

Farm Fire Loss Can Be Reduced

Reduction of life and property losses caused by fire is the purpose of National Fire Prevention week, October 8-14. It is customary for the week to include the date on which the great Chicago fire started—October 9, 1871.

Farm fire losses amounted to \$95,000,000 in 1949. Farm fires are often total losses. About a fifth of the property value of the farms is destroyed, as an average, each time a fire gets out of hand. In some areas the average loss is much higher, and in big fires there is added loss of life and suffering from major burns.

H. M. Ellis, in charge of agricultural engineering for the State College Extension Service, points out that all fires start as small fires, and most of them could be prevented. Some of the precautions are:

Have a portable-type water extinguisher handy. If you have a pressure system, have spigots fitted for hose.

Have proper extinguishers ready for electrical and inflammable liquid fires—don't use water. Keep at hand a sturdy ladder long enough to reach the roof of farm buildings.

To prevent fires, don't smoke in the barn, in bed, or near flammable liquids. Don't refuel tractor while motor is running or hot. Don't use kerosene or gasoline to hasten fires. Don't overload the wiring system—check it frequently. Don't operate or store the tractor in the barn. Don't locate fuel tanks close to buildings; put them on the downward slope.

New Folder Explains Cow Testing Program

The D. H. I. A. (Dairy Herd Improvement Association) cow-testing program in North Carolina is explained in a new folder issued this week by the State College Extension Service.

The publication, illustrated with photographs and a chart showing one year's production of a typical North Carolina herd, is listed as Extension Folder No. 51. Persons desiring single copies should request them from their local county agent or by writing the Agricultural Editor, State College Station, Raleigh.

The folder explains that D. H. I. A. is "a complete milk production, feed cost, and breeding record on each cow in the herd and on the herd as a whole." A D. H. I. A. supervisor spends one day each month in the herd for each 30 cows, weighing each cow's milk and making a butterfat test. He records all the data in a book which will keep in

a permanent record for each cow and for the herd.

D. H. I. A. testing, it is pointed out, is a guide to better feeding, efficient breeding, and proper culling.

"You can't pick the most profitable cows just by looking at them," the folder explains. "A D. H. I. A. record is the only dependable way. Low producers are unprofitable. They should be culled from the herd as soon as located."

Records show that cows in D. H. I. A. tests in North Carolina produce 130 pounds more butterfat annually than the average cow.

The American Legion was responsible for the passage of the bill authorizing terminal leave for enlisted men and women. It was responsible for the passage of the measure providing payment of the bonds on and after September 1, 1947, and extending the time for filing for terminal leave until September 1, 1948.

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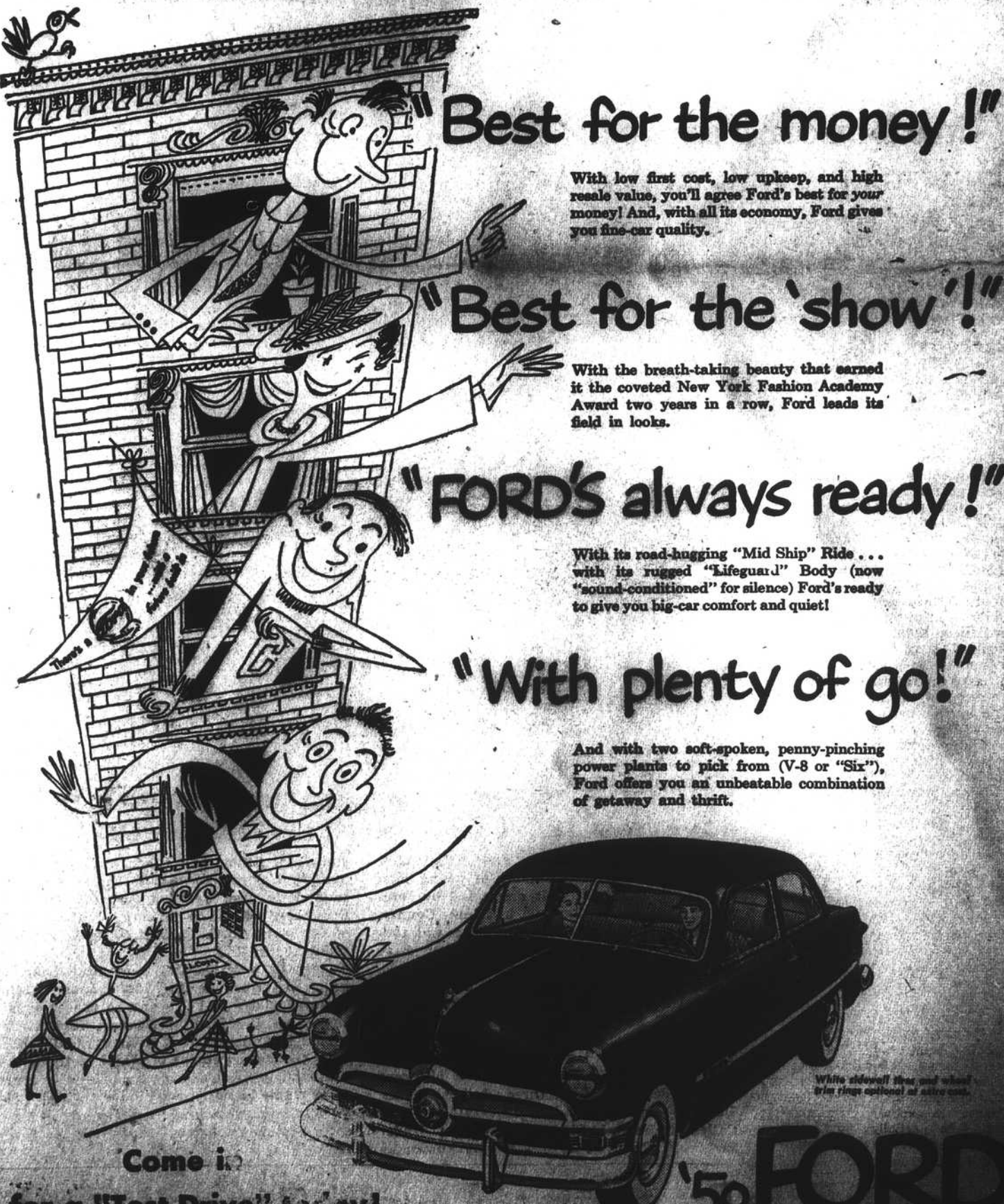


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