

Car Batteries Up 15 Percent?

The price of car batteries was increased as much as 15 percent last week by some auto parts supply companies in Toronto. Mufflers are expected to be increased 26 per cent very shortly. One company says the increase is due chiefly to the increased cost of lead. Some batteries were

increased in price a month ago and last week's boosts were made by companies which had large stocks on hand. An increased cost of steel is blamed for the expected rise in muffler prices.

It isn't true that optimists are more popular than pessimists. Ask 10 persons to name the seven dwarfs and eight of them will remember Grumpy and only two of them can recall Happy.

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Ten thousand pickers are needed in B.C. to harvest the bumper crop of apples ready to be reaped. Schools may close in the Okanagan Valley to let

the kids help pick the 7,500,000-box crop. Chief markets for the Okanagan apples are Canada, U.S. and Britain.

YORK COUNTY IN REVIEW

1615-1949

The War 1914-1918

(Article 20)

As in the past, the York Rangers gained fame in World War I. In 1915 they supplied one company for the 35th Battalion and also one for the 83rd Battalion. In November of this year the York Rangers raised a complete Battalion, the 127th. The recruiting covered York County completely. This Battalion proceeded to France, where due to the Special Engineering and Technical qualifications of its personnel, it was placed on special duty with front-line railways and became the 2nd Battalion, Canadian Railway Troops. This Battalion distinguished itself on numerous occasions and many honours were awarded to its personnel.

The York Rangers also raised a complete Battalion, the 220th which also proceeded overseas, but due to heavy casualties in the Canadian Corps, it was broken up in England and the personnel used as reinforcements for units in France.

Up to December 2nd, \$2,525 had been paid to needy dependents by the Special Committee on Relief of York County Soldiers. The Committee discovered that the fund could be used to great advantage by paying monthly grants to

TREAT SEED WHEAT

Wheat growers are warned by the Department of Agriculture to treat all seed wheat preferably with a mercury dust as it controls all diseases on the surface of the seed. Plans for a home treater can be secured from the Agricultural Representative's office at Newmarket. Incidentally it is pointed out that Cornell 595 variety is resistant to loose smut but, must be treated to prevent the ball of covered smut.

dependents while their pension from the Dominion Government was pending.

During the winter of 1917-18, the 12th York Battalion of Infantry moved south of Lens in the coal district of France, and there held the line for a time. In March, it was moved to the south of Arras with other units and there aided the halting and throwing back of the Germans in their last and greatest offensive. At the beginning of August, 1918, it took part in the great Second Battle of the Somme, and at the end of the month, was again in a major engagement, the Second Battle of Arras, and broke through the Hindenburg Line at Vise-en-Artois, the defensive system the enemy thought impregnable, pushed on and through the northern environs of Cambrai.

On November 11th, 1918, the Twentieth received the message that hostilities had ceased. They were occupying the Village of St. Symphorien on that glorious morning.

The march to the Rhine was through a rolling and open countryside to Namur on the Meuse, across the river and through forests to Bovigny near the Luxembourg border. At 10.30 hours, December 6th, with the bands playing the Regimental March, the Battalion passed into Germany. On December 13th it crossed the Rhine. It moved back to Siegburg on the 15th where it remained until January 19th, 1919. On the 24th of May it reached Toronto, and the following day, the Battalion was demobilized at the Exhibition Grounds.

The County Council was presented with an Honour Flag by the officials of the Victory Loan organization in recognition of the outstanding work which the members of the County Council had performed during the war.

On November 26th, the Council passed a resolution to erect a fitting memorial to commemorate the memory of those who had fallen in defence of the Empire.

Immediately following the war, it was found that due to so many of the members and former members of the Regiment desiring to carry on training with the York Rangers, two Battalions were necessary.

The first Battalion therefore carried on in the County of York, with Headquarters at Aurora, while the Second Battalion carried on in the City of Toronto with headquarters at St. Paul's Hall, formerly the old town hall of Yorkville, destroyed by fire in 1941.

The County Council did not feel that its patriotic war work was completed although it had granted large sums of money to further the war effort and spent much time in considering methods of assisting the common cause and executing these plans. On February 8th, 1919, it appointed a committee to work with a committee of the 127th Battalion for the purpose of finding employment for returned county men who had been engaged in military service.

In 1919, the report of a public school inspector disclosed that physical defects to an alarming extent had been disclosed during war years when young men were required to pass examinations before joining the army. It was suggested that more stress should be put on physical education in the schools by extending the system of Physical Training to include supervised games and the rudiments at least of military drill.

The Special Committee on Soldiers' Memorial reported that it had secured an option on four acres of land at \$500 per acre at Bond Lake. It also had plans prepared for a memorial to cost \$60,000, but the report was not adopted.

In 1923, the colours of the Queen's York Rangers were brought to Toronto from Wolford Lodge, Devonshire, the home of John Graves Simcoe. They now hang in the Reference Library, University Avenue and College Street.

Lt. Col. Clark of the York Rangers presented a report of the enlistments of York County men in the armed services during Great War I. This list is printed as an appendix to the Minutes of the Council for the year 1923.

The County Council sent a copy of a Resolution to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Hon. W. L. M. King, protesting strongly against sign of the Union Jack for the purpose of providing Canada with a National Flag other than the one which had always been used.

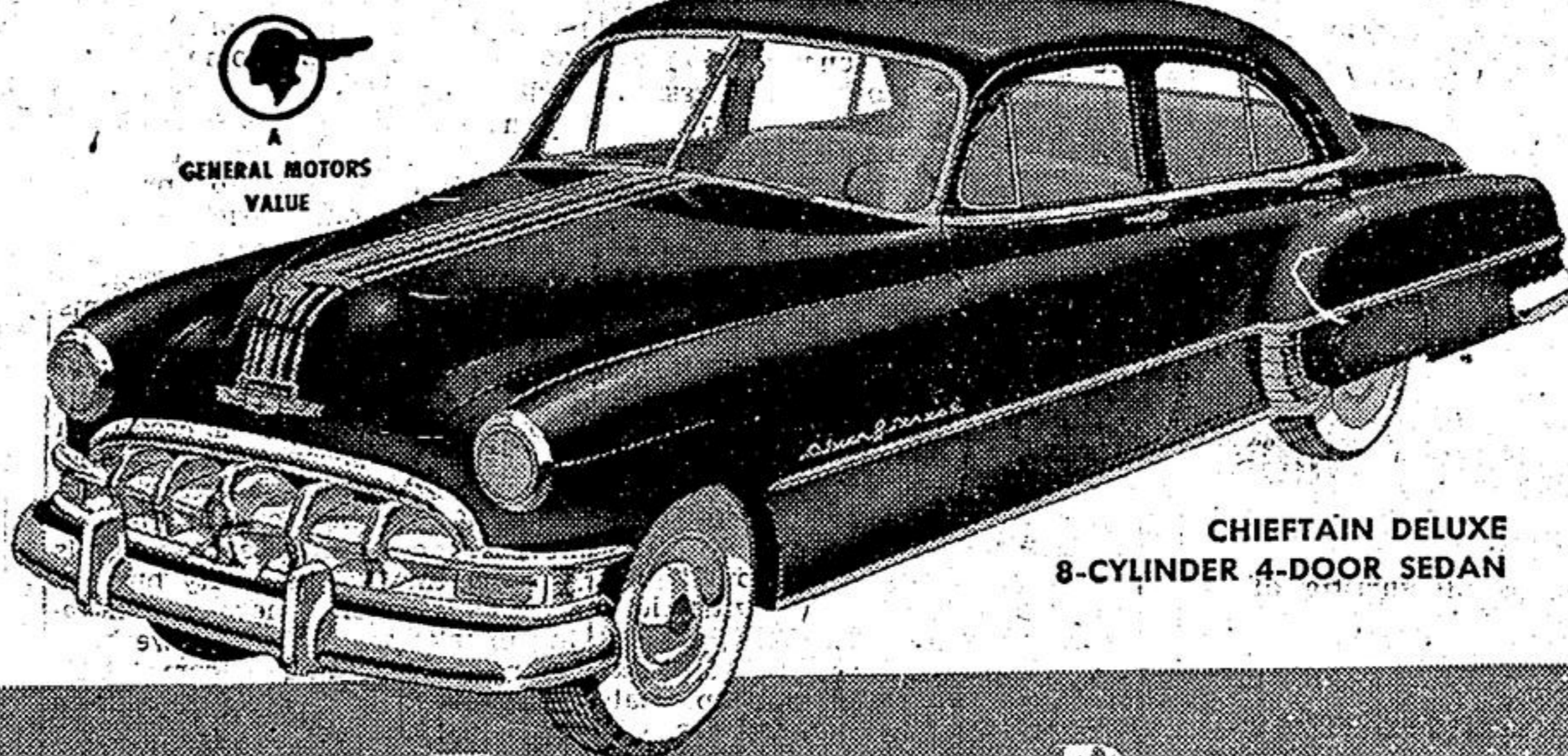
Article 21 will deal with the years 1926 to 1934.

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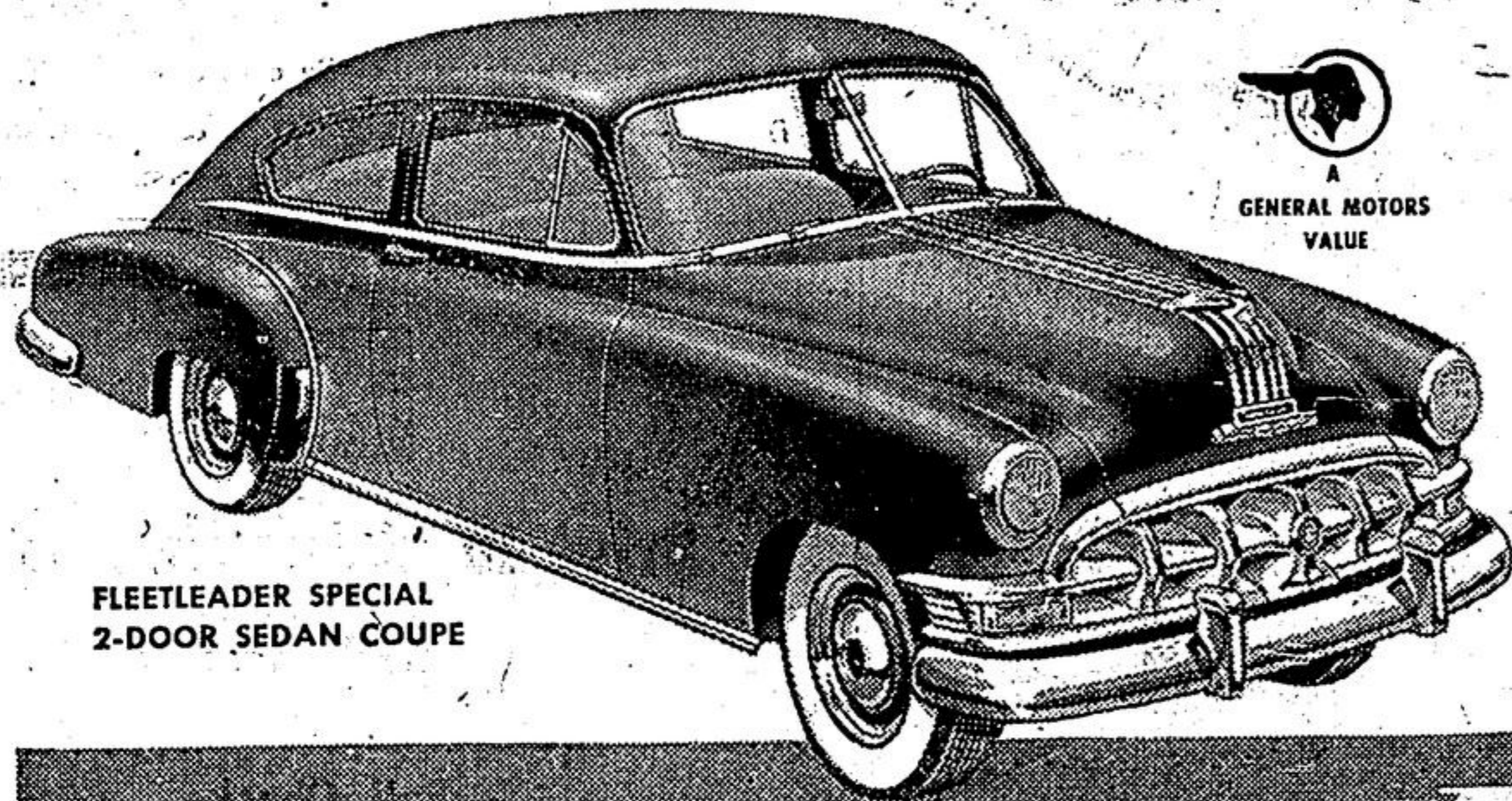
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