

National Electrical Week--February 8 to 14

Local Commission serving since 1914

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Half a century of service to the residents of Milton, the picturesque county town of Halton, was celebrated in 1964 by Milton Hydro Electric Commission.

It is noteworthy that many Milton residents were aware of the need for an adequate supply of electrical power as far back as 1909. They had become conscious of the advantages that municipalities with ample electricity in the surrounding area were enjoying. Consequently the first overtures to Ontario Hydro from Milton requesting estimates on the cost of supplying electrical energy came in that year.

But it was not until 1913, after considerable discussion and negotiating, that hydro power was brought into Milton from Niagara. Prior to that a limited supply of electric power was obtained from a small municipal steam electric generating plant. However, communities in the nearby district with hydro power by then were forging ahead, and this promoted Milton citizens to take positive action to get sufficient power.

When the first electric power from Ontario Hydro became available, after rebuilding of local distribution lines, new street lighting, new lines to industrial customers and the construction of transformer stations, the municipal council dealt with the electric powers affairs at first, but the council prepared a bylaw to be voted on at the December municipal elections to create a municipal Hydro Commission. The first Milton Hydro Commission took office early in 1914.

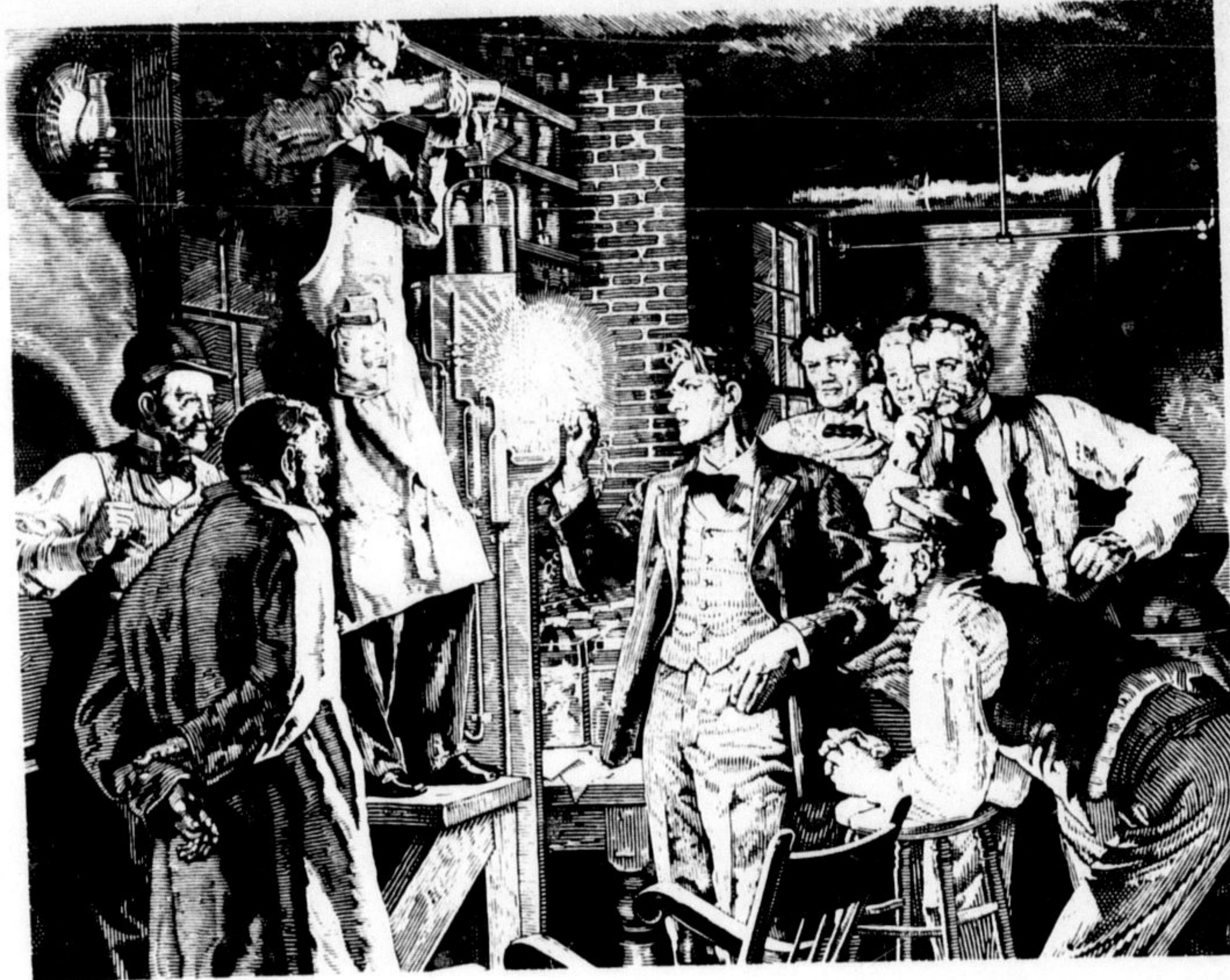
At the initial meeting, Dr. R. K. Anderson was elected Chairman and the other Commissioners were Vice-Chairman W. B. Clements and Mayor Dr. H. McCall.

The advent of sufficient low-cost electrical power to take care of the demand has helped to give impetus to the steady growth and development in Milton.

had been installed in 1938, and later was abandoned because of the critical power shortage of World War Two. The electric boiler was put back in service and new immersion type heaters were installed. This heating is further supplemented by electric baseboard convection heaters in various sections of the renovated office.

The growth during the 55 years of Milton Hydro's existence is indicated in these statistics: in 1914 the total number of customers amounted to 235 and peak load of the utility was 284 kilowatts. At the present there are 2,073 customers of all classes and the peak load of the utility is 10,579.5 kilowatts.

Milton Hydro has a progressive Commission. The members are chairman, W. C. Rowney; vice-chairman, Charles Thomson and commissioner, Mayor Brian Best. O. L. Hadley is the manager.



NATIONAL ELECTRICAL WEEK, February 8 to 14, honors the memory of Thomas Edison, inventor of the first incandescent light bulb. During Edison's first successful experiment in 1879, depicted above, the lamp remained lit for 40 hours. Today the average household bulb burns on for 750 hours, and Canadian General Electric, an offspring of the Edison General Electric Company, produces more than 10,000 different kinds of lights for use everywhere, including in outer space and under oceans.

National Electrical Week celebrates Edison's birthday

National Electrical Week is observed annually across North America to emphasize and focus attention on the contributions of the electrical industry to our way of life.

February 11 is the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931)—the inventive genius who during his youth carried out several of his electrical experiments in Canada, and who invented the electric light bulb. His invention has changed our lives.

The week of Feb. 8 to 14, 1970, has been designated National Electrical Week by all electrical manufacturers, distributors and dealers across Canada and the U.S.

Milton Hydro has steadily been improving its distribution system to provide better service to customers, and the town street lighting is modern and up-to-date. Recently the Milton Hydro Commission building had a face-lifting and the interior of

the business headquarters was completely renovated.

The office is all-electrically heated. Part of the heating in the two storey building is taken care of by a renovated electric water heater of the boiler type that

ELECTRICITY KEEPS THEM DOWN ON THE FARM

The scene is a barn on a large dairy farm in a Canadian province. Enter a young lad named Andy who gets up half an hour earlier than most city boys his age.

Andy flips several switches, then stands back to listen as a number of machines spring to life. In no time at all 200 purebred Holstein cattle are fed and watered. Andy then flips another switch to start the barn cleaning machinery. After that, he has breakfast and heads for school.

Sounds easy, and it is, when compared to the back-breaking tasks that faced Andy's grandfather 30 years ago and even his father 15 years ago.

Automation on the farm is helping the farm operator perform the hard, back-breaking and time-consuming tasks in a quarter of the time, at a fraction of the cost of the manual labour that would be necessary for the same volume of work.

Electrically driven machinery has replaced the hired hand and other members of the family who migrated to the cities over the past two decades.

Twisting augers worm their way through long lines of iron piping to deliver feed to livestock when time clocks announce the time for breakfast.

Chopping mills mix and grind a variety of grains, protein supplement, minerals and medication in proportions designated by dial settings, to produce the maximum weight gain and production levels.

Pressure pumps send water through plastic hoses to electrically-warmed water bowls. Chain-like racks push manure along gutters behind the rows of cattle to central pits. The manure is often stored in large concrete tanks before it is distributed on the fields.

The new, modern machinery is installed in the modern, single-storey steel and aluminum building without windows that is replacing the old style frame barn with hayloft. Electric fans counterbalance the heat given off by

the animal population and create a carefully-controlled environment for the livestock.

Consumption of electrical energy on the farm has risen dramatically over the last two

Electric briefs

Specially-designed and insulated suits enable Ontario Hydro linemen to work on live lines carrying up to 500,000 volts of electricity.

In partnership with 353 municipal electrical utilities, Ontario Hydro supplies electric power to over 2.3 million customers, covering more than 95 per cent of Ontario's population.

In 1969, for the first time in Ontario Hydro's history, demand for electricity exceeded 10 million kilowatts. This was more than double power demands in 1958.

The average cost of electricity to Ontario's residential municipal customers in 1969 was the same as that in 1943, 1.2 cents a kilowatt-hour.

Ontario Hydro's assets, which reached more than \$4 billion in 1969, are expected to double during the 1970s.

More than 70,000 miles of transmission line are used to deliver electricity across Ontario Hydro's province-wide power grid. That's enough to circle the globe almost three times.

One kilowatt-hour is the amount of energy needed to operate a television set for three Ed Sullivan shows at a cost of a little more than one cent. In 1969 Ontario Hydro customers used nearly 60 billion kilowatt-hours.

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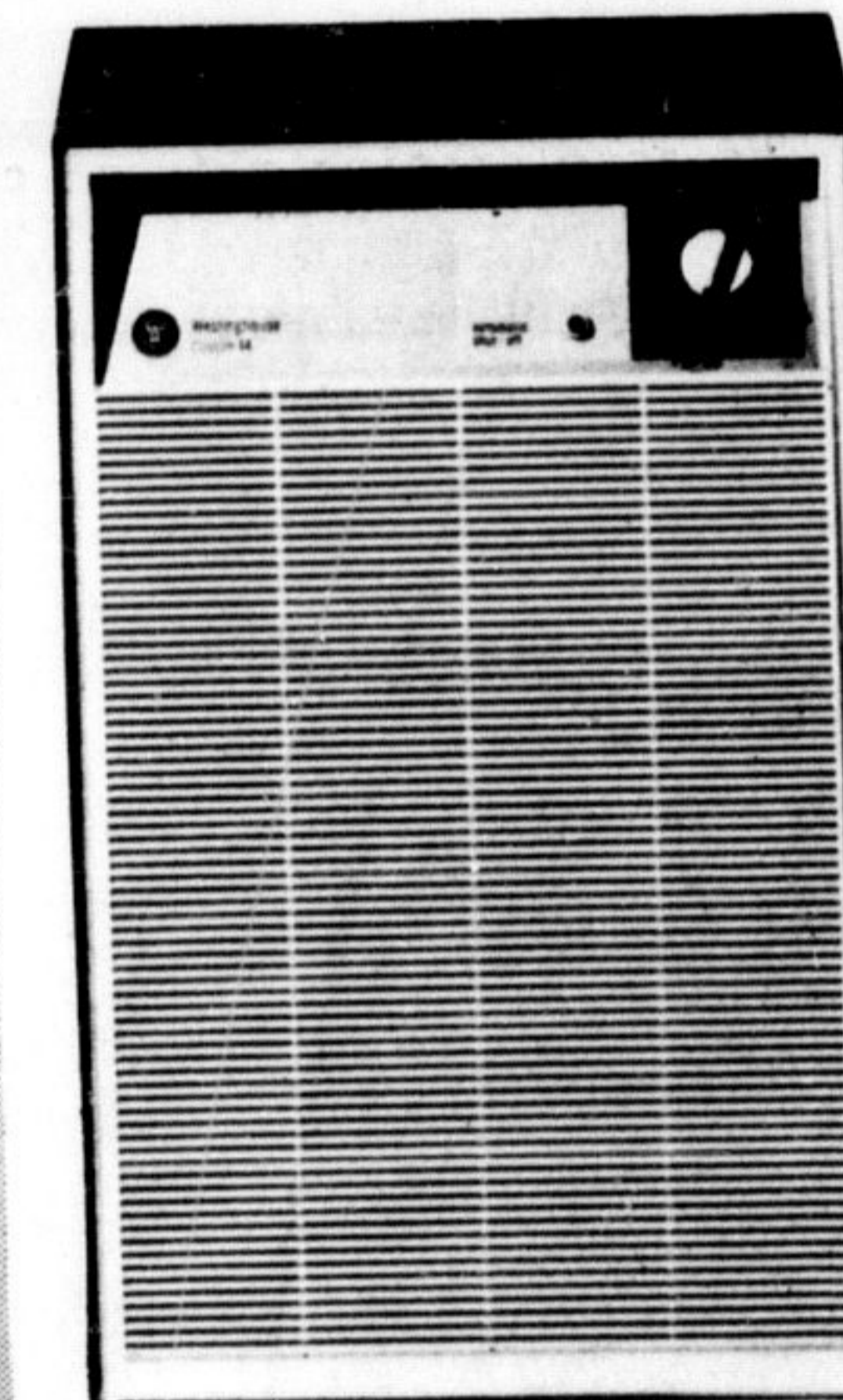
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