

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Steam Reunion Brings Back Memories Of Days Long Ago to This Old Timer

Dear Sir: The exhibition of the good old steam engine days at Milton in September was something of which I had heard around the country, but never expected to see. I must say it sure brought back memories of those days years ago.

No doubt it did not strike all people alike when those old time whistles started to blow. To the small children, those old relics were something new. To the older youths they were something they had heard about, but never seen. Compared with the modern machines of today they were a lot more worthy of the pride the old timers showed in their conversation of them. To us old men who remember them in all their glory, it brought back the time they arose at daylight to fire up and raise steam for a 7 o'clock start on a hard day's work.

I remember once when three hours' threshing left over from the day before found us eating our dinner at 10.30 a.m. We moved to the next place across the road. Shortly after 1 o'clock we were threshing again. That meant a long afternoon but about 3.30 the beater belt broke and we thought we would get a little rest while they fixed that belt. But the man at the separator reached up, pulled down another belt, flipped it on and yelled "all right old man, go ahead."

One good thing, we stopped to eat at 4.30, then we threshed until dark.

What is there about one of those old steam engines that goes to the heart of men? It is something you can't explain to other men because you feel they cannot understand.

Away back in 1912 I worked for the Sand and Supply Co. in Toronto. Among my acquaintances were three brothers, Wil-

iam, Malcolm and John Strachan. William was called Billy and sometimes he was referred to as Doc. They were all employed as steam engineers. Billy ran the engine in the derrick, Malcolm was at the brick plant, and Jack was an engineer on the boat, the Commodore Jarvis, where I was employed.

I asked Jack why they called Billy Doc, and he said he was a doctor. I was talking to him one night in the derrick engine room and sure enough, there were two diplomas hanging side by side in their frames. He told me he started to practice medicine and the old steam engine seemed to be barking right there in his office, so he left it all and went back to where his heart was calling him, back to greasy overalls, soot and smoke and to the cheering music of the exhaust of the iron monster that he loved so well.

Over these past 50 years I have lost trace of Billy Strachan. After the steam engine he may have taken up with the more modern machines, or perhaps some place he may have hung out his shingle, Dr. William Strachan, M.D. Maybe he has passed on to his last reward, but if he is still alive and he sees a steamer, no doubt it will bring back bygone days.

To some he may be Dr. Strachan, but to my memory he will still be Billy of long ago.

Big Onion

Adding to the growing list of oversized vegetables which have been turned in to the Champion office this year, a huge onion was received last week.

This onion was grown on the farm of Bruce Small, R.R. 2, Campbellville. It weighs two pounds and has a 16 inch girth.

If there is one of these steam exhibitions held anywhere near you, be sure you go. As you walk around you will see a lot of different steam engines, the Sawyer Massery, John Goodison, Robert Bell, MacDonald, Russell, J. I. Case, American Abel, New Hamburg and Waterloo. At Milton there was an old Noseworthy, a relic of the first engines turned out for agricultural purposes. You will also see among these antiquated power units, gasoline tractors of the past years, Averys, Eagles, Sawyer Masseys, Rumleys, oil pulls and various other makes, some of them hitched to saw mills, Baker fans, threshing machines and sawing wood to make steam for the day's entertainment.

Do not miss this day. Milton will celebrate again next year. You will meet old friends and make new ones, and the women of the various church organizations will serve refreshments and dinners with good home baked food, hot coffee and tea that strikes right home at the heart.

Toots Good Night

And when the day is drawing on to night, when the bright sun is stealing closer to the west, you think about going home, but take a last turn around through the relics clustered about you, you may pass an old man near one of those steam engines. His eyes are bright but his step is not as spry as it was. The clean shirt he donned in the morning is stained with soot now, and there is dirt and grime on the gnarled old hand that reaches for the whistle to blow you a cheerful good night.

Give him a cheerful word, bid him a fond goodbye, and as you walk out maybe you will feel the spirit of those old threshers sleeping in the church yard may be pretty near you after all.

Percy Woods, R.R. 1, Freelon.

KILBRIDE

Missionary Society At Special Meeting

By Mrs. William Watson
The Women's Missionary Society of Kilbride United Church attended a special Thanksgiving meeting Thursday afternoon at Campbellville Presbyterian Church. Guest speaker for the occasion was Mrs. Sheppard of Galt, who gave a resume of the work of four different missionaries. Campbellville double trio entertained with two vocal selections. Lunch was served at the conclusion of the meeting. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robin Jones on the birth of their daughter on Wednesday, October 25 at the Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital.

The girls of Kilbride junior choir were entertained by the Carlisle United Church Explorers girls at a Halloween party on Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Peer and Mrs. Mary Simpson spent last week in Cornwall visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. James Wetherell were dinner guests with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Warren of Elora on Sunday.

Birthday greetings and best wishes to Julie Longdon on November 4 and to Wayne Pickett on November 5, both three years old.

Mrs. Charlie Hepburn arrived home Sunday after spending 17 days in Scotland visiting relatives and friends.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Gervais (nee Joyce Allison) who were married Saturday evening at St. George's Church, Lowville.

CAMPBELLVILLE

Presbyterial Head Speaks To W.M.S. Thanksgiving Service

By Mrs. R. C. Menzies
The fall Thanksgiving service of the Women's Missionary Society of St. David's Church was held in the church school room on Thursday afternoon. The president, Mrs. Parker opened the meeting with a poem from the Glad Tidings.

"Fountain of Mercy, God of love, how rich Thy bounties are" was sung. The president also read an appropriate article from the Glad Tidings. Thanksgiving Service, "Meditation", followed with prayer. A double trio from the Blair Evening Auxiliary sang a lovely number "Give me a heart that knows no ill".

Guest Speaker

Mrs. Marr introduced the guest speaker — Mrs. Shepherd of Galt, who is president of the Presbyterian Society. Mrs. Shepherd spoke of the many things we have to be thankful for, not

Coincidence

While town councillors harranged over the Milton-Milton West debate around the council table last week, councillor Bob Reid told of a funny little coincidence.

It seems he once visited a town called Milton in the United States, and was amazed to see a sign urging the townspeople to "Vote for Bob Reid, Councillor."

Bureau Plans Fire-Safe Yule

Preparing for its annual Christmas fire safety campaign, the Halton Fire Prevention Bureau is investigating battery-operated candles that are much safer than open flame candles used in church candlelight processions each Christmas.

Candles are an invitation to fire, members of the Bureau explain. Inexpensive battery-operated candles give the same effect without any hazard of setting fire to hair or clothes. The Bureau will be sending letters to all churches in Halton urging the adoption of the battery-type candles this Christmas.

TOWN of BURLINGTON

PUBLIC NOTICE

1. The meeting to nominate candidates for the offices of Mayor, Reeve, Deputy-Reeve, Councillors, members of the Board of Education and members of the Public Utilities Commission shall be held on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 1961 in the auditorium of the Nelson High School, 4181 New Street, from 7.30 p.m. until 8.30 p.m.

2. Polling if required, shall be held on MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th, 1961 from 12 noon until 8.00 p.m.

3. An advance poll, if required, shall be held on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2nd, 1961 from 11.00 a.m. until 7.00 p.m.

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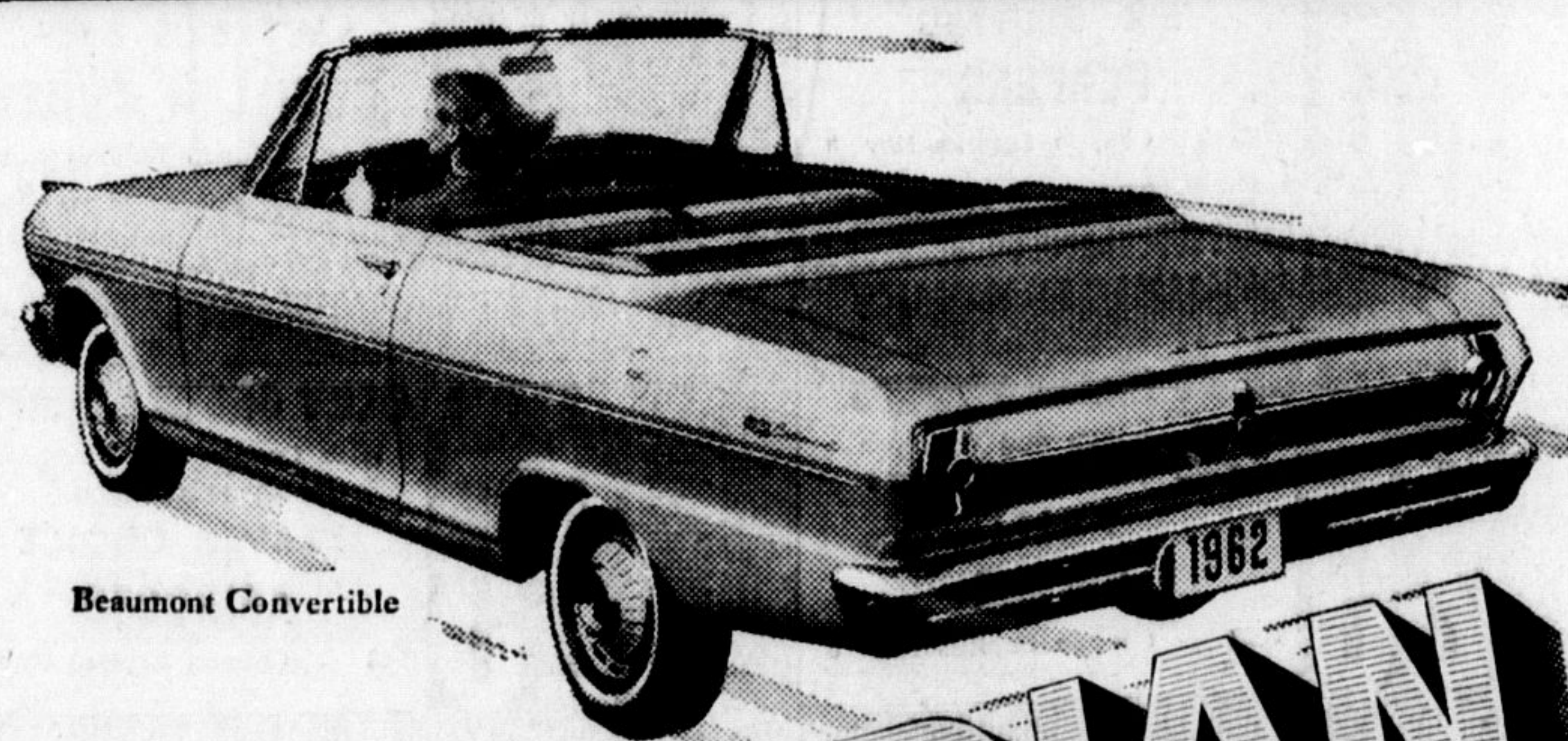
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2. Clean and disinfect farrowing quarters and equipment to control scours and transmission of worms or diseases.

3. Keep farrowing place well ventilated.

4. Try to keep temperature above 40° in winter, under 70° in summer.

5. Take up each pig and immediately tie and clip navel cord, at about 2 inches, and paint with a 50-50 iodine and glycerine mixture.

6. Wipe away slimy mucus from nose

and mouth. Put in brooder or under heat lamp.
7. Clip needle teeth, using sharp clippers, to prevent pigs from injuring each other and sow's udder.
8. After teeth are clipped, paint gums with iodine-glycerine mixture. If ears are notched, also paint with iodine-glycerine mixture.

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