



Weighty item...a big bale of hay

'Big bales' are here to stay

In recent years south of the border the trend on many farms has been towards baling "big bales." The "big bales" of which we speak on those 750 to 1,500 pound bales of hay more and more of us are seeing dotting area farms here in North Simcoe and elsewhere throughout Ontario's farming country.

In some cases gone are the traditional 40 to 70 pound conventional bales of hay farmers used to store in the barns.

In many cases farmers are opting for the larger bales which are rolled up in tidy, but high packages, by \$5,000 balers.

Then using a fork-lift tractor the bales are now lined up row upon row near the barn or in sheds close by.

The "big bales" come in handy when feeding livestock. One hugh bale can be placed in a feeding area and cattle can feed on at it at their leisure for almost days on end.

There are some drawbacks to the larger bales especially in this part of the country which is known for its heavy amounts of winter snow and rain.

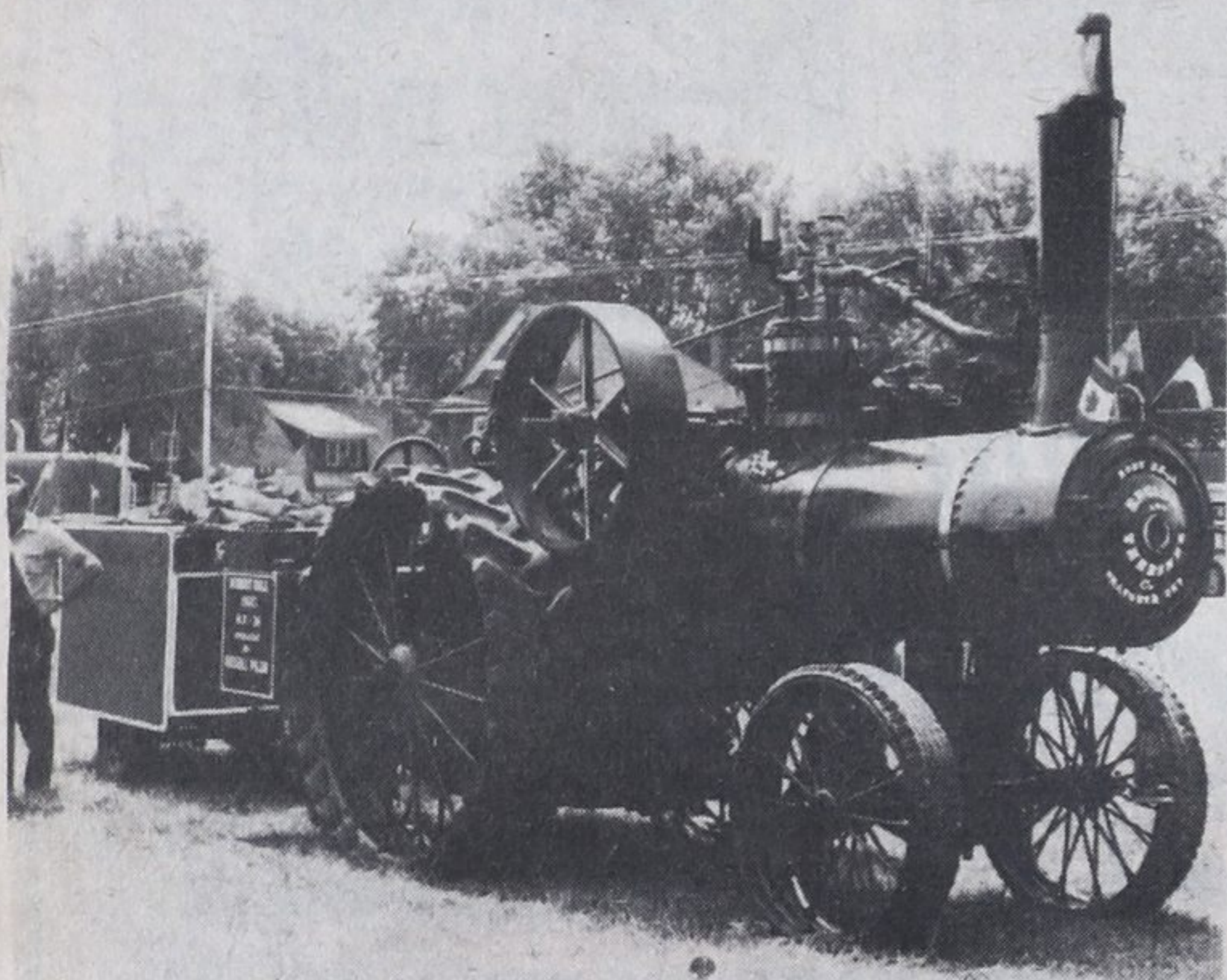
Storing the larger bails outside can result in them "freezing up" following major snowstorms and thus getting mighty damp.

Nevertheless there seems to be less handling with the larger units than with the smaller traditional bales of hay.

But what is one man's poison is another's medicine and so it is with baled hay when it comes to baling and storing it.

Even though the trend is towards the larger bales many a farmer has decided to stick with the old method including Allan McLean, Simcoe East MPP.

His dairy farm plans to stick with the smaller bales, he told us this week.



Those were the days

The Georgian Bay Steam, Auto, Gas, Antique Incorp., will be staging its annual Old Time Power Show in Cookstown Aug. 1-3. Over 400 pieces of equipment will be shown including

steam driven tractors like this one. Midland's Clint Truax will display some of his antique vehicles at this show which will attract thousands of visitors from both sides of the border.

Follow these precautions

Anhydrous ammonia (NH₃) is one of the most efficient sources of nitrogen, which is one of the key elements in plants growth. Canadian farmers are increasing the use of NH₃.

Used properly anhydrous ammonia is a safe fertilizer, otherwise, it can be extremely dangerous. The Canada Safety Council recommends the following general precautions when handling NH₃.

-Have the right

equipment and maintain it in top condition. Consult your agriculture department representative or supplier.

-Operators should be trained and should follow recommended procedures carefully.

-Always wear personal protective equipment - impervious gloves and goggles or face mask.

-Have at least five

gallons of water handy. It is recommended to carry 4 or 5 ounce squeeze bottle of water of instant use. This will allow the victim to get most of the ammonia out of the eyes before finding and using the larger quality of water.

-Body areas in contact with ammonia vapor or liquid should be immediately flushed for at least 15 minutes. The victim should then seek medical treatment.

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August meeting

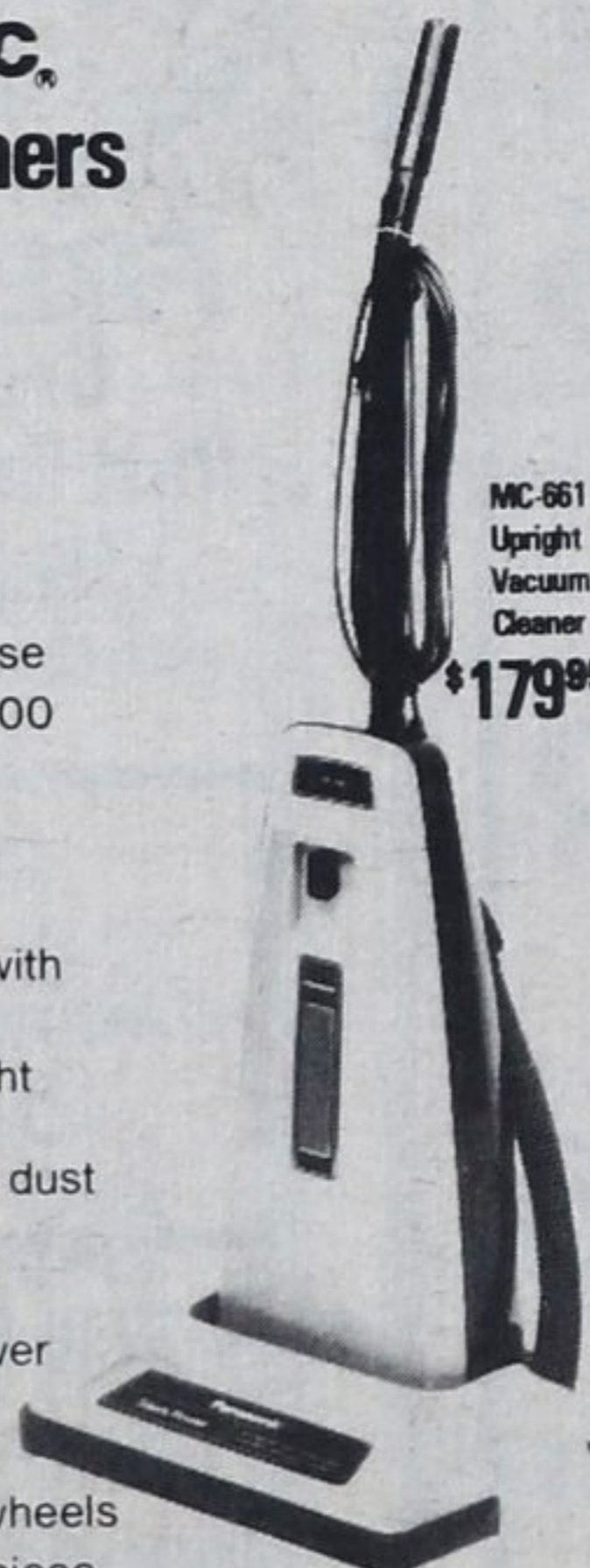
Next regular meeting for elected members of Tay Township council has been called for Aug. 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the township office in Victoria Harbour.

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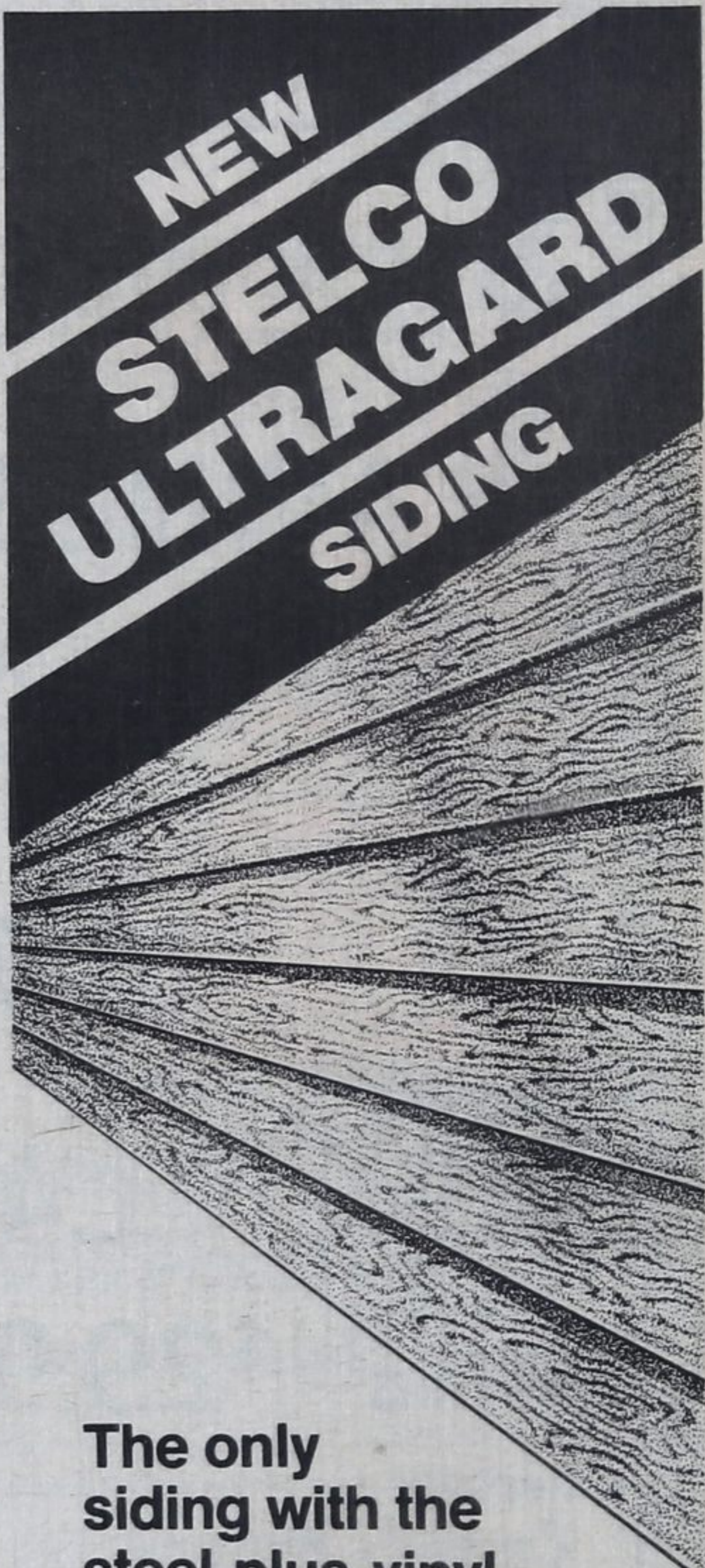
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Dpt. Time	Location	Phone No.
9:00 a.m.	PMCL, 475 Bay St., Midland	526-5438
9:20 a.m.	Huronian Travel Service, Elmvale	322-1505

Coaches also depart from
10 Robert St. East,
Penetanguishene at 8:30 a.m.



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