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MRS. THOMAS BALL DIED AT ORILLIA

On Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1950, in Orillia Memorial Hospital, Rachel Elizabeth Vernon, widow of the late Thomas Henry Ball, passed

away in her 84th year, after an illness of two months.

Mrs. Ball was born near Manchester, Ontario, July 24, 1866, second daughter of the late Nathaniel and Annie Vernon. On March 9, 1892, she married the late Thomas H. Ball and lived on Quaker Hill until 1924 when they retired to Uxbridge. Her husband predeceased her in 1940.

She is survived by five children, Walter E. of Locust Hill; Mrs. Lloyd Marquis (Allie), of Sunderland; Francis H., of Brampton; Mrs. Albert Ramsey (Lillian), Gamebridge; Mrs. Wm. Robinson (Flossie) Washago; ten grandchildren; also two sisters, Mrs. Wilbert St. John, Scarborough; Mrs. Wm. Currer, California and three brothers, William of Chilliwack, B.C., Harvey of Blytheswood and Dr. E. G. Vernon, Clarkson, Ont.

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Phone Pioneer Wed 60 Years

Edwin Herbert Farrow, Richmond Hill, was only a lad of 10 when he heard about a "new-fangled machine called the telephone." Four years later he was a messenger boy for the first telephone company in Hamilton. At 21, Herbert was a business manager for the firm and married the lovely Edith Flock. That was 60 years ago.

Herbert, 81, Ontario's oldest living Bell Telephone pensioner, and Edith, 83, are observing their diamond wedding anniversary. The telephone has been ringing constantly with congratulations. But he's used to the ring. He has had a telephone for 60 years.

Sunday will see open house at the home of their married daughter, Mrs. Basil Munday, Centre St. W., for the couple. Their son, Edwin, and their four grandchildren will be there.

"I gave up my job at a picture-frame factory to go to the telephone company. My employer warned me I was very foolish, as the telephone was only an ingenious toy, and had no commercial future," Farrow recalls.

He is a life member of the Telephone Pioneers of America, Algonquin branch, in the first exchange under the British flag. He served as business manager in Hamilton, Stratford, Orillia, Belleville and Kingston.



Evidence surrounding the apparent suicide of a 17-year-old Kitchener, Ont., youth is being examined. The body of Armin Caldwell was found beside a tree on a golf course

several minutes after Cons. Donald Daikens, 25, shown above with wife and son, had been shot at and narrowly missed. Seventeen rounds of ammunition were found in young Caldwell's pockets.

Late John White Buried at Claremont

John White, eldest son of Mrs. White and the late Henry White, of Goodwood, passed away at Whitby, Jan. 15th, in his 53rd year. Besides his sorrowing mother, he

is survived by a sister Ethel and two brothers, Robert at home and Rolph of Stouffville. A sister Mabel predeceased him a number of years ago.

The funeral was held from the L. E. O'Neill Chapel, with interment in the family plot in Claremont cemetery. Rev. G. F. Gorman conducted the service.

Gradle-Grave Utopia Dream, Says Minister

Dreams of a \$50-a-month pension to everyone over 65 years were rightly blasted last week by Hon. W. A. Goodfellow, minister of public welfare in a speech made at Kitchener.

Such a scheme, he said, would cost about \$40,000,000 more each year than the government takes in annually in revenue.

Figures showed the cost of such pensions would be \$240,000,000 a year. Annual revenue of the Ontario government is about \$200,000,000 a year, he said.

An Idealistic Dream Although he believed some sort of social security scheme was coming, the "cradle-to-the-grave" Utopia was just an idealistic dream which could never come true.

The cabinet minister emphasized that any social security scheme should be on a contributory basis, probably a certain percentage of the individual's income paid in annually.

Mr. Goodfellow said no system should be established where all would get the same amount and that amount should only be at a subsistence level.

Efforts would have to be made to encourage thrift, insurance and other methods of supplementing any payments from a social security system he said.

MORE PAY — LESS COST (By R. J. Deachman)

You may be shocked when I suggest that we ought to pay our M.P.'s \$10,000 a year.

Wait a moment there is a codicil in this idea—it may be more difficult to add a codicil to an ideal than to a will.

There are 272 members in the House of Commons. Each is paid \$6,000 per year, a total of \$1,632,000. If we reduced the number to 150 and paid them \$10,000 a year, the work would be done more efficiently. The cost would be \$1,500,000 per year. The saving appeals to my Scotch sense of thrift. Now we know how to be more generous and more thrifty at the same time.

There would be other savings. The members receive free stenographic help, free stationery. Each member of parliament should be entitled to an office. Some under present conditions are forced to double up—even treble up. No member can do a full day's work if he has to share his room. An M.P. should have time to think. Thinking alone can give us a better House of Commons.

I am serious about it. The \$10,000 salary under this plan would cost less than \$6,000 old style, yet more work would be done. It would bring into the House of Commons a higher type of representative. With \$6,000, of which approximately \$2,000 will go for expenses, the average business man cannot afford to accept seat in the House of Commons. The work of an M.P. is a full time task. No man can render full service as a member if worried about what is going on in his own business back home.

Under present conditions the members cannot do a full day's work. There are too many interruptions. Yes, I know that there are over 600 members in the British House of Commons, I have also been told that there are not enough seats for them. That type of House tends to develop a number of hangers-on, men who go there for the kudos of it. They may, of course, help to keep the majority party in power, a silent tower of strength, so to speak!

The thing we need in the House of Commons is men who are willing to work and think. When I write this I am not implying that we haven't men in the House who both work and think. Many of them work hard and think clearly but under present conditions they haven't the opportunity they would have if the total number of members was reduced to more reasonable proportions and the pay was better.

It may be claimed that with a small House there will not be sufficient members for committee work and to carry on the work of the Chamber. There will be far more time than there is now. We must make allowances for speeches. Practically every man, who is a member of the House of Commons, wants to make a speech. If we had 150 members instead of 272 there would be less talk and more work accomplished. The House of Commons should be a deliberative body, not a forum.

Of course there will be objections. Each province has the right to send a certain number of representatives to the House of Commons. If a percentage reduction were made all along the line it would not interfere with the relationship of one province to another. We shall be told that this would make the constituencies too large. The constituencies were never smaller than they are now, if we measure size by ability to cover distance. An automobile travels at least 40 miles an hour, a horse trots 7 miles, a man walks 4. We have reduced the "size" of the constituencies by approved means of communication but we go on increasing the number of members. Stupid isn't it?

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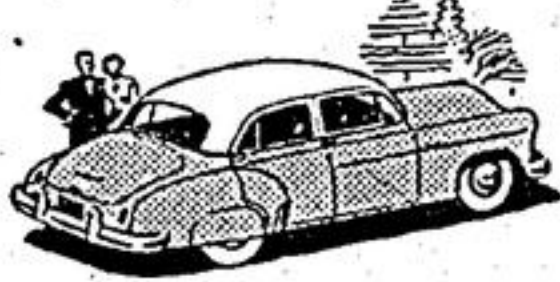
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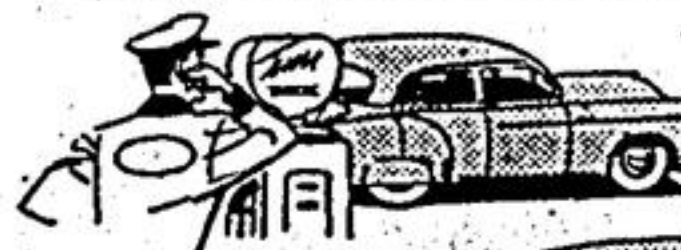
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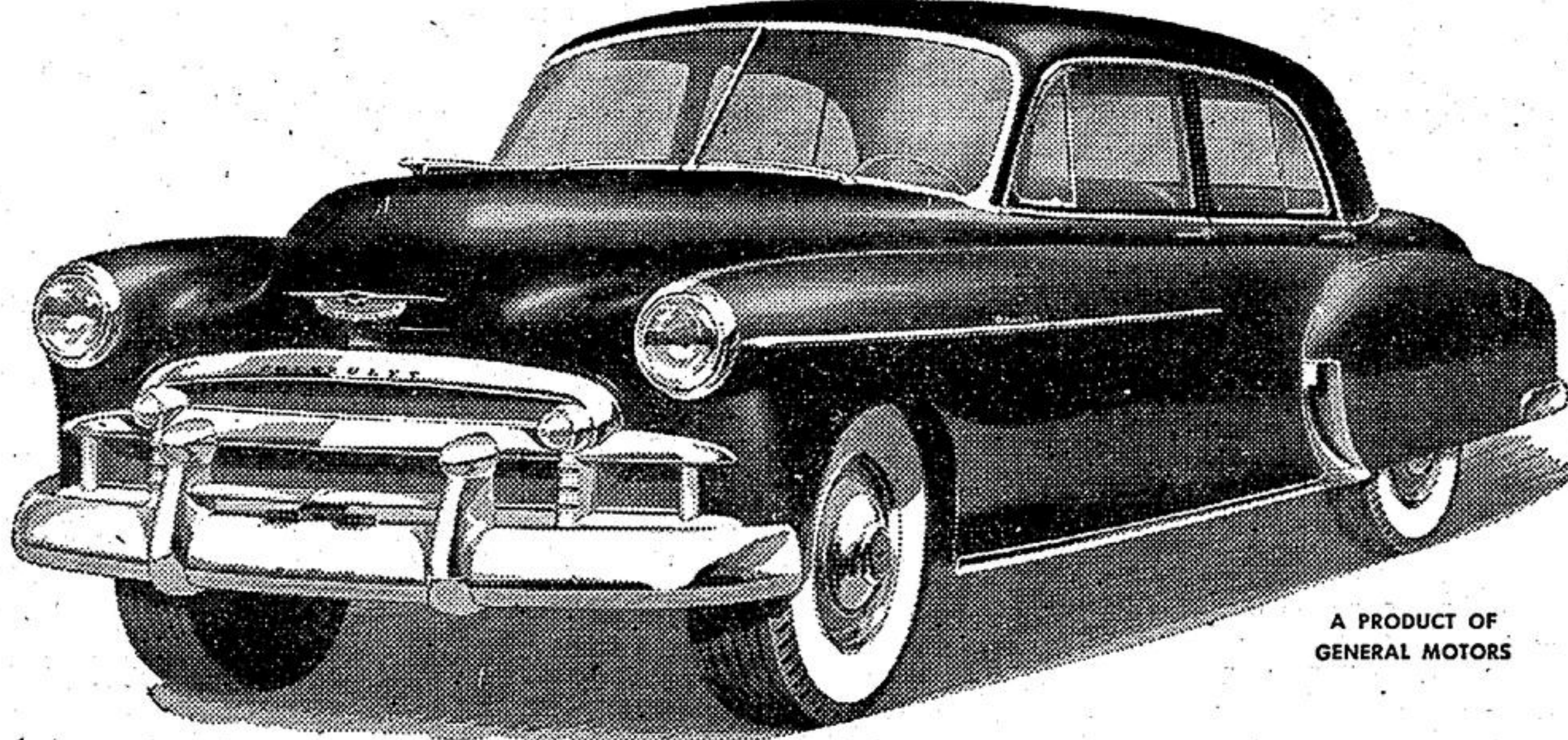
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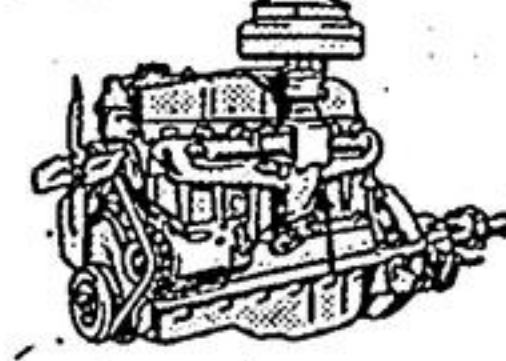
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