regular meeting on Thursday afternoon at

the home of Mrs. Charles Prudham. Mrs. Charles Peer was in charge of the business and also gave the devotional reading and comments. Netta Burns read the minutes and roll call.

Mrs. Prudham presided for the program which consisted of a solo by Mrs. Matt Howard and a Japanese dialogue by Mrs. Wilbur Ford and Mrs. Eric McArthur.

Mrs. Prudham gave the study book chapter, assisted by Mrs. Henry Gorter. The meeting was closed with a prayer. Lunch was served by Mrs. Prudham and Mrs. Ford.

Mr. and Mrs. John Harris are celebrating their 38th wedding anniversary on Wednesday, March 19 at their son's home in Hamilton.

A giant Douglas fir tree recently felled on Vancouver Island for lumber had a circumference of 15 feet, was 1,106 years old, and must have been a large tree when the Magna Charta was signed in 1215.

Poet's Corner IT'S FUNNY

It's funny, the habits we mortals acquire,
It's funny the things that we do;
For worldly possessions we vainly aspire
In life, as we journey through.
We toil and we save from cradle to grave,
Existing in fear and in doubt,
Forgetting the fact that whatever we save
We never take anything out.

It's funny, the heights we attempt to attain,
It's funny the depths of our greed.
Our efforts are given for profit and gain,
And seeking the things we don't need.
We plan and we scheme and we hope and we dream,
And we oftentimes cheat on the route,
Yet down at the end of life's turbulent stream
We never take anything out.

And so they appear to be funny and queer,
The habits of mortals below;
Though fortunes are won in the struggle down here,
They're left on the day that we go.
When the battle is fought we take what we brought,
And we lose what we win in the bout.
For God never meant in the lessons He taught,
That man should take anything out.

NEW TYPES OF AIRCRAFT

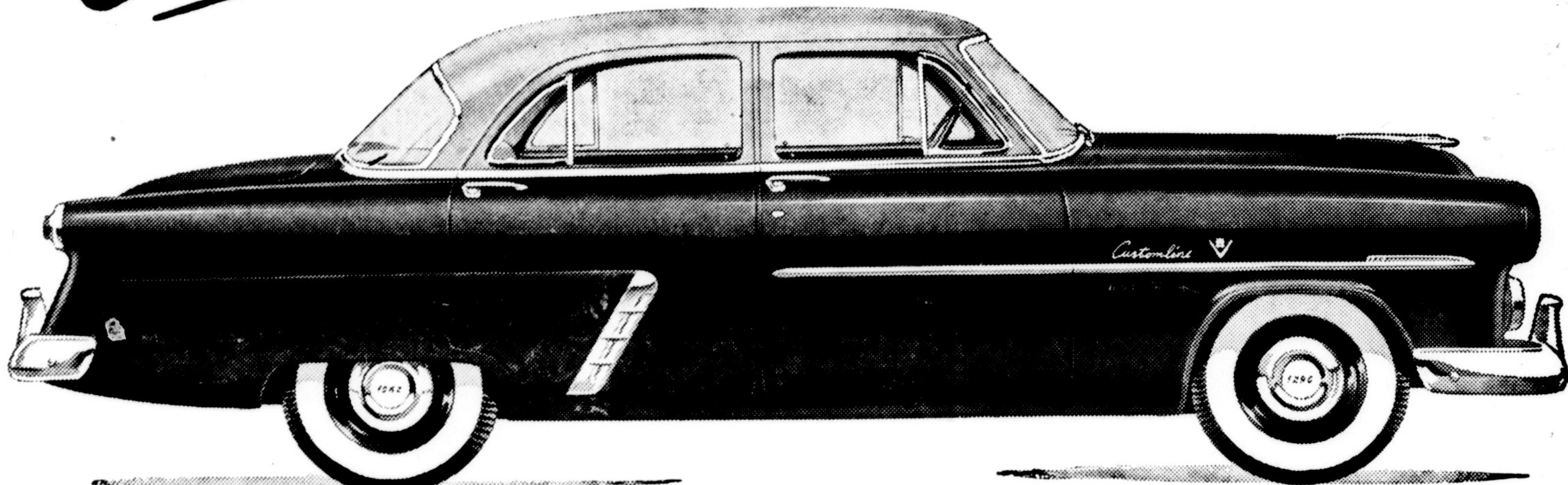
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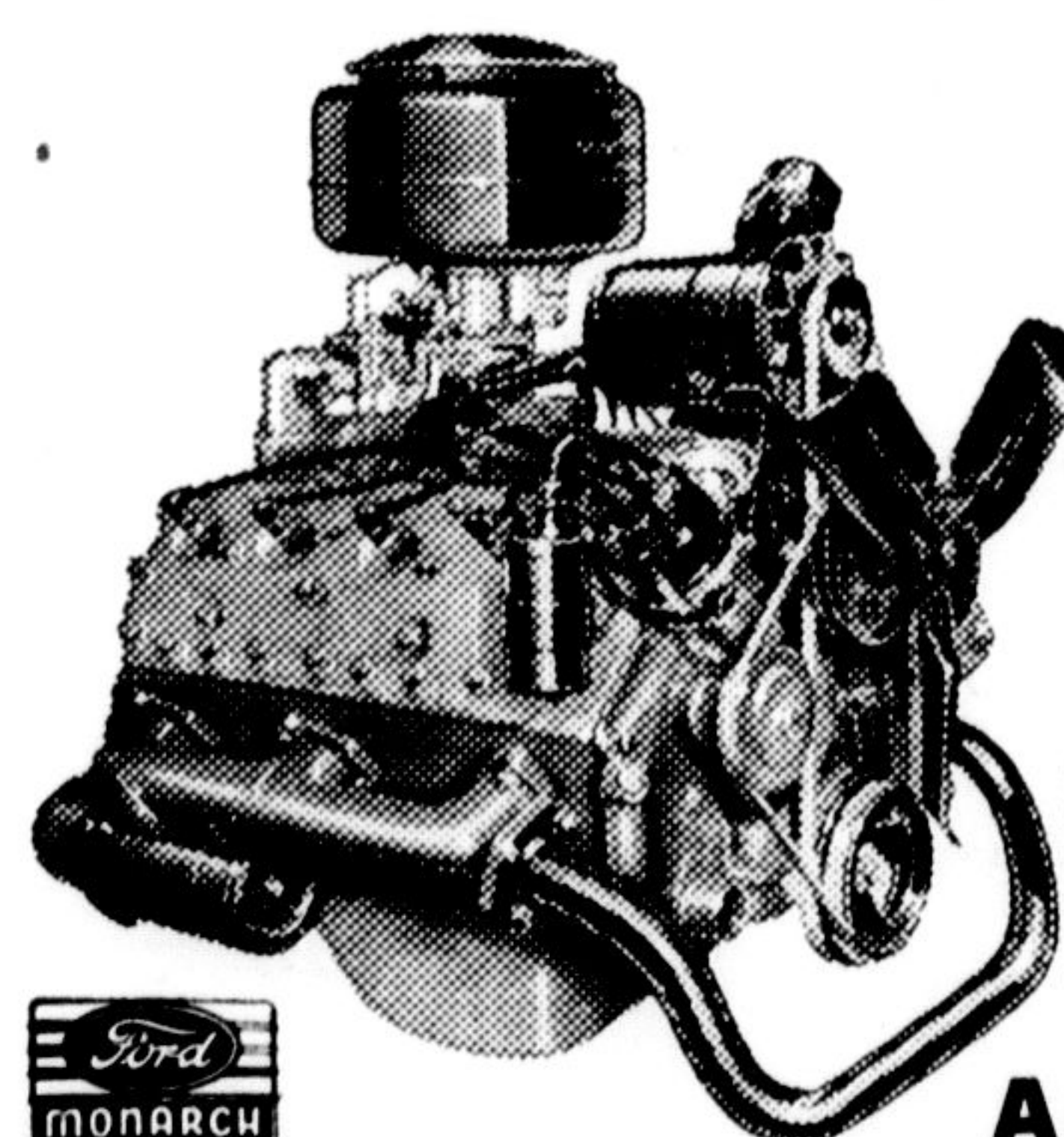
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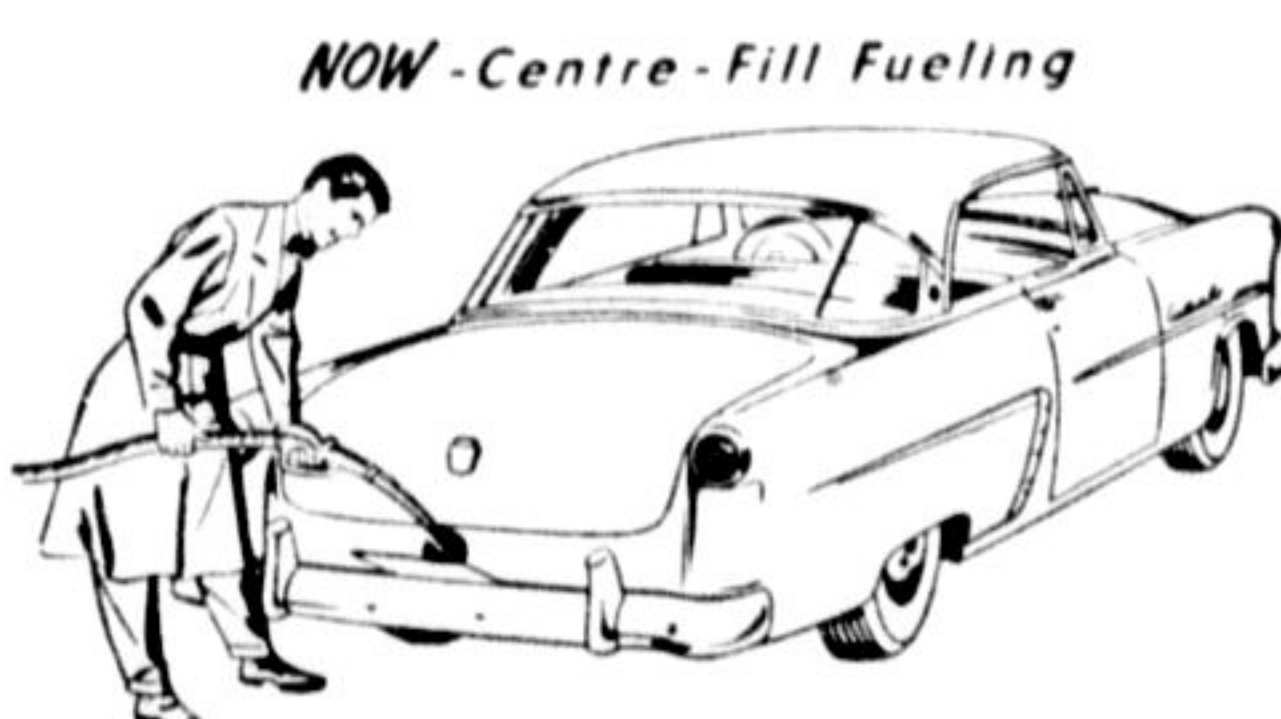
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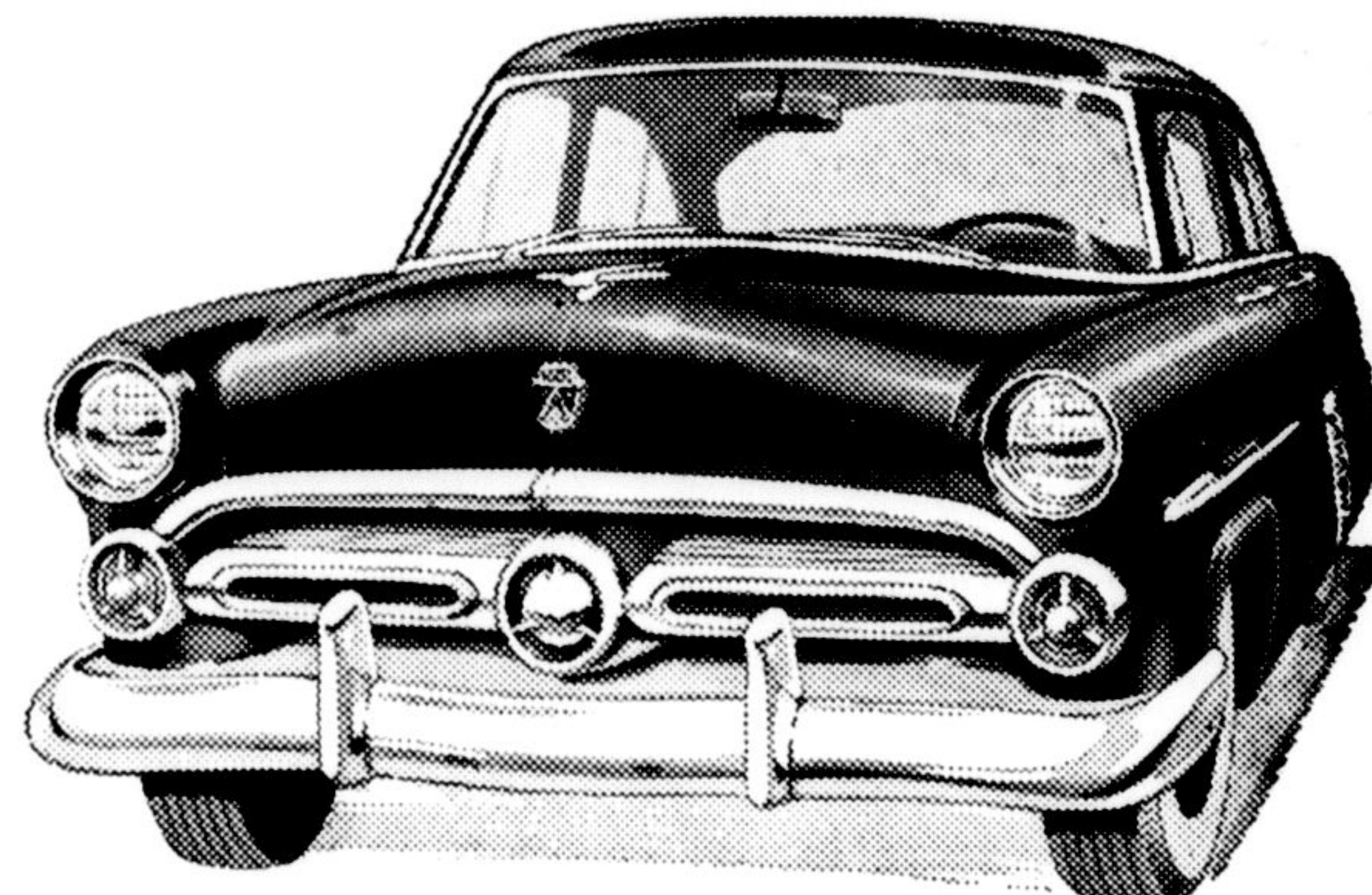


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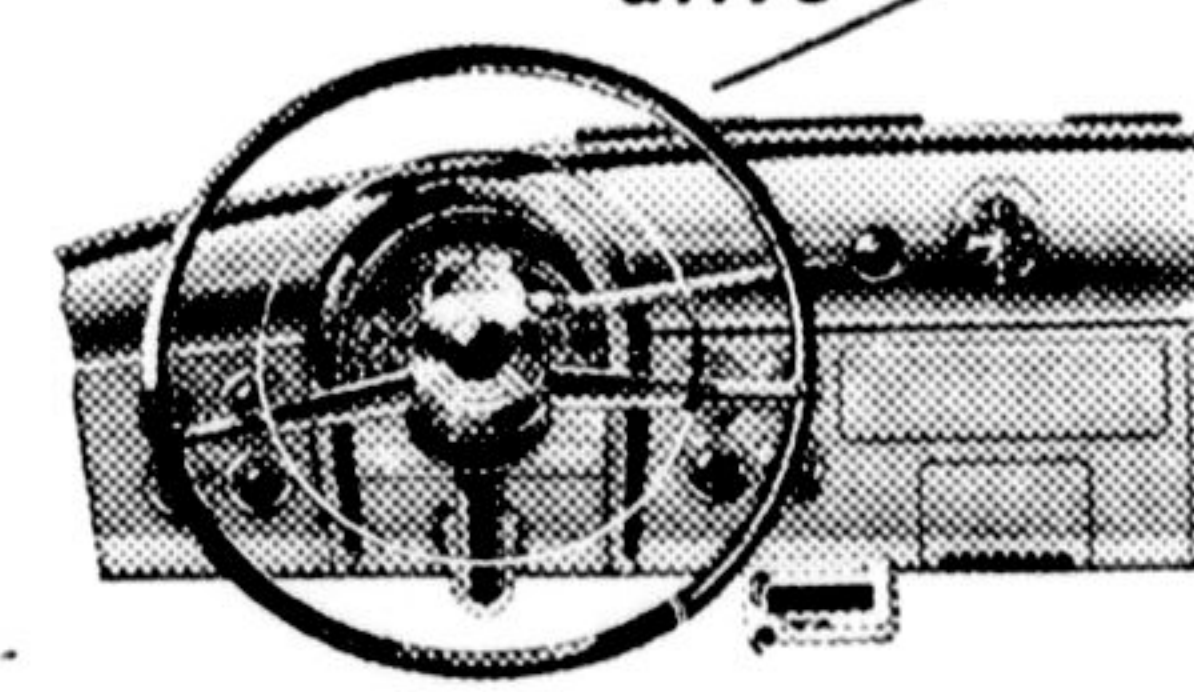
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