

Reports and articles from Halton's Farmlands and Farm Organizations

Acton Exhibitors Stand High at Halton Seed Fair

Acton exhibitors dominated Halton's annual Seed Fair, which was held in the Milton town hall last Friday and Saturday. In the commercial section, judges Professor R. Keegan of the field husbandry department, Ontario Agricultural College, and Douglas Kerr of the fields crops branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, awarded the championship to the entry of registered No. 1 Beaver oats, exhibited by Calvin Aitken of Acton R.R. 3.

Alfred Ford of Omagh took the championship in the open section on his entry of second cut hay. S. E. Griffen and Son of Acton, R.R. 2, won the third special, which was awarded to the exhibitor making the most entries.

In the Junior Farmer section, Tom Hunter of Georgetown, R.R. 2, had the highest number of points and thereby won the Royal Bank Special, donated by Burlington branch. The Halton Junior Farmer special, which is awarded to the Junior Farmer club making the most entries, was won by the Norval club.

Other awards were as follows: Early Oats—Fred Nurse, Calvin Aitken, Robt. A. Hurren, George Robertson, J. C. Marshall.

Medium Oats—Calvin Aitken, S. E. Griffen and Son, S. E. Griffen and Son, Gordon A. Leslie, J. Norman Bird, M. T. McNabb and Sons, Barley (six-rowed)—Calvin Aitken, Erwin Gunby and Sons.

10 bus. Oats—Calvin Aitken, Gordon A. Leslie, Calvin Aitken, Robert A. Hurren, Fred Nurse, S. E. Griffen and Son, S. E. Griffen and Son, J. Norman Bird.

10 bus. Barley—Erwin Gunby and Sons.

Soybeans—Leonard Shepherd, Timothy—Gordon A. Leslie, Calvin Aitken.

Alfalfa—T. J. Brownridge, Open Oat Class—Gordon A. Leslie, S. E. Griffen and Son, Gordon A. Leslie, Fred Nurse, George Robertson, W. E. Breckon.

Winter Wheat—John M. Bird, T. J. Brownridge, S. E. Griffen and Son.

10 ears Corn—Russell Hurren, Harvey Nurse.

Hay, first cutting—Leonard Shepherd, Fred Nurse, Ward Brownridge, J. L. Chisholm, Alfred Ford, A. R. Coulter and Sons.

Hay, second cutting—Alfred Ford, A. R. Coulter and Sons, Andrew Shea, Leonard Shepherd, J. L. Chisholm.

Field chopped Hay—S. E. Griffen and Son, Robert A. Hurren.

Late Potatoes—S. E. Griffen and Son, Calvin Aitken.

Early Potatoes—S. E. Griffen and Son, Calvin Aitken.

Junior Farmer Section—Oats: Harvey Pell, Doug Starrett, Ernest Alexander, Merle Gunby, Don Taylor, George Stull; barley, Earl Wilson, Tom Hunter; winter wheat: Don Taylor, Sandy Barnes, Tom Hunter, Allen Brownridge, Merle Gunby.

Junior Farmers' Inter-club Educational Displays—Milton Junior Farmers, Palermo Junior Farmers, Halton 4-H Grain Club, Norval Junior Farmers, Acton Junior Farmers.

Ontario and Peel County Groups Visits to Halton

During the past two weeks, two groups, one from Ontario county and the other from Peel county have paid visits to Halton to see what is the latest in this up and coming county. The first group, some 25 Junior Farmers from the Uxbridge vicinity, first paid a visit to the Ford plant. Following this, they expressed a desire to visit the farms of Fred and Harvey Nurse near Ashgrove.

At the first farm they were particularly intrigued with the cement floors in the granaries, poultry lofts and mows—the 100 foot silo and the modern machinery storage and work shop. At the Harvey Nurse farm the highlight was his milking parlor and loafing barn.

For many years our Peel friends have always considered that their county was the hub of the top Jersey herds in Ontario. At least some of the group of 30 who visited Halton recently, really got their eyes opened when they saw the herds of M. C. Beatty, Featherstone Bros., Ken Ella and Sons and Mac Alexander. In any event, they were not only appreciative of the courtesies and hospitality extended but much impressed by the quality of all four Halton Jersey herds.

And well they might be—after all, can you name another county in the province of Ontario that has four such herds owned by honest to goodness dirt farmers?

Trade is Booming In Foothills Town

PINCHER CREEK, Alta. (CP)—This cattle-ranching town in the foothills 60 miles south-west of Lethbridge is looking towards its greatest expansion of recent times in 1956, after a prosperous Golden Jubilee year.

An estimated 220,000 bushels of wheat were delivered to elevators here along with 40,000 bushels of barley, 10,000 bushels of oats and 8,000 bushels of rye. This gave an estimated monetary value of \$242,000 to farmers in the area.

In comparison, the 1954 crop yielded approximately the same amount of wheat delivered, 8,000 bushels of barley, 2,000 bushels of oats and 14,000 bushels of rye.

Livestock entered the winter in prime condition and cattle marketed here were of good quality, 10,859 head selling for \$1,194,734 during 1955, slightly less than 1954 when 11,518 head brought \$1,228,446.

Thousands of bushels of wheat still are stored on farms but sale of livestock and coarse grains helped keep ready cash in the hands of most district farmers and ranchers.

The town looks forward to increased population this year, prompted by anticipated development of a huge wet-gas field south of the townsite. A proposed \$4,000,000 separation plant along with the gas is expected to give Pincher Creek great expansion.

Timely Reports On Marketing

When To Sell and Buy, is the title of the March 1 issue of the Doane Agricultural Digest, a copy of which came to our desk recently through the courtesy of George Hunt, well known Trafalgar township feed dealer.

This report service of marketing and management is issued twice monthly and is, in our opinion, the most up to the minute service of its kind that we have ever been privileged to peruse. True, it is published in the United States, but as a result of our economic tie-up with that country, much of the information is applicable to this country.

Here, for example, are comments on "Dairy"—"Price declines for fluid milk will continue. Production remains record high. Surplus continues to grow. Government now buying nearly twice as much butter as a year ago. Cow numbers off a bare 1 per cent. from last year, but increased production per animal more than offsets this. No further drop in numbers expected. Feed will continue to be reasonably priced, and this will tend to hold production up. In some areas, feeding of surplus milk to veal calves will bring higher returns than selling for the surplus price. Check your local situation. Cull cow markets will continue to improve. Little change expected in replacement stock prices." Similar digests are given on "Eggs, Broilers, Turkeys, Red Cattle, Hogs, Lambs, etc."

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Forums Agree Farmer Needs Low Cost Workmen's Compensation

Farmers should use Workmen's Compensation as a protection for both their employees and themselves. The big disadvantage is cost. These were the general conclusions of the 362 Ontario forums which reported their March 12 discussions on Workmen's Compensation for Agriculture.

Asked first if the members of the forums considered Workmen's Compensation should be used by farmers, 92 per cent. of them felt that when hiring help, they could not afford to be without Workmen's Compensation. Some believe it would be quite beneficial if the cost would be in line with what the farmer could afford, and some say it should be used if the rates were in proportion to the farmer's income.

For the second question, the forums were asked for the advantages and disadvantages of Workmen's Compensation. Over three-quarters of the forums say the advantage is it safeguards both the employer and employee in case of accidents. They add it also compels him to keep accurate books. One group thought it might be easier to employ a better type of labor when they are covered by compensation. Another emphasized the protection of the farmer against being sued in case of accident, and add they cannot see any disadvantages if a farmer has hired help.

When it came to disadvantages, the most popular one was cost. More than a third of the forums felt that the farmer needs the protection but the cost seems rather high. One forum agrees but says if more farmers carried it, the cost would be more reasonable. Another thought the disadvantage is that it leaves out the one-man farm and it duplicates some of the other protection which farmers carry. Its disadvantage in failure to cover neighborly help was a point mentioned by quite a number of forums.

More than 1,200 fishermen have taken advantage of training programs since their introduction in the province in 1946.

Officials say the demand is increasing for expanding classes in such varied subjects as the handling of nets and navigation.

Mobile School Trains Fishermen

HALIFAX (CP)—The provincial trade and industry department has put a fisheries school on wheels.

"Bluenose Princess", a 40 foot long trailer truck was unveiled at a ceremony here before going into use as a classroom to give Nova Scotia fishermen practical instructions in the handling of diesel and gasoline engines.

Operation of the vehicle is being financed by the provincial and federal governments.

Trade Minister Dauphinee of Nova Scotia says the trailer was designed to train fishermen in engine care and maintenance, "to increase his self sufficiency and skills in handling the tools of his trade."

Some fishermen already refer to the new vehicle as the "sister ship" of "Bluenose Queen" opened earlier.

Included in its equipment are a precision lathe, battery charger and generator, dies for threading bolts and a coil and condenser testing unit.

The trailer is large enough to accommodate 12 fishermen and eight gasoline engines and two diesel engines.

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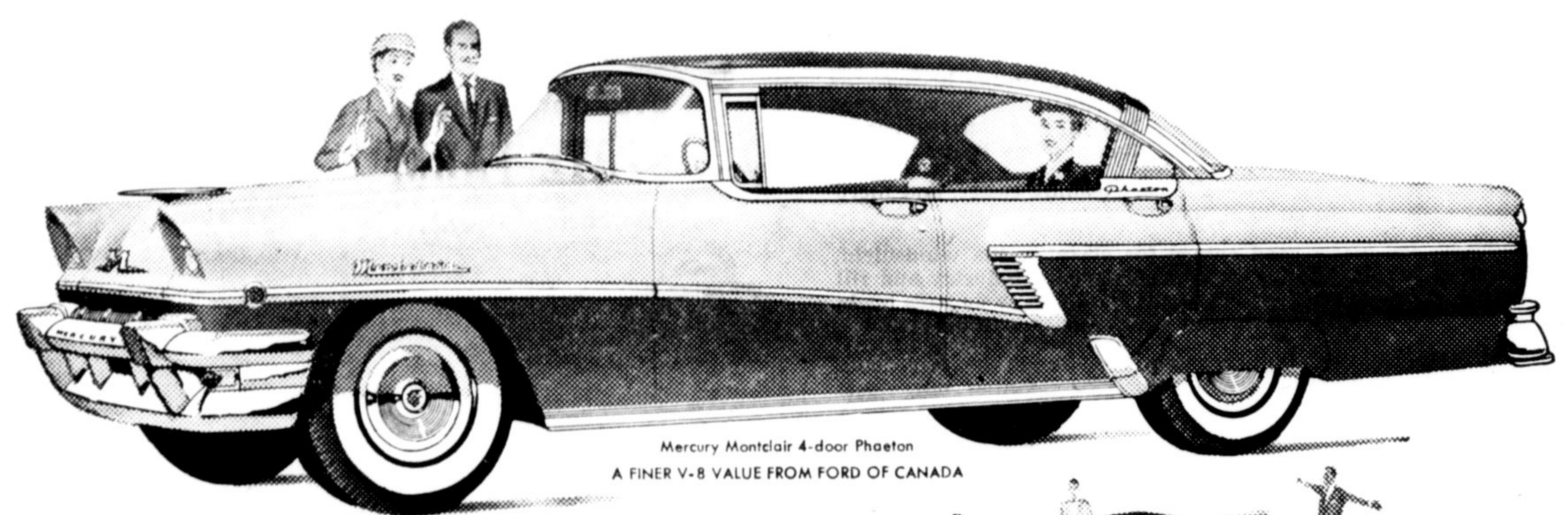
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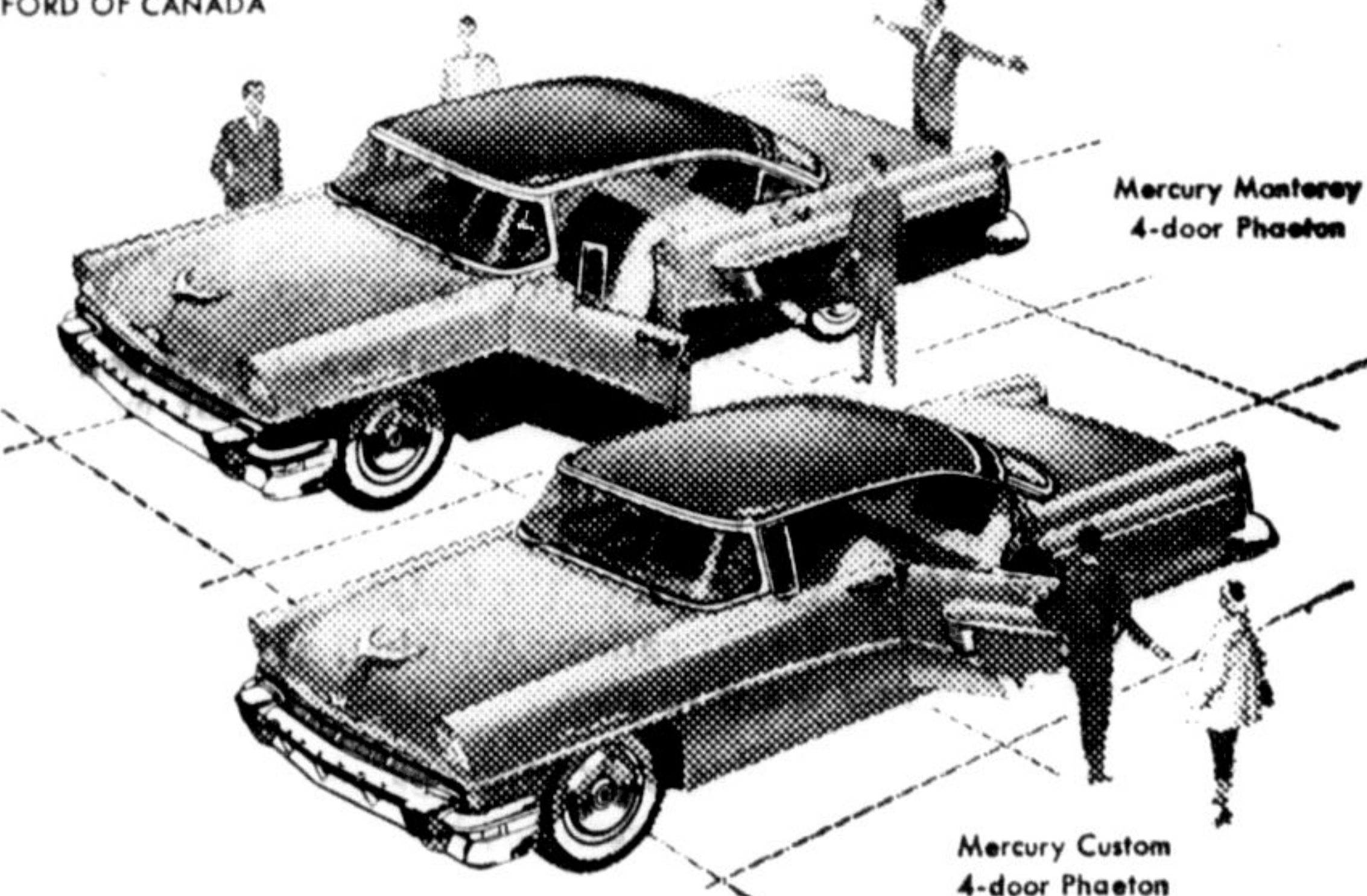
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